



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN:- Mrs Jaki Porter VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mrs. Kay Farmbrough

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL **MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2019** CASTON VILLAGE HALL at 7.30 pm

Councillor's present:- Jaki Porter, Kay Farmbrough, Frank Brown, Brian Brooker,
 Peter Chapman, Chris Cook, Michele Grimsditch

Others present:- None

Also present:- 1 Member of the public

1. **Apologies for absence:** All Councillors present. DC Cowen sent his apologies.
2. It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 4 November 2019, be signed, by the Chairman, as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Grimsditch. All voted in favour.

The Chairman closed the meeting to permit participation from the public.

3. **Participation and questions from the public, session 1:** The Clerk to chase CC Bowes for a response from Highways re flooding outside Delmar House.

4. **Guest speakers:** None.

5. **Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report from Tony Ash, Speed Watch Co-ordinator:**

"November saw the volunteers assess 558 vehicles during six checks. From these we caught 24 offenders found to be exceeding the 35mph guidelines and were reported to the Constabulary. On my calculations this means yet again about 4%. On one of the one hour checks this month we caught no offenders.

I did ask for volunteers for December Speed Watch Checks and was getting a very positive response. Alas the Constabulary informed me that the volunteers get a month off from 10th Dec to 10th Jan and no offenders will be processed.

I could see no point in in organising checks that would result in a negative result so cancelled all but two of the checks.

Instead we are having an informal get together

Tony Ash
 Speedwatch Co-ordinator".

6. **Caston Neighbourhood Watch monthly report:** Nothing to report.
7. **Declarations of Interest:-** Cllr Porter - 8D and 9C, Cllr Brooker - 9H.
Dispensations from Council Members. None.
8. **Planning Applications**
 - A. **3PL/2019/0518/F – The Barns, Attleborough Road, Caston, NR17 1DJ – Two new self-build dwellings.** Nothing further to report.

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- B. **3PL/2019/1322/HOU - Clematis Cottage The Street Caston NR17 1DD** - First floor extension and two-storey rear extension and single-storey rear extension. Nothing further to report.
- C. **3PL/2019/1350/HOU - 5 Coronation Terrace Attleborough Road Caston Norfolk NR17 1DL** - Demolish Existing Side Extension and Erection of a Single Storey Front and side extension with Canopy/Porch. Nothing further to report.
- D. **3PL/2019/1367/HOU - Orchard House The Street Caston NR17 1DD** - Erection of new 2 bay garage. New front entrance porch to house New pantiled roof to conservatory. Nothing further to report.

8. **Finance – to approve and report the following expenditure:-**

- A. To approve the salary payment including holiday pay allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the month of November 2019 in the sum of £216.75.
- B. To approve payment to NGF Play Ltd for new play area inspection in respect of invoice number 3082 in the sum of £318.00 (incl VAT).
- C. To approve reimbursement payment to Cll Porter for purchase of a litter bin for the play area in the sum of £144.84 (incl VAT) and base plates £71.52 (incl VAT). Invoice numbers 7051547/7050518.
- D. To ratify payment to I&I IONOS Ltd in the sum of £7.20 (incl VAT) in respect of invoice number 203019452667 (Community Cars). PAID
- E. To ratify payment to Plusnet in the sum of £34.20 (incl VAT) in respect of invoice number 00004758344-004. PAID
- F. To ratify payment to C B Harriss for painting of the village gates in the sum of £304.59. PAID
- G. To ratify payment to Calico Internet for SSL Certificate Service in respect of invoice number 110258 in the sum of £28.80 (incl VAT).
- H. To reimburse the sum of £15.58 to Cllr Brian Brooker in respect of payment made to TSO Host re invoice numbers 5399962 and 5389560 for domain name and mailbox for Caston On-Line. PAID

The above expenditure, was proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Farmbrough, all voted in favour.

9. **Matters to Report**

- A. **Speed Limits on Stow Bedon Road/HGV Traffic** – Cllr Porter advised that the residents were preparing to put forward a petition and they would report further when progress has been made. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the Agenda until such time as the Parish Council's assistance is required.
- B. **Financial Balances**
The Clerk had previously supplied the current balances to Councillors. It was noted that receipt of the Section 106 monies in respect of the Play Area were awaited. **Item for next Agenda.**
- C. **Matters for the Rangers** – pavements still require sweeping and siding out as previously advised as some are becoming unwalkable. The hole outside Old Chapel has still not been repaired. Road markings at the bottom of Carbrooke Road and the top junction of B1108/B1077. Storm drains on Stow Bedon Road are blocked. **Item for next Agenda.**
- D. **Play area** –The Clerk to continue to chase A T Coombes re the branch to be removed. **Item for next Agenda.**
- E. **Cleaning/repaint/repair of the Village Gates** – Completed. **Item for next Agenda.**
- F. **Village Cross Notice** – Cllr Cook to chase Historic England re possible grant and report back to the Council. **Item for next Agenda.**
- G. **Caston Museum(s)** – Cllr Cook reported that work is in progress on the telephone kiosk on the Green. **Item for March Agenda.**
- H. **Trees** – It was suggested and agreed that the two articles sourced by Cllr Porter should be placed on the Council website. Cllrs Porter and Brooker to liaise in this regard.

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- I. **Parking on Council land** – the Clerk explained that Open Spaces are unable to provide advice until it is known how the land is held ie as a village green etc. A discussion took place as to the original purchase of the land and how it was registered however no definitive answer was known. The Clerk to make enquiries. **Item for next Agenda.**
- J. **Caston House Map** – Cllr Cook advised that the map had been updated and suggested that a separate website should be set up to house it. A discussion took place and Cllr Cook advised that he was prepared to pay for the domain name to make the map easily accessible and to liaise with Cllr Brooker to arrange links through the village and Council websites. **Item for next Agenda.**
- K. **Cell Phone Coverage** – Cllr Grimsditch explained that she proposes to carry out an informal survey of residents in respect of cell phone coverage in the village. The connectivity page of the County Council website is unreadable and no masts are directed at Caston. Providers continue to report that Caston has a good signal when this is not the case. Cllr Grimsditch to prepare a questionnaire for residents over the Christmas break for Councillors to approve. Cllr Grimsditch suggested that we need to pester the local MPs in this regard. **Item for next Agenda.**
- L. **Feedback from Wellbeing Conference** – Cllr Grimsditch advised that the conference was to highlight an initiative to improve the wellbeing of parishioners. George Freeman MP explained it is with a view to ending isolation with various schemes and activities to mitigate loneliness and social isolation in the rural communities. There are funds available for small projects such as coffee mornings. Emphasis was also placed on the environment and initiatives to recycle soft plastics. Some Councils have initiatives in place already and money collected from the recycling is donated to chosen charities.
- M. **Update on the Breckland VE/VJ Day funds** – no interest has been shown.
- N. **PC response to Caston WI for their gift of a bench in memory of Peter Brown to be installed at Coronation Terrace** – a discussion took place in relation to this bench and the recycled bench belonging to the Parish Council and possible placement of the same. Cllr Porter to liaise with the WI to discuss options.
11. **Correspondence from:-**
Any correspondence and associated information added to the Councillors' Folder for circulation. Public Information Notices posted to the village noticeboards and websites.

Cllr Porter advised that she had been approached to enquire whether the Council would be interested in having affordable homes built for rental purposes. A discussion took place and it was agreed that there is no demand for such housing in the village. The Clerk to respond accordingly.
12. **To agree the next meeting date Monday 6 January 2019.** Agreed.

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

13. **Participation and questions from the public – session 2.** The footpaths were raised as to being very slippery with mud and/or leaves. It was noted that the Rangers had visited earlier that day and they were much improved.
14. **Matters for future discussion.** As above and budget/precept.

Meeting closed 9.12 pm

Joanne Blackman
Parish Clerk
19 December 2019

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