

Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Kay Farmbrough

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 9 January 2023
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 Meetings held on 5 December 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 advised that there had been another accident at the junction with the Carbrooke Road over the weekend of 17 December. It was a collision between a truck and a car.

The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.

4. **Guest speakers.**
 The Clerk read the following email received from DC Cowen:-

- At cabinet this morning we were informed that the Local Plan consultation is about to be released so please keep a weather eye out for relevant correspondence and timelines. If any members attended the Breckland Town and Parish forum pre Christmas this is the documentation that was described at that meeting
- We have published our draft budget for the year 2023-2024. This was agreed at Cabinet this morning and is out for consultation and will be debated at Scrutiny and then Council in February. I am delighted to advise that this is a balanced budget for the next two years and that the vast majority of Breckland residents will pay circa £1.90 per week to Breckland for all of the statutory core services that we are charged with providing in addition to the many programmes and project that we have in hand to support the most vulnerable in our communities.
- The planning application for the old Coughtrey site in Griston is to be heard at planning committee on 17th January and I am aware that this is of interest to the village. I will be speaking to the committee re this application as ward member for Griston

5. **Speedwatch and SAM2 Report.**

There were no checks during December. The Police had been outside the school last week and at Coronation Terrace over Christmas.

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.**

Cllr Moss – 7a

7. **Planning Applications:-**

- A. **3PL/2022/1385/F** - Home Farm, Northacre NR17 1DG - Conversion of redundant farm buildings (with link extension) into a single storey dwelling house plus detached double garage building. **Response by 12 January 2023.** This application is to join two existing barns and make into a single dwelling. The previous application on this site had been for five dwellings. One barn is to be the garage and the property is for a long term employee. There is to be a new driveway, via Home Farm, so there is no new entrance directly from Northacre.

A member of the public raised concerns over the driveway and how one of the properties is very close to the boundary fence. There is also concern that the Air Source Heating Pump will be just the other side of the boundary and will create a potential noise issue.

There are some incorrect details in the plan namely Hedwig Barn on the plan is in fact Jasmine Barn and Abbotgate has been referred to as just Gate.

There is a small gap between the property and the fence and there is concern as to how this would be maintained as it already gets overgrown badly.

Whilst the Council were sympathetic to the resident, this dwelling is likely to be classed as infill and as the barns are already in situ, it is difficult to find any grounds for objection. The Council encouraged the individual to submit comments directly to planning with their concerns.

The Council will raise the following comments:-

- The proximity of the air source heating unit.
- Vegetation cleaning behind the fence line.

- B. **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.** This matter will be raised at the Planning Committee on 17 January, as previously advised. Cllr Howe raised the point with regards to the condition that traffic does not go through Caston and requested that we write to DC Cowen and CC Bowes to ask them to seek clarification at the Committee that this is the case as the Report prepared for the Committee Meeting appears to contradict the condition to be imposed. Clerk to send email.

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 December 2022 in the sum of £236.02.
- B. To approve payment to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for use of home office in the sum of £50.
- C. To approve reimbursement payment to Brian Brooker for Caston On-Line Gold Subscription renewal in the sum of £29.95 (incl VAT).

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- D. To approve payment to RG Maintenance Services Ltd for invoice number 2247153 in the sum of £324.00 (incl VAT) for grass cutting in September 2022. (This invoice was not received and remains due).
- E. To ratify payment to Plusnet for Broadband at the Village Hall for the month of October in respect of invoice number 00004758344-041 in the sum of £26.40 (incl VAT).

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

9. **Matters to report:-**

- a. **Budget/Precept**
The Clerk had previously prepared the budget and the Council had had an opportunity to consider the contents thereof. With this in mind it was proposed by Cllr Hill that a precept budget of £10,950 would be required for the financial year 2023/24. Seconded by Cllr Moss and all voted in favour. It was therefore **APPROVED** that a precept budget of £10,950 would be required for the financial year 2023/24.
- b. **County Broadband – Village Green**
The Clerk advised that she did not feel that the responses that had been received from County Broadband fully answered the questions raised and she would be reverting back to them for further clarification.
- c. **County Broadband – Stow Bedon Road**
A member of the public advised that there is one post next to the existing BT post on the plan but in fact it is on the other side of the road. There were concerns raised as this will almost certainly be taken down by the high traffic which comes through the village. The post differs in location to the plan provided.
- d. **Financial Balances**
The Clerk advised the current account balances.
- e. **Highways/The Rangers**
The Clerk advised that an on site meeting had been arranged with Highways and Cllr Bowes for Monday 16th January at 10am. Cllr Farmbrough and Cllr Howell will also be in attendance.
- f. **Emails**
The Clerk advised that she would seek to arrange a date with the new proposed supplier.
- g. **Play Area – replacement bench/annual inspection**
The Clerk advised that the replacement bench and new bin for the Village Green had been ordered. She was awaiting a pro forma invoice and date for delivery.
- h. **New bin for Village Green**
See g above.
- i. **Homewatch**
Cllr Farmbrough suggested that this is something which should be considered for the village as the original co-ordinator had retired several years ago. Cllr Howell agreed to place a notice in the Waylander to see if anyone would be prepared to volunteer for the role.
- j. **Resident road safety at Rayner’s Falgate**
This will be discussed with Highways at the meeting on the 16th January.

10. **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that the first time, voters will be required to provide ID when voting at elections.

11. **The next meeting date: 6 February 2023.**

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The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

12. **Participation and questions from the public – session 2.** None. Cllr Hill raised the question of the date of the May meeting as there are two bank holidays in May. It was agreed that the 15 May was too late in the month and it was agreed that we would meet on Thursday 2 May 2023.

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

As above.

Jo Blackman
Parish Clerk

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