

# Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mrs Jaki Porter

VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Kay Farmbrough

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2020  
BY ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL at 7.30 pm**

Councillor's present:- Jaki Porter, Kay Farmbrough, Frank Brown, Chris Cook

Others present:- County Councillor Claire Bowes

Also present:- 3 Members of the public

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Chapman and Grimsditch.

**2. To approve the Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on Monday 3 August 2020**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 3 August 2020 be signed, by the Chairman, as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Farmbrough and seconded by Cllr Brown. All voted in favour.

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

**3. Participation and questions from the public, session 1.**

A member of the public raised an interest in relation to item 6A, planning application 3PL/2020/0262/O. It was noted that revised plans had been submitted in relation to this planning application for 3 houses. The member of the public advised that he had objected to this application on the grounds of road safety as this is already a very dangerous area, especially at school drop off and pick up times. There is very little sight from the entrance, especially with traffic coming from the Watton direction which is considerable especially when the prison changes shifts, farm machinery and the general level of speeding through the village. CC Bowes advised that each application is considered on its own merits and DC Cowen has the power to call it in before the Planning Committee. The member of the public went on to say that he feels there is no requirement for additional housing in the village as the plot opposite already has planning permission which is due to expire and has yet to be built upon.

**4. Guest Speakers**

County Councillor Bowes reported as follows:-

**“Banham Poultry Covid Update as of Friday 4th Sept.**

Norfolk County Council leader, Councillor Andrew Proctor has welcomed the Secretary of State's decision to make Norfolk an area of enhanced support, following the coronavirus outbreak at Banham Poultry and has assured that it is about support not restrictions. There will not be extra rules affecting how any of us live and work in Norfolk. It is purely about the Government providing swifter data and testing and giving us the support we need.

Director of public health, Dr Louise Smith has said that all the evidence so far suggests that we have contained the Banham Poultry outbreak.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED: .....

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Although cases have risen in Great Yarmouth, Breckland and Norwich, it was always clear this would happen, as Banham cases fed through into the figures. They are all linked to workers and their households. If residents are contacted by test and trace they should isolate for the stated period and get tested as soon as possible if you have symptoms.

Responses to key questions:

Is this a recognition that there are problems with test and trace in Norfolk?

No – This is about giving us a better link with national resources and services.

We are pleased the Government recognises that we need data and support more quickly, to fully support our local efforts to contain this outbreak. All the evidence so far is that we have contained it. They have already been giving us more support with mobile testing than other areas have received.

What does the enhanced support entail?

We will be given priority for any additional testing capacity:

- Continued priority for mobile testing units as required
- Ringfencing of NHS Test and Trace call centre tracing resources
- Priority for test results and data sharing
- Enhanced backward contact tracing
- Senior/experienced public health input

What is the current coronavirus infection rate in Norfolk and also in the districts of Breckland, Great Yarmouth and Norwich, where most of the Banham Poultry staff live?

Rate per 100,000:

Norwich 13.9  
Great Yarmouth 35.2  
Breckland 32.3  
Norfolk 8.85  
East of England 10.2  
England 13.5

What is the current number for positive tests of Banham staff and households?

119 positive cases out of 1,784 tested.

Background:

- All staff at the plant, plus their households, have been asked to self-isolate for 14 days if they have not tested positive and for 10 days if they have tested positive – households of those who have tested positive need to isolate for 14 days
- Additional mobile testing units have been brought into Norfolk, to offer testing to anyone connected to the Banham Poultry site
- As announced last Friday, staff who are self-isolating are being offered support, if they need it, from the Norfolk Assistance Scheme – including food and medical supplies and hardship fund payments. The number is 01603 223392
- Contact tracing is taking place to alert anyone who has been linked to Banham Poultry workers who have tested positive for Covid-19

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- The process for euthanising the chickens is subject to the usual strict regulatory controls
- Anyone in Norfolk who is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms should book an NHS test via the GOV.UK website
- The county council has written to every household in Norfolk, urging them to get tested if they have symptoms and its public health information campaign will continue

**FLOODING**

The rain that fell on the weekend of the 15/16 August was of such intensity that unfortunately many drainage systems were unable to cope with the volume of water. Initial reports suggest that the rainfall return period was around 1:180, this means that statistically it would only occur once in nearly 200 years.

