



Caston Parish Council

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

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 6th October 2014, at 7.30 P.M CASTON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: - Mr. J. Chapman - Chairman, Mr. P. Hall - Vice Chairman, Mr. D. Blincow, Mr. P. Chapman, Mrs. K. Farmbrough, Mrs. J. Horner.
Also present: - Mr. S. Hebborn (County) Mr. J. Rogers (Breckland). Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch). 12 Members of the Parish of Caston. Ms. Karen O’Kane (Better Broadband for Norfolk). Mr. Chris Curtis (Capita Planning Enforcement Manager).

1. To accept apologies for absence: - PCSO Tonya Winsley.
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2014 were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. It was RESOLVED that the minutes 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
- 3.A. Extra item. The meeting was adjourned at 7.35pm to introduce the first visitor for the evening. The Chairman welcomed the first visitor; Mr. Chris Curtis, Head of the Planning Enforcement department at Capita who came to explain to the PC the planning enforcement process and how his department works. He was not allowed to refer to any specific cases he and his team have worked on, or are working on, due the legal restrictions. The PC and parishioners asked Mr. Curtis a variety of questions about the service. He gave his contact details to the Clerk for future reference. The Chairman thanked Mr. Curtis for visiting.
The Chairman introduced the second visitor; Ms. Karen O’Kane from Norfolk County Councils Better Broadband for Norfolk scheme. She explained that there was a national fund to get better broadband speeds to rural areas of the U.K. and that BT aim was to add fibre optic cables to villages to do this. After explaining the complexities of the process, and the costs involved, the Chairman asked opened a question and answer session. The parishioners’ main question was “when will Caston get better broad band speeds?” This question did not result in an exact answer as it depends on many moveable factors. She advised that the village should wait to see what would happen in early 2015 when funding and work are available for Breckland. The Chairman thanked her for her visit. The PC and many villagers now have a better understanding of the broadband system.
The meeting was reconvened at 8.45pm
4. Planning:- The following decisions were noted:-
 - A. ENF/120/14/PAR. Former Peggs transport depot, Caston. Breach of condition. No decision from Breckland Council to date.
 - B. 3PL/2014/0608/F. Northacre Farm Pool, Caston. Change of use of office & store room to one bedroom caretakers flat. No decision from Breckland Council to date.
 - C. Possible housing on land at end of Attleborough Road next to the village sign. The PC has not received any plans from Breckland Council regarding this site.
 - D. The Clerk informed the PC that a planning application for The White House had been “validated” by Breckland Council but as yet no plans had been received. As soon as these arrive they will be given to the Chairman and councillors for consideration.
5. Finance:-
 - A. Payment to RGM for August grass cuts. In budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Peter Hall.
 - B. The Clerks wages for September 2014. In budget. Deferred to the next Agenda.
 - C. Payment for replacement hedge plants. In budget. Deferred to the next Agenda.
 - D. Subscription to Green Spaces society. £45.00. In budget. Proposed by Jane Horner and seconded by Kay Farmbrough.
 - E. Trustees of Fuel Allotment - change of trustee. The Chairman asked the councillors if the PC would agree to appoint Jane Horner who had volunteered for the role as Trustee. There were no objections. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by David Blincow.
6. Matters to report: - Clerk
 - A. To consider co-opting for the vacancy of Councillor on Caston Parish Council. The councillors

questioned the need to co-opt at this time, since no prospective candidates have attended the PC meetings on a regular basis recently. The Clerk was asked to find out why the co-option has to be done soon rather than at the start of the new PC year. Information about co-option from Breckland Council has ~~been added to the councillors' folder for reference~~ given to the Chairman. Corrected 3/11/14 The Item to be added to the next agenda.

- B. Speed control on Stow Bedon Road. Information about SAMS 2 and costs of having a flashing sign have been added to the councillors' folder for reference.
 - C. Update on information from last month. Rangers update and request for the gullies to be cleaned in the village and trees near Coronation Terrace to be trimmed. The phone box by the school has broken Clerk to contact BT.
 - D. 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.
The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Horner regarding the WW1 display on the Green. He stated that as PC Chairman he had given permission, on behalf of all the PC members in absence of a PC meeting in August, for this temporary display to occur ready for the 4th August WW1 events. There was a notice to all households that there would be a display and events on The Green. All the PC thanked Mr. & Mrs Horner for the work they did to make the display, and said that it was very interesting and many people had commented on how good it was. It was agreed that a request to use The Green for a temporary happening should be directed to the PC/ Chairman at the earliest possible time before the proposed event.
- 8 Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report from Mr. Bearne. There have been 10 sessions since the last report in July and 2 cancellations due to bad weather. 1052 were recorded, 39 were speeding. 8 vehicles were travelling at 35mph or over. Vehicles doing 35 and 36mph are now recorded so watch your speed here and elsewhere as these speeds count! For a variety of reasons it is difficult to assemble a team for each week so if you are concerned about speeding in the village Please help us by joining the team. It only takes 1 to 2 hours of your time every alternate week. To volunteer for the Speedwatch team contact 01953 48396.
- 9 Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne. Caston did not figure in last months local crime stats. Please check your security lights and indoor time switches for security lights. If you are going away please tell a neighbour or friend or contact Homewatch on 01953 483961 to keep watch on your property.
- 10 Matters for future discussion to be noted. Items mentioned above.
- 11 The next meeting date is agreed as Monday 3rd November 2014 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15m.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: - Alison Skipper 6th October 2014

- 12 County Councillor Mr. Hebborn said that the road markings in Watton town centre have changed and parking restrictions limit is now 1 hour on the marked bays. The Griston to Watton footpath has now been formerly adopted by NCC so they will tackle any weed problems to keep it tidy. There are grants available for women who wish to start IT businesses to create jobs. Please contact NCC direct to find out which are most suitable for your needs. He apologised for giving the wrong information about the broadband speeds at last months meeting. He advised to follow Karen O' Kane's lead and be patient regarding the new speeds in the future. He thanked her for coming to explain the process to Caston PC and residents. Mr Hebborn is available to answer any questions by email stan.hebborn@norfolk.gov.uk
- 13 District Councillor Mr. John Rogers apologised but his computer was down so was unable to fill the PC and public in on any of the latest Breckland updates. Mr. Rogers can be contacted by email: - john.rogers@breckland.gov.uk. His other contact details are on the PC website, and on the village hall notice board.
- 14 Participation & questions from the public: - After much debate about broadband during the meeting the public had no other questions. The Chairman thanked all the people for attending the meeting.