

Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Kay Farmbrough

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022
AT CASTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM**

Councillor's present:- Chris Cook, Kay Farmbrough, Graham Moss, John Hill, Mary Howell,
Richard Ives

Also present:- 4 Members of the Public

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7 March 2022

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7 March 2022 be signed, by the Chairman, as a true and correct record. All voted in favour.

The Chairman closed the meeting to permit participation from the public.

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

None.

The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.

4. Guest Speakers

DC Cowen advised that Breckland Council had received a letter dated 16 March from Natural England entitled Nutrient Neutrality. The document can be viewed (along with three maps) on the Breckland Council website in the black strapline on the Home Page which gives an explanation of what this means.

The letter had been sent to all Councils around the country who have chalk streams and the risk of nutrient run-off into these streams. Breckland has two such areas affected, the Wensum and Broadland. The Council is currently taking advice on this matter.

The letter advised that new development within the catchment of these habits comprising overnight accommodation has the potential to cause adverse impacts with regard to nutrient pollution. Such development includes, but is not limited to:

- New homes
- Student accommodation
- Care homes
- Tourism attractions
- Tourist accommodation
- Permitted development (which gives rise to new overnight accommodation)
- Any development not involving overnight accommodation, but which may have non-sewerage water quality implications.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Householder applications such as extensions are exempt. However, if an applicant seeks to discharge a condition where water is referred to, the application will not be able to progress at this time.

The Council is investigating to where all waste water/treatment works discharge. The Council is in discussions with Anglian Water in this regard. Further information will no doubt follow in this regard in due course.

Serco are the current waste contractors who worked extremely well during the pandemic and were able to operate as normal. However, since the pandemic restrictions have lifted, there has been some staff shortages, due to sickness, which has had a minor impact on some collections. The level of recycling has increased massively since the pandemic and the trucks are having to make more frequent return journeys to the depot than before.

CC Bowes was unable to attend the meeting but later submitted her report, as follows:-

“Ukraine

The Government has set up the Homes for Ukraine scheme. Individuals, charities, community groups and businesses can offer accommodation to Ukrainian refugees via the dedicated Govt website <https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine>

Donations

The Government has said that one of the best ways to help is by donating cash rather than donating goods. Cash can be transferred quickly to areas where it is needed. Individuals and aid organisations can use it to buy what they need most.

See [Bishop of Norwich's Refugee Fund](#) or the [Norfolk Community Foundation's Supporting Ukraine in Norfolk Fund](#).

Read [Ukraine: what you can do to help](#) on GOV.UK.

Home Care receives funding boost in the face of rising fuel costs

To help keep vital providers of home care on the road and supporting vulnerable adults, Norfolk County Council is spending an extra £300,000 to help meet the increased cost of fuel.

In the face of rising fuel prices, care providers across Norfolk reported that the extra cost was having a real impact on their and their staff's ability to keep providing reliable home care, a decision was taken by Norfolk County Council to increase its 'hourly payments to £21, representing an increase of £301,000 across the county.

Home care, also known as home support, domiciliary care and non-residential care, offers practical help for people to stay independent at home, in housing with care and supported living. This involves carers visiting people at home, giving them the extra support needed for them to continue to live in their own home. This can include help with bathing, eating and managing medication, as well as many other tasks where necessary.

To do this, carers visit multiple people in one day, and in a rural county like Norfolk can clock up many miles of travel between these locations. As such, the steep rise in fuel prices has put a major strain on many of these home care services.

While the County Council's annual review did increase the element of fees paid by the council associated with fuel costs, this decision was made prior to the recent increases in price. In recognition of this increased cost, the Council has made the decision to increase this element again outside the annual review framework.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The total cost of the changes stands at £301,000, which will be met by the Norfolk County Council's Adult Social Services Provider Support Fund.

£3 million to help Norfolk's rural economy grow

Norfolk County Council wants to hear from small to medium-sized businesses (SMEs) supporting the rural economy.

Through their £3m DRIVE programme, Delivering Rural Investment for Vital Employment, the County Council, in partnership with Suffolk County Council, has already awarded over £500,000 to rural businesses.

DRIVE will offer businesses contributing to the rural economy in Norfolk and Suffolk 12 hours of business mentoring to create project and business plans, after which the applicant will be able to apply for a capital grant of between £5k and £30k, towards up to 40% of project costs. All applicants will need to put forward job creation as a result of their grant application. Existing and new businesses can apply. New businesses will need to be aiming at high growth, defined as forecasting to employ 3 new members of staff in the first 3 years of trading.

Decisions on grant awards will be made by Local Investment Boards that will consist of local volunteers with business experience or knowledge.

With all funding programmes there is specific eligibility criteria. Anyone interested in applying, should contact the team and will be assessed on whether their project is eligible for DRIVE on a case-by-case basis.

For more information go to: www.driveforbusiness.co.uk"

5. Speedwatch

"During March the speed watch volunteers undertook 5 checks.

Covid and lack of volunteers prevented more checks.

During these checks 260 vehicles were assessed and 17 reported to the Constabulary for processing.

We would really like to welcome some new members to the team to supplement our membership. The bigger the membership the more checks we can accomplish and reduce speeding in our village.

Requests for volunteers to man the April dates have gone out and I am awaiting responses."

Cllr Ives asked to include the SAM2 Reports in future reports.

6. To record any Declarations of Interest and to consider any requests for Dispensations from Council Members.

Cllr Farmbrough – 7D and E.

7. Planning Applications

The following updates were provided in relation to current planning applications.

- A. **3PL/2022/0354/HOU** – Richmond, The Street – Single Storey Side Extension and Alterations (Amended Scheme to Permission 3PL/2021/1590/HOU). **Permission.**

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

- B. **3PL/2022/0265/VAR** – Development Site at The Barns, Attleborough Road – Variation of Condition No 2 on 3PL/2019/0518/F – As shown on the application drawings, the relocation of the garage and private drive and minor fenestration changes to reflect the amended internal layout to Plot 2. **Cllr Farmbrough had received a phone call from a resident concerned whether the windows would face their way. The road up to the Barns has not been completed and the Clerk to check the approval in this regard. No objections raised.**
- C. **3AG/2022/0004/AG** – Chase Farm, The Street – Erection of portal framed steel storage building. **No objections.**
- D. **3PL/2021/0223/D** - Land Adjacent To Caston Primary School Caston NR17 1DD - Reserved matters application for Erection of five dwellings following outline application 3PL/2017/1267/O. **Undecided. A response had been received from Lanpro to questions raised by the Council. The Council will review and will discuss at the May meeting.**
- E. **3DC/2021/0039/DOC** - Land Adjacent To Caston Primary School The Street NR17 1DD - Discharge of Condition No 4 & 9 on 3PL/2017/1267/O. **Undecided.**
- F. **3PL/2022/0172/HOU** - South Cottage, The Street NR17 1DD - Proposed 2 storey side and rear extension. **Approved.**
- G. **3PL/2022/0221/HOU** - Daisy Cottage Carbrooke Road NR17 1DQ - Two-storey rear extension and internal alterations. **Approved.**

8. Finance – to approve and report the following expenditure:-

- A. To approve salary payment including holiday allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the month of March 2021 in the sum of £221.07.
- B. To approve reimbursement to the Clerk of heating costs at the Village Hall during the months of October to March in the sum of £17.00.
- C. To ratify payment to Plusnet for Broadband at the Village Hall in respect of invoice number 00004758344-031 in the sum of £27.00 (incl VAT).

There were two additional items for payment as follows:-

- D. To approve reimbursement to Cllr Howell for purchase of patriotic tableware for the Jubilee celebrations in the sum of £119.70.
- E. To approve payment to Norfolk ALC for 2022/23 Subscriptions in the sum of £135.15 (in budget).

Proposed by Cllr Moss, seconded by Cllr Hill, all voted in favour.

9. Matters to Report:-

A. Financial Balances

The Clerk advised the current Caston Parish Council balance amounts to £6,800.91.
Highway Surveyors balance amounts to £14,209.29.

B. Highways/The Rangers

The Clerk provided updates on all reported matters. It was noted that many reports state “We have assessed that the defect does not currently meet our intervention criteria.” – the Clerk to try and establish what Intervention Criteria means.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

C. Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Howell advised that the Committee had not been able to meet on the 31 March as planned but they had discussed various matters via email. Public liability was discussed and this should be covered under the Council insurance (will need to be checked on renewal). The road closure had not yet been approved but Highways are currently very busy with requests and Cllr Moss is hopeful to receive a response within the next week. He has been assured that this should not be a problem.

Tableware has been ordered.

Volunteers will be making cakes and the WI are seeking those volunteers.

A Notice has been placed in the Waylander for the last two months. No volunteers have come forward as yet but a new article is being prepared and the Committee remain hopeful.

They are hoping to produce a leaflet to be inserted in the Waylander for Caston householders. Posters will be placed on Noticeboards/Facebook etc.

The Village Hall are to provide hot and cold drinks.

Progress is being made and a further report will be provided next month.

D. Village Gates

An alternative quote has been sought in the sum of £595.00 plus VAT (if 16 posts replaced) or £275.00 plus VAT for just repairs. Cllr Ives has removed one of the gates and will look and consider the others before a decision is made.

E. Plum tree at Coronation Terrace

The plum tree has been cut down and the stump will be ground out in the next couple of weeks. The Clerk advised that she had received two complaints for the removal of the tree from residents and she had advised that the tree was diseased and we had been advised to remove it following an independent tree report, as required by our insurers.

F. Planting of Rowan trees

Both trees have now been planted.

G. Drains, ditches and flooding

Cllr Howell advised that there were no further updates in this regard. Lord Dannatt has brought people together for a more joined up approach to tackle the issues in the County. It was suggested that a letter should be sent to Lord Dannatt to make him fully aware of the issues in Caston which should be copied to the Environment Agency and Norfolk County Council.

10. Correspondence

None.

11. To agree the next meeting date

Monday 9 May 2022.

The Chairman closed the meeting to permit public discussion.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk

12. Participation and questions from the public – session 2

A member of the public suggested that we should go back to Agendas being placed on all Noticeboards as well as other means. Cllr Cook agreed to ensure that the Agendas are placed on the three noticeboards.

Cllr Ives raised the speed limit in Rayners Falgate. The speed limit on the A1075 into Rayners Falgate is 60mph whereas the speed limit on the A1075 is 50mph and whilst this has been looked at before, with the speed limit now reduced on the A1075 maybe this should be looked at again. The boundary between Caston and Stow Bedon is just before Rayners Falgate and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Clerk at Stow Bedon to see if we can work together to approach Highways.

13. Matters for future discussion to be noted

As above.

Meeting closed at 9pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ

Tel: 01842 829821 Email: parish.clerk@castonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.castonparishcouncil.gov.uk