Following the rainfall, an investigation will be carried out by the County Council’s Flood and Water Management Team. The investigation will culminate in the production of a Flood Investigation Report. This report will cover the rainfall intensity and impact, response of relevant organisations, the likely causes of the flooding, and will recommend remedial actions and measures. Due to the scale of the flooding across the County (currently over 100 reports from the weekend of the 15/16<sup>th</sup>), the Council aims to publish the report within 6 months. However, within that timescale there are a number occasions where the Council liaises and consults with local stakeholders and authorities, which include follow up site visits, reviews of the initial findings, potential recommendations and the draft formal report.

If your property was affected by flooding during the recent rainfall you can report it here

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/floods/report-a-flood#:~:text=If%20you%20have%20photos%20or,affected%20your%20property%20or%20community.>

**Household hazardous waste drop off events set for September and October across Norfolk**

A series of free drop off days are set to start next week to allow people to dispose of hazardous waste at some of Norfolk’s recycling centres.

Visitors to seven participating recycling centres over the next two months will be able to drop off items including wood preservatives, insecticides, weed killers, paint, thinners, varnishes and special cleaning products. It is recommended that people use suitable waste containers for disposal. As with all visits to recycling centres, people are required to practice safe social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

To determine if a substance is hazardous, check product labels for words or symbols that indicate caution, warning, danger, poison or toxic. To help recycling centre staff and keep queues down visitors are encouraged to:

Keep containers clearly labelled where possible

Keep all products in their original containers and not mix them together

Make sure that the products are properly sealed to avoid leakage

To find out more about the events including what can and can’t be taken along, visit: [www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste)

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Dates, times and locations of the hazardous household waste events locally are

18, 19, 20 Sept, 9am – 5pm - **Thetford RC**

2, 3, 4 Oct, 9am – 4pm - **Dereham RC**

Hazardous household products are common in many homes and must be disposed of carefully in order to prevent dangerous chemical reactions. This type of waste is not normally accepted at recycling centres as it needs to be dealt with by specialist waste disposal contractors.

A substance is considered hazardous if it ignites easily, reacts or explodes when mixed with other substances, is corrosive or toxic

Claire Bowes  
County Councillor, Watton Division  
07789796937  
Claire.bowes.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk”

CC Bowes was asked for an update regarding the Rangers as the Parish Council are still unsure as to whether they are currently operating and no work appears to have been done. CC Bowes agreed to chase this up and request that siding out and sweeping of pavements is carried out. It was reported that a tree was obscuring the sign outside Flaxmoor House and that the road sign out towards Attleborough, outside Bridge Bungalow, was awaiting repair.

#### **The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.**

- 5. To record any Declarations of Interest and to consider any requests for Dispensations from Council Members.**  
None.
- 6. Planning Applications**
  - A. 3PL/2020/0262/O** – Land to the North of School View NR17 1DD – Erection of 4no. Two storey dwelling with associated car parking, landscaping and access. It was noted that revised plans have been submitted for this application and a further response would be submitted reiterating points previously made.
  - B. 3PL/2020/0443/F** – Land at the rear of 5 School View – Change of use from land currently designated as paddock to garden. Removal of post and rail fence between points A and B on the location and site plans. It was noted that this matter has now been approved.
- 7. Finance – to approve and report the following expenditure:-**
  - A. To approve salary payment including holiday allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the month of August 2020 in the sum of £221.07.
  - B. To approve agreed salary increase to the Clerk of £4.32 per month for the months of April to July 2020 in the sum of £17.28.
  - C. To approve reimbursement for printing costs to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the months of May, June, July and August at £7.99 per month, total £31.96 (incl VAT).
  - D. To approve payment to RG Maintenance Services Limited in respect of invoice number 2244212 for grass cutting in the month of August in the sum of £271.20 (incl VAT).
  - E. To ratify payment by standing order to Brian Brooker in reimbursement of payment to Voipfone for the phone line of Caston Community Cars on 5 August 2020 in the sum of £7.20 (incl VAT).
  - F. To ratify payment to Plusnet for Broadband at the Village Hall in respect o invoice number 00004758344-013 in the sum of £34.20 (incl VAT).

