



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN:- Mr. David Blincow VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mrs. Kay Farmbrough

**MINUTES OF
THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2016
CASTON VILLAGE HALL at 7.30 pm**

Councillor's present:- Brian Brooker, Frank Brown, Rob Lond-Caulk, Peter Chapman, Jaki Porter

Also present:- District Councillor Phil Cowen, Members of the Public

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Blincow and Farmbrough. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Councillor Porter was nominated to Chair the Council Meeting, all present voted in favour.

2. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2016 be signed, by the acting Chairman, as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Brooker.

The acting Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

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

Mrs Jane Horner requested permission to erect a gazebo type tent on the Village Green for a period of approximately two hours to provide cover for the sound system at the Sundown Ceremony to be held on 18 November. The Parish Council agreed that this was acceptable.

4. **Guest Speakers:**

District Councillor Phil Cowen advised that the Local Plan consultation period ended on the 31 October and that they had not received as many responses as had been anticipated. The final version of the plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate around May/June 2017 and it is anticipated to be finalised around this time next year. All current applications will be determined under the current regulations.

The Riverside Development (old Anchor Inn) site in Thetford is now open. The Travelodge is trading at 60% occupancy. There is a three screen, 90 seater, cinema opening on 2 December. The first food outlet has been let to TLC Inns which is a family owned East Anglian company serving American style food, staff and food is sourced locally. They will possibly be opening at Christmas or early New Year. The Council are in discussions regarding the other four units.

Devolution discussions are still ongoing and a decision will be made on 21 November on whether to support the plan.

Elizabeth Truss, South West Norfolk MP, is launching an initiative in Parliament to introduce better quality jobs into East Anglia along the Cambridge to Norwich tech corridor. This initiative is in a bid to raise income as central government drives it down.

5. **Caston Speed Watch Co-ordinator Colin Bearne – Contact 01953 483961**

The attached report was provided by the Speed Watch, Co-ordinator, Colin Bearne.

Councillor Brown advised he felt the original site for the SAM2 sign at Coronation Terrace was a better location.

It is too early to tell whether the village gates are effective but it appears there is less traffic using the village as a short cut.

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Mr Bearne advised that the Speed Watch team do not record enough speeding traffic through the village to request the presence of a police officer who would be able to issue tickets to those drivers exceeding the speed limit. They have to record 12 incidents in one position on one session.

6. **Caston Home Watch Co-ordinator Colin Bearne – Contact 01953 483961**

The attached report was provided by the Home Watch Co-ordinator, Colin Bearne.

Mr Bearne reiterated not to leave Christmas presents in view and that a local level co-ordinator will be attending the Council meeting on 5 December 2016.

The acting Chairman reopened the Council meeting.

7. **Declarations of Interest**:- Cllr Lond-Caulk, item 8A.

Dispensations from Council Members: - None

8. **Planning Applications**:-

A. **3PL/2015/0180/F** – The Barn, Dukes Lane – Cllr Lond-Caulk advised that the building has been ordered in readiness for erection on the new site and the services are to be installed. The estimated date for moving will be the first or second week in February. Cllr Lond-Caulk advised that the date for removal, he believed, was later than 20 January 2017 and would check and update the Council in due course.

B. **3PL/2016/1272/HOU** – 2 The Green – No objections.

9. **To discuss propose and vote on the following subjects**:-

A. Banking and Electronic Banking:

(i) Following a review of the Banking Update Report dated 24 October 2016 and discussion **IT WAS RESOLVED** to ratify and confirm the opening of day-to-day banking and internet banking facilities with Lloyds Bank for the Council and the Highway Surveyors Land Charity and upon completion to transfer all Council funds from Barclays to Lloyds and £100 from the Charity deposit account with Cambridge & Counties Bank to activate the new accounts and **FURTHER** to close all banking arrangements with Barclays. Proposed by Cllr Brooker, seconded by Cllr Lond-Caulk. All present voted in favour.

Cambridge & Counties Bank – (ii) Change of Correspondent Bank and (iii) Disposition of Funds:

(ii) Following a review of the Banking Update Report dated 24 October 2016 and discussion **IT WAS RESOLVED** upon the commencement of banking arrangements with Lloyds Bank by the Highway Surveyors Land Charity to nominate Lloyds Bank as the correspondent bank connected with Cambridge & Counties Bank in substitution for CAF Bank. Proposed by Cllr Brooker and seconded by Cllr Lond-Caulk. All present voted in favour.

(iii) Following a review of the Banking Update Report dated 24 October 2016 and discussions **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Charity 45 day notice account with Cambridge & Counties Bank be closed and a new 31-day notice deposit account with Cambridge & Counties Bank, with a current gross yield of 1.10 per cent, be opened and the balance of the 45 day notice account transferred thereto. Proposed by Cllr Lond-Caulk and seconded by Cllr Chapman. All present voted in favour.

