

Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Mary Howell

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 1 JULY 2024
AT CASTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM**

Councillor's present:- Chris Cook, Mary Howell, Sarah Fletcher, Graham Moss, Rob Trown,
Simon Spanyol

Also present:- Two members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**
None.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 June 2024**
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 June 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman,
Chris Cook.

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

3. **Participation and questions from the public, session 1.**
None.

The Chairman reopened the Council Meeting.

4. **Guest Speakers**
None.
5. **Speedwatch and SAM2 Report**
"During June the volunteers undertook 3 checks a total of 153 vehicles were assessed and 12
reported to the Constabulary for exceeding 35mph. Highest speed recorded this month was
43mph."

Cllr Spanyol reported that 20% of all vehicles exceeding the speed limit on Northacre and
Coronation Terrace occur between 6am and 9am on weekdays. Weekends are generally
quieter.

Cllr Spanyol will discuss, with the Speedwatch Co-ordinator, the possibility of conducting
sessions at specific times and areas.

Cllr Spanyol has obtained some Speedwatch signs for the village. As there are no poles to
attach these too, Cllr Spanyol has contacted Openreach to obtain permission for them to be
attached to the telephone poles.

The Constabulary do not have the capacity to carry out regular visits however they did attend
two weeks ago but it unfortunately coincided with the road resurfacing.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

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

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Suffolk County Council are trialling ANPR machines which record speed all of the time and the need for volunteers is therefore not required. The machines cost £3,800 incl VAT and delivery.

Community PC, Paula Gilluley, is the Constabulary representative for our local area.

There is currently some disconnect between SAM2 data, Speedwatch and the Constabulary.

A brief discussion took place and it was agreed that 'headlines' from the SAM2 reports will be placed in the Waylander magazine article.

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

None.

7. **Planning Applications**

- a. **3DC/2024/0121/DOC** – Homefield House, The Street, NR17 1DD – Discharge of Conditions 3, 4, 5 & 6 on 3PL/2022/0472/D (Approved on Appeal). **Undecided.**
Councillors are each to review and submit any comments to the Clerk.
- b. **3PL/2024/0344/F** – East View, The Street, NR17 1DD - Proposed Change of use of outbuilding to be used as a beauty therapy room. **Undecided.** Cllr Trown reported that, to his knowledge, this application has been refused due to the access/egress from the property.
- c. **3DC/2023/0322/DOC** - Land to the North of School View NR17 1DD - Discharge of Conditions 5,6,7,8,12 on 3PL/2020/0262/O. This application relates to Condition 5 – Drainage, Condition 6 – Construction Management, Condition 7 – Biodiversity and Ecology, Condition 8 – Trees in Countryside and Condition 12 – Access to site. **Undecided.**
- d. **3PL/2024/0180/VAR** - Land to the West of School View - Variation of Conditions 5, 6, 7 & 8 on 3PL/2020/0262/O - amend the wording of the conditions to be varied from "no development shall take place/commence" to "no development shall take place beyond slab level". **Permission.**
- e. **3DC/2024/0049/DOC** – Land adj School View, The Street, NR17 1FP – Discharge of Conditions 5, 6, 7 & 8 on 3PL/2024/0180/VAR. **Undecided.**
- f. **3PL/2024/0067/D** – Land to the North of School View 10 The Street NR17 1DD - Reserved matters application for erection of 3no. two storey dwellings with associated car parking landscaping and access following outline permission allowed on appeal 3PL/2020/0262/O. **Undecided.**
A resident has been advised by contractors that works are to restart, imminently, on this site. Whilst it is appreciated that works to slab level have been approved, the concern is that works above slab level will also restart. The Clerk will contact the Planning Officer responsible for these applications to obtain an update.
- g. **3PL/2024/0051/DOC** – The Gables, 35 Attleborough Road, NR17 1DJ – Discharge of conditions No 3 & 12 on 3PL/2021/0439/VAR. **Undecided.**
- h. **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. Undecided.**

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- i. **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. **Refused.**
- j. **3PL/2023/1055/VAR** - Coughtrey Industrial Estate Church Road IP25 6QB - Coughtrey Industrial Estate Church Road IP25 6QB. **Undecided.**
- k. **3PL/2023/1054/VAR** - Coughtrey Industrial Estate Church Road IP25 6QB - Removal of planning condition 4 from 3PL/2003/1092/F. **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 June 2024 in the sum of £252.63.
- b. To approve payment to Didlington Nurseries for plants etc for village planters in the sum of £145.00.
- c. To approve payment to Derek Tew for making and supplying a new village planter together with compost and plants in the sum of £60.00.
- d. To ratify payment to Hostworld in respect of purchase of a further 1GB of data to 25/01/2026 (invoice 220760) in the sum of £38.86 (incl VAT).
- e. To approve payment to BT for broadband at the Village Hall in the sum of £30.38 (incl VAT) – paid by Direct Debit.

