

# Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook    VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Kay Farmbrough

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MONDAY 3 APRIL 2023  
AT CASTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM**

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

Also present:-                3 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 6 March 2023.**  
Proposed by Cllr Farmbrough, seconded by Cllr Moss. 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 asked when the grass cutting was due to start. The Clerk advised it should be any time as it has most likely been too wet to start. The same member of the public asked whether the telephone kiosk could be removed from near the Mill. The Council asked why and was advised it was felt that it was in a bad state and unsightly. Cllr Cook agreed to have a look and speak with the original person involved in its restoration to see what can be done.

Another member of the public said that thanks should go to Highways and the Parish Council for the recent update to signs etc which have happened in the village. The Clerk to thanks Matt Lines at Highways. The Council were advised that the recent complaint which was made to the Ombudsman found that Breckland Council had followed procedure in relation to the land next to the school. It would have been for the Planning Committee to take on board the concerns raised by the Parish Council. Things to take from this are a) get in early, if a matter goes to the Planning Committee then the decision is all but made b) work with the stakeholders eg school/diocese c) seek conditions at outline planning stage. There is so much to go through on these applications and it requires motivated and diligent villagers who know the area to go through the applications.

**The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.**

4.        **Guest speakers.**  
None.
5.        **Speedwatch and SAM2 Report.**  
"March saw the volunteers undertake 4 checks, one being rained off. A total of 222 vehicles were assessed and 6 reported for exceeding 30mph. The lower numbers may be because we are getting the message across or the lower volume of traffic. Hopefully the first is the answer."

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

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

None.

7. **Planning Applications:-**

- A. **3PL/2021/0932/VAR** - Cherry Tree Farm Cherry Tree Lane Stow Bedon - Variation of Condition No2 on 3PL/2017/0878/F : Variation to reflect the as-built appearance and layout of the pig sheds, feed silos and manure store cover and proposed amendments including revised external materials and the addition of chimneys. **Stow Bedon application.** Cllr Cook advised that he had attended the Stow Bedon Parish Council meeting which was well supported. Between the District Councillors and Parish Councils, everything has been done to oppose this application. The Environmental Agency application trumps any planning decision and almost everything is done retrospectively.
- B. **3PL/2022/0472/F** – Appeal No. APP/F2605/W/22/3308149 – Homefield House, The Street, Caston – Proposed new dwelling. **Undecided.**
- C. **3PL/2023/0072/F** – Land at Chase Farm, The Street, NR17 1DD- Erection of Farm Bungalow. **Undecided.**
- D. **3PL/2023/0003/LB** – The Mill, The Street, NR17 1DD – Continuation of temporary permission for removal of the windmill cap to carry out repairs to the windmill cap approved under 3PL/2020/1431/LB. **Approved.**
- E. **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. **Undecided.**

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 2023 in the sum of £236.02.
- B. To ratify payment to Plusnet for Broadband at the Village Hall for the month of December in respect of invoice number 00004758344-045 in the sum of £26.40 (incl VAT).
- C. To approve payment to the Clerk for reimbursement of Microsoft 365 annual renewal in the sum of £59.99.
- D. To approve payment to Caston Village Hall for hall hire during 2022/23 in the sum of £88.00.

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

9. **Matters to report:-**

- a. **County Broadband update.**  
Wayleave – Clerk to chase County Broadband for a response.
- b. **Financial Balances.**  
Caston Parish Council £6,768.69  
Highway Surveyors £14,462.80
- c. **Communications Policy/Social Media Policy**  
Cllr Cook has some concerns how the policy tries to codify how people behave and concerned how this could be enforced.

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The Clerk suggested that it may be worth rolling this matter over to when the new Council is formed.

Councillors should submit any comments to the Clerk and it will be placed on the next Agenda.

**d. Village Gates**

Cllr Ives advised that he was obtaining a quote from Ridgeons to replace all the posts as more and more of them are looking fragile. He will then arrange a date with Cllr Hill who has offered to assist him in installation.

**10. Correspondence**

Proposed 16 week road closure in October – concern was raised for the length of time the road will be closed however it is acknowledged that the works are long overdue and are a necessity. The Clerk will try and seek a schedule of works from the contractor.

**11. The next meeting date: 15 May 2023.**

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

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

A suggestion was made that some bulbs should be planted to celebrate the Coronation. It is understood that the WI were thinking of doing something like this but something to consider in the bulb planting season.

A reminder that it is essential to take ID when voting on the 4 May.

Cllr Cook thanked Cllr Hill for his service on the Council as he will not be standing for another term.

**13. Matters for future discussion to be noted.**

As above.

Jo Blackman  
Parish Clerk

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