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All of the above payments were proposed by Cllr Farmbrough and seconded by Cllr Cook, all voted in favour.

**8. To discuss propose and vote on the following subjects**

**A. Noticeboard at the Village Hall**

The Clerk will liaise with the Chairman of the Village Hall to order the same. Cllr Farmbrough suggested that the Noticeboard in Northacre may also need replacing.  
***Item for next Agenda.***

**B. To ratify salary review of the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman.**

The salary review of the Clerk, previously submitted to all Councillors was proposed by Cllr Farmbrough and seconded by Cllr Cook, all voted in favour.

**9. Matters to Report**

**A. Financial Balances**

The Clerk reported the current balances to the meeting.

**B. Matters for the Rangers**

The current position with regards to the Rangers is unknown. Cllr Bowes to chase and revert to the Council.

**C. Cell Phone Coverage Survey**

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

**D. Purchase of SAM2**

The possibility of adding a solar panel to the SAM2 sign was discussed and deemed not necessary. The Clerk advised that it can be added at a future date if required in the future. The Clerk to proceed with the original quotation.

**E. First Responder Scheme (proposal from Cllr Grimsditch)**

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

**F. Remembrance Book**

The subject of the Remembrance Book was raised in respect of turning the pages of the book in the current Covid 19 pandemic. The cabinet is locked.

Cllr Brown proposed three options:-

Option 1 - the Parish Council should formalise the gift of the Remembrance Book to the Church who are then to deal with the liaison for the day to day care of the same. Cllr Farmbrough objected to this course of action.

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Option 2 – Give the book back to the author for safekeeping.

Option 3 – Remove the book entirely and place it in safe storage.

Cllr Farmbrough suggested option 2. A question was raised as to whether the Parish Council is the owner of the book and it was confirmed that the Parish Council are the legal owners of the book however, the author has asserted copyright over the contents of the same. The book and cabinet were purchased via an Awards for All Grant applied for and granted to the Parish Council. The Council continue to contribute to amendments to the book as and when required.

The Remembrance Book was dedicated to the Church and is under the management and control of the PCC as it is located in the Church and the Parish Council have no jurisdiction over the same.

Cllr Farmbrough felt uncomfortable that the book should be gifted to the Church.

After further discussion, Cllr Brown proposed that the Remembrance Book should remain in the care and control of the PCC, as is currently the case, as an alternative conclusion could not be reached. Seconded by Cllr Farmbrough. All voted in favour.

#### **G. Play Area**

The play area supplier was asked about the rucking of the mats and whether he considered that it was not fixed down properly or whether it was a result of the grass strimming. A response is awaited.

Training – the Chairman advised that there was a scheduled training session on 23 November and the WI had agreed to sponsor two attendees. To be arranged in conjunction with the WI.

Pigeon faeces was considered to be a less of a problem as the season changes and it may be that more branches could be removed from the overhanging trees. Situation to be monitored.

#### **H. Councillor training**

There is a Chairman training session (In two parts) on 22 and 29 September. Chairman to revert to Clerk as to availability.

There are Councillor training sessions available. Cllr Cook does not wish to attend. Clerk to speak to Cllr Grimsditch.

#### **10. Correspondence**

None.

#### **11. To agree the next meeting date**

5 October 2020

The Chairman closed the meeting to permit public discussion.

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**12. Participation and questions from the public – session 2**

A member of the PCC asked for confirmation of the decision made in relation to the Remembrance Book. The Chairman advised that things were to remain the same for the time being and nothing was to change. The Chairman further confirmed that whilst the book was cited in the Church, it remains under the jurisdiction and control of the PCC. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council does not have control over how people engage with each other and hoped that in the spirit of friendship/Christianity, matters could be resolved amicably.

The Treasurer for the WI requested that the Chairman write to the WI requesting funding for the two play area training attendees.

**13. Matters for future discussion to be noted**

Nothing further than listed above.

Meeting closed at 8.46 pm

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