All voted in favour.

One additional item for payment, as follows:-

- f. To approve payment to Wayland Painting Services in the sum of £392.56 for repayment of the Village Gates (inv 4206082).

All voted in favour.

9. **Matters to Report**

- a. **Village Planters including damaged planter**
Cllr Fletcher advised that the new planter is now on the Village Green, situated under the Noticeboard and suggested that it may be nice if this was stained the same colour as the Noticeboard. Cllr Trown will have a look at it.

There were 8 planters in total.

2 x Church Lane (one of which was destroyed)
2 x Northacre
2 x Griston
2 x Attleborough Road

Having had a brief look at some of the planters, Cllr Fletcher advised that some of them are in better condition than others. The team responsible for planting them have reported that several are quite bad and are beginning to fall apart. Further consideration will be given to the way forward.

- b. **Village Gates**
The repainting of the Village Gates has been completed and they look very nice. The Clerk will arrange payment to Wayland Painting Services.

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- c. **Financial Balances**
Caston Parish Council £12,892.39/Highway Surveyors £15,171.07
- d. **Playground**
There is concern regarding one of the ash trees in the play area. The Clerk advised that the grass cutting contractor was going to keep an eye on the trees and any overhanging branches. She will contact the contractor in the first instance.
- e. **County Broadband**
No update available. Clerk to follow up.
- f. **Liaison with School**
No update available.
- g. **Reducing level of speeding in Caston**
See 5 above, Speedwatch and SAM2 Report.
- h. **Litterpick**
There are a few volunteers to date and Ruth Trown has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate a litter pick in the Autumn. Equipment such as bag hoops, litter grabbers, gloves, sacks and hi-viz jackets are required. The Clerk to obtain prices for the same.
- i. **Highways – making good the damage caused in Northacre**
The Clerk has contacted Malcolm Steward at Norfolk CC and is awaiting a response.
- j. **Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership**
Nothing to report at the current time.

Whilst this was being discussed, Cllr Trown reported that the drains at Dukes Lane corner have water sitting approximately 12-18 inches from the surface and he was surprised to see the water level so high. It was noted that, along The Street, there are holding tanks which distribute the water to slow the flow and then this eventually flows into the culvert.

The concern is that the drains may have gravel in them as the road has just been dressed. The Clerk will report them to Norfolk CC.

The Chairman permitted a member of the public to speak who advised that he had been surprised to see that the contractors were redressing the road over the top of potholes and when the foreman was approached regarding this, he explained that the Norfolk CC would not pay for the holes to be filled at the same time but would complete the pothole repairs themselves. These have been marked out in white paint, awaiting repair.

The Clerk was asked whether we report potholes to Norfolk CC and the Clerk advised that if potholes are reported to her then yes, they are formally reported but it is possible for anyone to report a pothole and individual reporting appears to hold more weight than that of the Parish Council.

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k. **Riparian ownership letters**

The Clerk advised that she had messages Peter Hall to take up his kind offer of a site visit to discuss the watercourse. Cllr Howell advised that she will visit A G Beesley to try and understand the position with regards to the watercourse next to his property.

10. **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that she had received a letter from Caston PCC asking whether the Parish Council would donate a sum of money to assist with the upkeep of the churchyard. The Clerk advised that £450 was in budget for this purpose and it was therefore **AGREED** and **APPROVED** that a donation of £450 would be made to Caston PCC for the upkeep of the churchyard.

11. **To agree the next meeting date: 2 September 2024.**

Agreed.

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public participation.

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

A member of the public advised that the path by Flaxmoor House was difficult to navigate due to nettles and overhanging tree branches. The pavements are generally in a bad condition and there are also nettles and brambles along by the school. This is forcing people to walk in the road in certain places. The Clerk will report the same.

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

Cllr Spanyol advised that there is a Zoom Meeting scheduled for 3rd July at 6pm by CPRE on the question of Settlement Boundaries being removed.

Cllr Spanyol again raised the question of the Minutes of the Parish Council being available sooner. The meeting was reminded that it had been agreed that they would be published within two weeks of any meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Jo Blackman
Parish Clerk

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