



Caston Parish Council

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

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 11th May 2015, at 8.00 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: - Many members of the Parish of Caston. Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch).

2015 was an Election year. There were four vacancies on the Parish Council as one councillor had moved house, one retired and two decided not to stand for this term. The parishioners of Caston voted for seven Parish Councillors from eight nominations. The elected councillors are: - Mr. David Blincow, Mr. Brian Brooker, Mr. Frank Brown, Mr. Peter Chapman, Mrs. Leslie Crosthwaite, Mrs. Kay Farmbrough, Mrs. Jaki Porter.

The retiring Chairman Mr. John Chapman asked for nominations for a new **CHAIRMAN** of the Parish Council. Mr. Brian Brooker proposed Mr. David Blincow as the new Chairman. This was seconded by Mrs. Leslie Crosthwaite. It was **RESOLVED** that **Mr. David Blincow** be elected as Parish Council Chairman for 2015/16. The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance Office. It was also signed by the clerk.

The new Chairman asked for nominations for a new **VICE-CHAIRMAN** of the Parish Council. Mr. Peter Chapman proposed Mrs Kay Farmbrough as Vice-Chairman which was seconded by Mrs Jaki Porter. It was **RESOLVED** that **Mrs Kay Farmbrough** should be elected as Parish Council Vice-Chairman for 2015/16. The Vice-Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance Office. It was also signed by the clerk.

Mr. David Blincow opened the meeting by thanking the past councillors for their work and welcoming all the new Caston Parish Councillors to the next four year term of office. He stated that a Parish Council was quite different from normal committees and required dedication to attend the PC meetings which they would be “summoned” to. He also reminded them that items to be discussed should be addressed through the Chairman and only items on the current Agenda could be discussed. Each councillor would receive a Good Councillors Guide very soon to supplement items in their folders and training would be available over the next few months. He also asked the public not to record or film the meeting without prior permission.

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** - Mr. S. Hebborn (County) left early to attend another meeting. Mr. Phil Cowen (Breckland Council) new representative for our Ward - All Saints and Wayland representing Caston. Mr. Cowen was absent due to holiday. PCSO Tonya Winsley was on a different shift.
2. **The minutes** of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 13th April 2015 were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. After corrections it was **RESOLVED** that after corrections to the date 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: - David Blincow - none, Brian Brooker - Item 7 a letter, Frank Brown - none, Peter Chapman - none, Leslie Crosthwaite - none, Kay Farmbrough - none, Jaki Porter - none.
4. **Planning:-** The following decisions were noted:-
 - A. 3PL/2014/0608/F. Northacre Farm Pool, Caston. Change of use of office & store room to one bedroom caretakers flat. No result to date from Breckland Council.
 - B. 3PL/2015/0147/F. Land East of Walnut Tree Cottage, Attleborough Rd. Erection of 8 dwellings. No result to date from Breckland Council.
 - C. 3PL/2015/0180/F Co-Dunkall Ltd, The Barn, Dukes Lane. Erection of storage building with offices (Retrospective). This item has been deferred by Breckland Council for later consideration.
 - D. 3PL/2014/1088/O. Site adjacent to Home Farm, Northacre, proposed residential development for 3 detached dwellings. This was refused by Breckland Council and has gone to Appeal with Planning Inspectorate. No result to date from the Planning Inspectorate.
5. **Finance:-**
 - A. Payment to Norfolk Assoc. of Local councils. Cheque needs to be rewritten. In budget. This item was agreed to at the previous meeting but the amount on the cheque needed to be adjusted as the full amount was not covered previously. It was agreed that this could be done. Proposed by Frank Brown and seconded by Jaki Porter
 - B. To consider Parish Council insurance policy due May 2015. Approved as the amount was under budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Peter Chapman.
 - C. To agree the PC accounts for 2014/15. This item is to be added to the next Agenda as the internal



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auditor is due to see the accounts this week.

- D. To consider Redemption of Consolidated Stock. This item is to be circulated to all the councillors for their interest. This is a 2½d low value Government share purchased by the Parish Council in 1955. It has now reached maturity and requires cashing in. The councillors agreed Frank Browne should advise the council. He said that if the certificate was still available this should be done.
- E. The Clerks wages for April 2015. In budget. Item to be added to the next Agenda.
- F. Agree the new Chairman and Vice - Chairman should sign the mandate forms for Barclays Bank. It was agreed that there should be three signatories for the bank accounts in case of illness etc. It was proposed and agreed by all the councillors that Frank Brown should be added as the third person after the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. It was noted that the mandate forms for CAF bank have yet to arrive so will be added to the next agenda.

