



# Caston Parish Council

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

## THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 3<sup>rd</sup> November 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). Members of the Parish of Caston.

1. To accept apologies for absence: - PCSO Tonya Winsley.
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 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
4. Planning:- The following decisions were noted:-
  - A. ENF/120/14/PAR. Former Peggs transport depot, Caston. Breach of condition. No decision by Breckland Council.
  - B. 3PL/2014/0608/F. Northacre Farm Pool, Caston. Change of use of office & store room to one bedroom caretakers flat. No decision by Breckland Council.
  - C. 3PL/2014/1002/F. The White House, The Street. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 8 new dwellings. No decision by Breckland Council.
5. Finance:-
  - A. Payment of £ £252.00 to RGM for September grass cuts. In budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Jane Horner
  - B. The Clerks wages for September 2014. In budget. Proposed by Jane Horner and seconded by David Blincow.
  - C. Payment of £6.99 to Clerk for purchase of replacement hedge plants. In budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Peter Hall.
  - D. Payment of £41.14 to Mr. Brooker for Caston Parish Council web site fees and domain name fees. In budget. Proposed by David Blincow and seconded by Kay Farmbrough
6. Matters to report: - Clerk
  - A. To consider co-opting for the vacancy of Councillor on Caston Parish Council. The councillors referred to the letter from Breckland Council regarding timings and it was agreed that the vacancy should remain as there were only 4 meetings (Dec, Feb, March and April) until the election for the new PC in May 2015. The Clerk is to write to all the prospective candidates explaining the situation. The post will be re-advertised in March next year ready for the May election.
  - B. Speed control on Stow Bedon Road. The councillors still request markings on the road - 30mph. Clerk has been asked to find out about other "C" class roads in Norfolk. The Clerk referred the councillors to the 50/50 bid scheme for small highways improvements. Mr. Rogers advised that the cost of moving the 30mph signs further out of the village could be prohibitive for the PC. The Councillors said that they were very concerned about the concealed drives and possible dangers to walkers as traffic speeds down the road. Mr. Hebborn said that he would look into the situation for the PC.
  - C. Notice board on The Green. The information booklets are to be re-added to the Councillors' folder for their consideration and choice of board to be noted to discuss at the next meeting.
  - D. Update on information from last month. Peter Hall had done some tree trimming at Coronation terrace but the trees still need looking at by a qualified tree surgeon. The Clerk had contacted BT several times about the broken glass in the phone box next to the school and Mrs. Horner said she would check this had been mended. The parishioners requested that ditches and drains be cleared through the village particularly near Senganna, along The Street and along Attleborough Rd. The foot paths also need sweeping.
  - E. 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.  
A parishioner had enquired if there was any statutory requirement to annually appraise the Clerks work. The Clerk said that there is currently only a suggestion from SLCC that appraisals should occur yearly. The Councillors agreed that they were happy with the work and if at any time they were not, they would discuss it with the Clerk.  
The Clerk was also asked to search the PC archives for information relating to Norfolk War Ag Committee and any Norfolk County Council National Service.  
Several parishioners had contacted the clerk recently. They are concerned about the proposed housing development along Attleborough Rd. Letters about this had been sent to all the householders in the village. Copies of letters from parishioners have been added to the Councillors folder. It was also noted that the PC had not yet received any formal plans for this from Breckland Council.
- 8 Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report from Mr. Bearne.  
There were 4 sessions since the last report. One cancellation due to bad weather. 394 vehicles were recorded and 5 were speeders. The position of the signs has been revised and this will be immediately obvious to drivers. This is to ensure the safety of the speed watch teams. If you are concerned about speeding in the village please join the team and help us. 1 to 2 hours every alternate week is all that is needed. Tel 483 961.
- 9 Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne.  
One crime occurred in Caston last month. Please be extra vigilant. Please check your external security lights and renew bulbs if needed. Plus check any time switches you may use for internal security. 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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: -

Alison Skipper 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014

- 12 County Councillor Mr. Hebborn said that NCC had money available for minor highway repairs like pot hole filling. The Councillors asked about the drains and culverts in the village. He said he was not sure if these were included, as the funding was for "small" highway improvements. NCC also supports small business and funding is available for starting a business. Please see: - [www.norfolk.gov.uk/Business](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Business) for more information.
- Mr Hebborn is available to answer any questions by email [stan.hebborn@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:stan.hebborn@norfolk.gov.uk)
- 13 District Councillor Mr. John Rogers said that Breckland Council has started the consultation period for the new "Local Plan" to set out the planning policy in Breckland for the next 20 years. (This info is currently being passed around the PC members.) There is also a call for sites if you have land you wish to be considered. He also said that Breckland needed 700 houses per year to keep up with the need. Lots of affordable housing is needed but this is not always the sort to be built. Ideally there should also be provision of enough light industry land to provide local jobs. From 17<sup>th</sup> Nov to 9<sup>th</sup> Jan there are exhibitions about the Local Plan throughout Breckland area and also online. Adoption of the plan will happen in 2016.  
Mr. Rogers can be contacted by email: - [john.rogers@breckland.gov.uk](mailto: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: - A parishioner asked if the local plan included the provision of new Doctors surgeries and dentists and school support. Mr Rogers said that It was difficult to recruit Dr's to work as G.P's, as they preferred a more vibrant environment to live and work in. Also there was a national shortage which did not help. They are funded by the Government any many find the work in other countries or cities more interesting. The adoption of the plan takes too long and by the time this happens the communities' needs may have changed.