



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: - Mr. J. Chapman VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mr. P. Hall

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 2nd June 2014, at 7.30 P.M CASTON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: - Mr. J. Chapman - Chairman, Mr. P. Hall - Vice Chairman,
Mr. D. Blincow, Mr. A. Bunn, Mr. P. Chapman, Mrs. K. Farmbrough, Mrs. J. Horner.

Also present: - Mr. J. Rogers (Breckland).

1. To accept apologies for absence: - Mr. S. Hebborn (County), Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch), PCSO Tonya Winsley.
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 14th May 2014 were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting could be signed by the Chairman, as a true and correct record.
3. Declarations of Interest from members, in any item to be discussed were noted: - None
4. Planning:- The following decisions were noted:-
 - A. 3PL/2013/0835/F. New plot next to Red Lion, Caston. Minor Material amendments to plans 3PL/2010/0108/F. Vary window sizes, clad east elevation, increase ridge height, solar panels to garage. Awaiting a decision from Breckland Council.
 - B. ENF/120/14/PAR. Former Peggs transport depot, Caston. Breach of condition. No more information to date, from Breckland Council, as to the clarification of the definition of “temporary building” which has been erected on this site.
 - C. 3PL/2014/0100/F. The White House, The Street, Caston. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 8 new dwellings. Awaiting decision by Breckland Council.
It was noted that a decision has to be made 8 weeks from the application being “validated” by Breckland Council. This means that the public did not have as much time as the PC to comment because the PC had an “extension” on the original reply by date of 19th May, (PC = 4th June). The PC councillors further discussed the design of the plans and house styles. It was unanimously agreed that the “town house” style properties, with high roof to accommodate 3 floors are completely out of character with other village properties and far too high and too big. It was also noted that the original conditions stated by the Planning Inspectorate at the time of the last application for this site, were that the property developers were obliged to keep The White House in reasonable condition for 10 years. This has not been adhered to as it is now in a bad state of repair. The PC is not concerned about the property developers’ costs, but is very concerned about the design of properties and creation of possible future eyesores within the village. The village should remain a “linear development” village and not have out of town style housing developments. A maximum of 4 properties which mimic the style of The White House would be more agreeable, which was agreed in the previous plans for the site. It was also noted that there is still great concern for the safety of residents and children at this point in the road, as the well subscribed village school takes a priority with the movement of people in the area near The White House.
The PC asked Mr. Rogers to ask for the application to go to Breckland Council planning committee if the planning application is passed at the next meeting.
The PC asked the Clerk if there was a possibility of getting any funds for the village via the S106 agreement and a request of £50,000 for recreation items was to be asked for if this was possible. It was noted that 6 out of 7 councillors agreed to this.
The Clerk was asked to check if the school had sent any comments in about this application.
 - D. 3PL/2014/0405/F. Lamlow, The Street, Caston. Erection of 2 storey side extension and demolition of outbuilding. Awaiting decision by Breckland Council.
5. Finance:-
 - A. Payment to RGM for May grass cuts. In budget. Item to be moved to next agenda as no invoice has arrived by tonight.
 - B. The Clerks wages for May 2014 and holiday pay for 2013/14. In budget. Proposed by John Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall.
 - C. Contract for plants in planters and possible payment. It was agreed by all councillors that the

payment should be divided in two. The first payment should be made in 6 months (December 2014) and the final in one year (June 2015).

6. Matters to report: - Clerk
A. Update on information from last month. The Clerk informed the councillors that there would be an election fee in 2015 when the election was held in May. Item to be added to the next Agenda as waiting for more information.
B. Any urgent information for PC to consider.
7. Correspondence from: -
Breckland Council, Police, NCC and others, including local events etc. to be posted to the village notice boards and web sites. Items sent to The Councillors' Folder - to be circulated for information only - Local Plan, CPRE info, NALC conference, flag purchase info etc.
Letters: -
- Information about stacking staging was given to the Village Hall committee.
 - A First Aid group from Thetford would offer services to future events in the village if requested, for a small fee.
 - The Memorial bench on The Green - Mrs Ann Milner a relative of the benefactor of the bench, s asked if the bench needed teak oiling as it is looking rather "untidy" and if there was a maintenance programme for it. She was willing to contribute to this if needed. The Clerk has informed her that the manufacturers label on the bench did not recommend oiling but the PC needed to consider her request. It was noted that Jane Horner had kindly washed the bench to remove any dirt. It is frequently used by visitors and villagers so is an asset to the village.
 - The Clerk had sent Mr. Hebborn contact details of the Speedwatch county co-ordinator to see if he may be able to help with the speeding traffic in the village.
 - The Chairman read a letter from Councillor Mr. Alan Bunn stating that he wished to retire from the PC. He will be moving away from Caston. The Clerk informed the PC that Breckland would need to be informed and they would give the PC a date as to when a new councillor could be Co-opted onto the PC. Notices supplied by Breckland Council will be added to the village notice boards and website advertising the vacancy in the next week. The Chairman thanked Mr. Bunn for all his help on the PC over the years. Mr. Bunn could not remember how long he had been on the PC for, but the Clerk thought it was probably at least 10 years, taking over from Mrs. Kittle. All the councillors wished him luck with his move to his new home.
- 8 Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report. The Clerk stated in Mr. Bearne's absence that the team had several sessions last month. Speeding vehicles along the Stow Bedon Rd were a major problem with some vehicles entering the village at 50mph. It was thought that the same vehicles may have repeatedly broken the speed limit. Be warned! The speed limit on entering, and in Caston is 30mph, which means 30 not 34 or 50mph. To volunteer for the Speedwatch team contact 01953 48396.
- 9 Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne monthly report. The Police post notices on the village web site and sometimes in The Waylander. If you are going away for a while please tell a neighbour or friend or contact Homewatch on 01953 483961.
- 10 Matters for future discussion to be noted. Items mentioned above plus traffic speed in the village.
- 11 The next meeting date is agreed as Monday 2nd June 2014 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: - Alison Skipper 14th May 2014

- 12 County Councillor Mr. Hebborn sent his apologies.
- 13 District Councillor Mr. John Rogers to report. He suggested that if the PC wished to apply for S106 agreement funds for recreational purposes for Caston, this needed to be done before the White House application was heard by Breckland Council. The Councillors also needed to aware of the fact that Housing Associations can get permission to build on "windfall sites" at edges of villages. Mr. Rogers said he is available to answer any questions from public and councillors at any time. His contact details are on the PC website, and on the village hall notice board.
- 14 Participation & questions from the public: - None.