6. Matters to report: - Clerk

- A. Notice board on The Green. This is currently being finished and will be ready for delivery soon. Next agenda.
- B. Tree risk assessment. The appointed firm, Ravenscroft Trees are due to visit the village at the end of the week. Next agenda.
- C. Defibrillator. The speaker has not yet been booked as the Election has taken the time this month. Next agenda.
- D. Planning Policy. The Councillors would like to review the PC planning application consideration procedure. They would also like all applications to be added to the PC website so that villagers are more aware of them. They would like to hold an extra meeting to discuss the methods in the near future. Plus they would like to know more about the planning process and would consider inviting a member of Breckland Planning dept. to give a talk or answer questions. Next agenda.
- E. Neighbourhood Plans Wayland Partnership meeting. The Clerk attended a Wayland Partnership meeting which this was the main topic of discussion. The process is complex and requires more time than the current meeting allows so to be added to the next agenda.
- F. Dukes Lane ownership. The Chairman read aloud the letter received this month from Spire solicitors about the ownership of Dukes Lane. The owners of the properties along Dukes Lane think that it most likely belongs to "the village". A councillor asked if another solicitor would take a different view. It was noted, that the ownership question has been on going for a very long time, possibly over 60 years, and that it would incur huge expense to research this. Next agenda.
- G. Update on information from last month. The PC was informed by Jane Horner on her travels past them, that the pot holes on The Street had been mended. Trees overhanging the footpaths are causing a problem in some areas. Owners are to be notified.
- H. Any urgent information for PC to consider. As soon as training for new councillors was available they would be notified.

7. Correspondence from: -

- The PC had received a letter from Brian Brooker about the BT pole in Dukes Lane and the possibility of it being a hazard. This was caused by the fact some concrete had been placed around it making it stand proud of the original hedge line. The PC agreed that this concrete should be removed restoring the verge and thus removing the need to move the BT pole. At a previous PC meeting Mr. Rob Lond-Caulk had said he would remove the concrete. The Clerk was asked to write to him requesting that he follows through with this, restoring the Lane to its original state.
- There was no Councillors' Folder this month due to the election the next will be in June.

8. Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report from Mr. Bearne.

There were 4 sessions since the last report. 479 vehicles were recorded and 23 speeders and 14 travelling at over 35mph. We are still hoping for another visit from the Police Camera Support Officer, which will hopefully help reinforce our efforts. A CWS session has been arranged for this week.

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. Mr. Bearne said that the flashing sign does make a difference to the speed of motorists in the village.

The councillors asked Mr. Bearne if it would be possible to have a flashing speed sign on a permanent basis, or if strip markings on the road would help. Next agenda.

9. Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne.

Unfortunately there was theft in Caston in the last month. This was from a shed not a house. There is also a warning about the theft of scrap metal and metal objects in the county. I also renew my warning about the increasing amount of theft of catalytic converters, particularly from 4 x 4's. Please take all the security measures you can.



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If you are going away please tell a neighbour or friend or contact Homewatch on 01953 483961 to keep watch on your property. PCSO Tonya's visiting dates to the village to go onto the website and notice boards.

- 10 **Matters for future discussion to be noted.**
- 11 **The next meeting date is agreed as Monday 1st June 2015 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.**

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: - Alison Skipper 11th May 2015

- 12 **County Councillor Mr. Hebborn** can be contacted by email: - stan.hebborn@norfolk.gov.uk
Mr. Hebborn gave his address at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier this evening.
- 13 **District Councillor Mr. Phil Cowen** can be contacted by email: - phil.cowen@breckland.gov.uk
Mr. Cowen was absent.
- 14 **Participation & questions from the public: -**
- A parishioner said that The Barn planning application was being reconsidered on May 15th, at Breckland Council. This was to allow the owner to get supplementary information from Highways, at Norfolk County Council.
 - The new Residents Association for Caston may have areas and subjects for discussion which may be a conflict of interest for some of the councillors. Councillors should take independent views. They should be sure of what they are allowed to vote on when this occurs.
 - It was agreed by all the residents that the planters were looking very good this year and could D&Y nurseries continue to look after them next year. (Item for next agenda.)
 - The stream alongside The Street has scummy water in it and is not flowing near the White House. Relevant authority to be notified.
 - It was noted that some thought that Breckland Council were discriminating against those without internet when they do not put up Planning Application Site Notices on properties as these residents would not get to find out about possible changes to the village.
 - It was asked if an "action" column could be added to the minutes for reference for the future.