B. Cllr Porter advised that the existing SAM2 location in Stow Bedon Road is too far around the bend and it is proposed that a new post be purchased and erected at a cost of £89 plus VAT. All present voted in favour. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk would arrange for the purchase of the pole and she will liaise with Cllr Porter as to its exact location.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Westcroft, Watton Road, Ashill, Norfolk, IP25 7AQ

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- C. Following review of the newsletter from CPRE received in August, it was proposed that we should support the campaign of CPRE which suggests that no new sites for development should be considered until the existing planning applications have been fulfilled. It was generally felt that this campaign should be supported. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk would submit the Council's support to this campaign. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Lond-Caulk. Four Councillors were in favour with one abstention.
10. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the following payments should be made:-
- A. Salary payment including holiday pay allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the months of October 2016 in the sum of £207.61. Proposed by Cllr Brooker and seconded by Cllr Lond-Caulk.
- B. Payment to RGM for grass cutting in October in the sum of £258.00 incl. VAT. Proposed by Cllr Brooker and seconded by Cllr Brown.
- C. Payment to Spanglefish for website hosting (Caston Parish Council) in the sum of £29.95 incl VAT. Proposed by Cllr Brooker and seconded by Cllr Brown.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that the following additional payment should be made:-

- D. Payment to Cllr Brooker in reimbursement of payment made to Daily Internet Services Limited in respect of the .co.uk domain name and email account in the sum of £22.76 incl. VAT. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Lond-Caulk.
11. **Matters to Report:-**
- A. The Clerk advised that the defibrillator and cabinet had now been received and to date her attempts to contact the electrician had not been successful. Cllr Brooker advised that an electrician was visiting the village hall the following day and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that an alternative quote be sought in relation to the installation of a new circuit and fitting of the defibrillator. All voted in favour.
- B. The Clerk advised that she had received some suggested amendments to be made to the Welcome Pack and that she would implement the same and recirculate to all Councillors.
- C. The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, provided copies of two new quotes in relation to the tree works and specifically in relation to the felling of the large Beech Tree. The Clerk further advised that she had received a telephone call from Hugh Coggles, the Tree Officer at Breckland as to concerns that we are considering felling the Beech Tree. He advised that he had been contacted by CGM in this regard. The Clerk advised Hugh Coggles that it was a consideration at the present time as the Council were concerned about the ongoing risk the tree poses and potential ongoing costs. Hugh Coggles advised that they may consider placing a Tree Preservation Order on the tree should we wish to proceed. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk would draft a letter to Hugh Coggles, for consideration by all Councillors, setting out our concerns.
- D. The Clerk advised that the previously reported Highway matters had been updated to "This problem has already been reported and action identified to resolve the issue". The Clerk will continue to monitor and report in due course.
- E. The Clerk advised that she was experiencing some difficulties in locating a conservation builder who would be happy to quote for the repairs to the Village Cross. Cllr Lond-Caulk may have a contact. The Clerk will continue to seek quotes for consideration.
- F. The Clerk advised that she has spoken with Breckland in relation to the installation of a dog bin next to the bus stop, near the school and that information had been submitted to Breckland who were currently investigating ownership of the land in question. The Clerk advised that Breckland are currently undertaking a review of bin collections and that they are encouraging people to dispose of dog waste in normal rubbish bins. They are supplying labels to be placed on the bins advising of the same. Cllr Lond-Caulk advised that the dog bins were overflowing and he was experiencing dog waste being left on the pavement outside his own property. It was suggested that the headmistress of the school should be encouraged to write to the Parish Council in respect

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of this problem to support our request to Breckland. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Cllr Lond-Caulk will speak to the headmistress and that the Clerk will continue to pursue this matter.

- G. The Clerk advised that she had submitted the application to the Parish Partnership Scheme for a retrospective claim in respect of the village gates recently installed and would update the Council in due course.
 - H. Cllr Porter advised that the Village Appraisal Working Party had submitted the first draft of the Appraisal to all Councillors for consideration. Various comments had been received and these were to be taken back to the Working Party for consideration.
 - I. The Clerk provided details of the half yearly assets/liabilities and balance sheet provided prior to the meeting.
 - J. The Clerk advised that she had visited the telephone boxes in the village following contact from a resident advising that BT intended to remove the same. The Clerk advised that the notices were dated 3 August 2016 and that they allowed 42 days for objections to be received. This has now expired. The Clerk updated the Council as to the possible adoption of the telephone boxes which has to be made by way of a Community Project.
12. Any correspondence and associated information added to the Councillors' Folder for circulation.
13. **To agree the next meeting date Monday 5 December 2016.**

The acting Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

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

Cllr Lond-Caulk asked the members of the public present whether they would prefer to receive the Village Appraisal Questionnaire in paper or electronic format. Some preferred paper, others electronic format.

A member of the public enquired re the content of the Questionnaire and Cllr Porter summarised the question headings and advised that, as far as possible, the Questionnaire would be in a tick box format.

A member of the public advised that he had been the person who had contacted the Parish Clerk and he would be interested in a Community Project being set up in relation to the telephone boxes and that the Clerk would provide the further information she had gathered in this regard.

The acting Chairman reopened the Council Meeting.

15. **Any other business/matters to be noted for next Agenda.** None.

Meeting closed at 9.22 pm.

Joanne Blackman
Parish Clerk
13.11.2016

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED: