

Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Kay Farmbrough

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2022
 AT CASTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM**

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

Also present:- 4 Members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**
 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ives.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 7 November 2022.**
 Proposed by Cllr Moss, seconded by Cllr Howell. All voted in favour.

The Chairman closed the meeting to permit public discussion.

3. **Participation and questions from the public, session 1.**
 A member of the public provided an update on his complaint to Breckland Council regarding the planning process. Stage 2 of the complaint process has now been completed and the matter has been referred to the Ombudsman.

The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.

4. **Guest speakers.**
 None.
5. **Speedwatch and SAM2 Report.**
 "During 2022 the volunteers achieved the following results:-
 Number of speed checks 43
 Number of vehicles assessed 3,112
 Number reported to Constabulary 195 for exceeding 35mph.
 There are no planned checks for December as the volunteers have to refresh their training either by reading the manual or watching a training video.
 Checks will be arranged for January"
6. **To record any Declarations of Interest and to consider any requests for Dispensations from Council Members.**
 None.

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

7. **Planning Applications:-**

3PL/2022/0368/F - Coughtrey Industrial Estates (Units 1 - 17) Church Road - The demolition of Units 1-6 (whole block Western boundary) and Units 7-13 (part of North Block), extensions to units 14 and 15 (large extension to North block), extension to unit 16 (small extension to South Block), external fascia changes, refurbishment to Unit 17. Change of use of whole site to mixed B2 and Class E (offices). The reconfiguration of parking and creation of a new loading and unloading area.

This application continues to be of concern in respect of traffic which will inevitably travel through the village. It is noted that the proposal for access to the site, during the build, would be a preferred route through Watton. This route will be unenforceable and a lot of the traffic will proceed through the village. Further, following the build, staff and HGV traffic will continue to travel through the village.

Highways have been extremely helpful and have advised that it is a gift of planning to impose restrictions to limit vehicle movements by various means for example, weight restrictions/chicanes and we should request the same in our response.

The site is currently a mix of B1 and B2 status and this will increase to being all B2 status (heavy industry and offices) which is normally not permitted in residential areas.

Cllr Howell and the Clerk to liaise with a response to the latest application but in any event by no later than the deadline 14 December 2022.

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 November 2022 in the sum of £236.02.
- B. To approve payment to David Bracey for Annual Playground Inspection in the sum of £120.00.
- C. To approve reimbursement payment to Brian Brooker for Caston On-Line Domain renewal in the sum of £9.54 (incl VAT).
- D. To ratify payment to Plusnet for Broadband at the Village Hall for the month of October in respect of invoice number 00004758344-040 in the sum of £26.40 (incl VAT).

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

9. **Matters to report:-**

- A. **Budget.** The Clerk had provided a draft budget based on the information which had been gathered to date although it was noted that a few responses were awaited. Cllr Farmbrough asked that the contribution to the Village planters be raised from the proposed £200 (which was a large reduction on previous years). A request for £350 was suggested. The Clerk noted the same and advised that the Council members should consider all points on the Budget for a final decision to be made at the January 2023 meeting.
- B. **County Broadband – Village Green.** The Clerk had previously forwarded an email from County Broadband regarding a wayleave on part of the Village Green. This does not include the section by the Ancient Monument, which remains in discussion. The Clerk also forwarded a helpful response from Rachel Line at Norfolk County Council which advised that the proposed works follow the only route that will avoid the protected sections of the Village Green and remain within either designated highways (periphery of the main Village Green) or on Parish Land (in front of the Bus Shelter). It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a response based on the recommendations of Rachel Line for consideration by the Council.

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. **County Broadband – Stow Bedon Road.** The Clerk advised that she had still not received the requested plan from County Broadband however, Rachel Line had also provided some helpful information in relation to this. Our response to County Broadband will also include these points.
- D. **Financial Balances.** Caston Parish Council - £9,522.78/Caston Highway Surveyors £14,343.89.
- E. **Highways/The Rangers.** The Clerk advised that further to previous discussions, a request had been made to Highways for a site visit to discuss the areas of concern.
- F. **Emails.** The Clerk explained that Calico have suggested that we try to reduce our email boxes as far as possible before the transition to them takes place. Each Councillor should work through their inbox and remove any 'junk' emails. The switch over will take place in the New Year.
- G. **Play Area – maintenance.** The Clerk advised that she had contacted the play equipment supplier and they do not offer a canopy for the slide, and it is not practical to do so. The Clerk advised that the annual inspection had taken place and whilst it had not been read in depth, there are no immediate recommendations at this time. The inspection will be reviewed and reported at the next meeting.
- H. **New bin for Village Green.** The Clerk advised that Serco have confirmed that they will empty a different bin at the bus stop location on the Village Green. It was agreed that this should be purchased together with a ground fixing kit. All voted in favour.
- I. **Homewatch.** Cllr Farmbrough had to leave the meeting urgently and it was agreed this matter would be deferred until the January meeting.
- J. **Resident road safety at Rayner's Falgate.** A member of the public advised that the speed limit upon entering the Stow Bedon Road is the National Speed Limit, coming from a 40mph limit on the A1075. The Clerk advised that Stow Bedon Parish Council were in support of suggestions to request a reduction in the speed in this area. The Clerk also advised that we need to consider what we are seeking before an approach is made to Highways.
10. **Correspondence.** The Clerk had previously provided an email from a resident regarding fireworks. There had been a considerable amount of fireworks over an extended period on several weekends. Whilst the Council sympathised with the situation, it was acknowledged that the Parish Council have no powers to prevent this. It was however agreed that a piece should be placed in the Waylander asking people to be courteous.

Cllr Howell suggested that, in general, Caston Parish Council should consider placing a small report in each edition of the Waylander so residents can be made aware of things happening in the village. Cllr Howell agreed to prepare articles for the Waylander to include the fireworks.

11. To agree the next meeting date: 9 January 2023.

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

12. **Participation and questions from the public – session 2.** A member of the public asked for the description of the location of the poles in Stow Bedon Road, provided by Norfolk CC, be emailed. Clerk to arrange.

13. Matters for future discussion to be noted.

- Budget/Precept

Jo Blackman
Parish Clerk

Meeting closed 8.55pm

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