

Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Cook VICE CHAIRMAN: Mrs Mary Howell

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 3 MARCH 2025
AT CASTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

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

Also present: Four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**
None.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 January 2025.**
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 February 2025 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.**
A question was raised about the telephone kiosk and it was advised that the paint had been purchased and would be painted when the weather improves.
4. **Guest Speakers**
None.
5. **Speedwatch and SAM2 Report**
Cllr Spanyol advised that there had been four sessions in February. The first three sessions only reported one person exceeding 35mph. The fourth session reported several people for exceeding 35mph.

There are three sessions planned for March.

It was noted that a resident in Stow Bedon Road had complained that the Team were standing on the verge outside the resident's house. This was reported to the Speedwatch Co-ordinator and an alternative location is being explored/considered.

The Speedwatch Team rely on support from the villagers to enable them to carry out their work.

At the previous meeting it was discussed to join forces with Thompson, who were trying to set up their own Speedwatch Team. After consideration, it was considered not in the best interests of the Team and was declined.

A new volunteer, Cllr Howell, is awaiting training.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

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

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

None.

7. **Planning Applications**

- a. **PL/2025/0044/HOU** - Old Barn Cottage The Street, Caston, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1DD - Proposed single storey rear extension in addition to flat roof placement with additional flat roof light over the existing kitchen. **Comments submitted.**
- b. **PL/2024/1193/FMAJ** – HM Prison Wayland, Griston, Thetford, Norfolk, IP25 6RL - Full Planning Application for demolition of existing structures and the construction of a four storey (T60) houseblock, new multi-faith/education building, new kitchen and minor extensions to and refurbishment of existing ancillary buildings, energy centre, new internal security fence, creation of an all-weather sports pitch within a secure perimeter fence together with new pedestrian footpath, relocation of horticultural polytunnels, car parking and associated landscaping. **Comments submitted.**
- c. **PL/2024/1056/FMIN** - Land To The North Of School View, The Street, Attleborough, NR17 1FP - Proposed 3No bedroom detached house & garage. **Undecided.**
- d. **PL/2024/1077/FMIN** - Land Adjacent To School View, The Street, Caston, NR17 1PF - Proposed change of use from paddock land to garden amenity. **Granted with conditions.**
- e. **PL/2024/0894/CLOPUD** - Development Site At 595205 298086 The Street, Caston, Norfolk - Erection of 5 residential dwellings and a car park, implemented under pp 3PL/2017/1267/O and 3PL/2021/0223/D (Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Development). **Granted no conditions.**
- f. **3DC/2024/0154/DOC** - Land adjacent to Caston Primary School, The Street NR17 1DD - Discharge of condition 5 on 3PL/2021/0223/D. **DOC-COMplete.**
- g. **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. **DOC-COMplete.**
- h. **3DC/2024/0049/DOC** – Land adj School View, The Street, NR17 1FP – Discharge of Conditions 5, 6, 7 & 8 on 3PL/2024/0180/VAR. **DOC-COMplete.**
- i. **3DC/2024/0174/DOC** - Land adjacent to School View, The Street NR17 1FP - Discharge of Conditions 4 & 5 on 3PL/2024/0067/D. **Discharged in part. Prior to first occupation of the development hereby approved, full details of both hard and soft landscape works shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.**
- j. **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.**
- k. **APP/F2605/W/24/3351737 – Appeal on application number 3PL/2022/0368/F-GRISTON** - 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. **Rescheduled to be heard on 8th of April 2025 in the Anglia Room, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, NR19 1EE for one day, starting at 10:00am**

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The original meeting at Watton Sports Centre was adjourned as the venue was found to be wholly unsuitable for the meeting. There was no microphone and a lot of background noise. Adjourned to 8th April 2025. Cllr Spanyol will be attending and will provide a copy of his 'script' to the Council in due course.

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 February 2025 in the sum of £263.47.
- B. To approve payment to BT for broadband at the Village Hall in the sum of £30.38 (incl VAT) – paid by Direct Debit.
- C. To approve payment to Caston Village Hall for the annual hire fees totalling £102.
- D. To ratify payment to Westcotec for repair to the SAM2 sign, invoice 16547, in the sum of £279.12 (incl VAT).

All items were approved for payment.

A question was raised about the Village Hall Broadband. Cllr Moss suggested that when County Broadband is offered to the Village Hall, they should take up the offer. It was felt that this was a good idea, and the Clerk will relay the suggestion to the Village Hall Committee.

9. **Matters to report.**

A. **Village Planters**

Cllr Howell expressed concern that all members of the planting team should approve the new suggested planters so there is no come back to the Parish Council. Cllr Fletcher will go back to the organiser and ask her to confirm the new suggested planters are acceptable, on behalf of the team.

A question was raised as to who was supplying the soil. This is not known at this stage.

A further question was raised as to whether the feet of the planters would be protected to prevent rotting. This will also be investigated.

B. **Financial Balances**

Caston Parish Council £11,314.37/Highway Surveyors £15,567.78

C. **Playground**

Nothing significant to report only that children are putting stones around the equipment which could cause a hazard, they will be removed by the inspection team.

D. **County Broadband**

Nothing to report.

E. **Liaison with School**

Nothing to report.

F. **Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership**

Just by way of update, it was confirmed that the County Council had confirmed that the riparian ownership of the culvert is the responsibility of the landowner. The Bridges Team from the County Council carried out an inspection and a plant pot was removed. It is not believed this is the whole problem, but it may have helped the flow.

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Due to unforeseen circumstances, investigations have been halted at the current time. Highways have done what they can now and continue to work with the landowner.

It was pleasing to note that other works have been carried out by the same landowner at the top end of the Carbrooke Road, as promised.

It was agreed that the works carried out to date have been excellent and the Parish Council will request an update from the landowner in due course.

G. Nutrient Neutrality Fund

A document in relation to the Nutrient Neutrality Fund had been received and circulated to all Councillors. It was agreed that this would be placed on the Council website (available [here](#)).

10. Correspondence

None.

11. To agree the next meeting date: 7 April 2025.

Agreed

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

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

A member of the public advised that BT Openreach were installing fibre cables at Coronation Terrace, starting 10th March. The Openreach website however states there are no plans in our postcode area.

Cllr Howell had investigated the proposed Devolution for the County and has subsequently written a summary for the Waylander. Upon investigation, it is Cllr Howell's view that it is not as bad as we may think. There will be a consultation in due course.

13. Matters for future discussion to be noted

Cllr Spanyol said that when DC Cowen was at our meeting in January, a discussion took place about the new planning portal. This is still not working properly and submitted comments are not showing. Further, some documents are in an unreadable format namely .msg. It is felt the District Council are failing in their statutory duty to provide this information. Cllr Spanyol will raise this again with DC Cowen.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Joanne Blackman
Parish Clerk

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