



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: - Mr. J. Chapman VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mr. P. Hall

MEETING OF THE CASTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2010 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Councillors present: - Mr. J. Chapman - Chairman, Mr. P. Hall - Vice Chairman, Mr A. Bunn, Mr. D Blincow, Mr. P. Chapman, Mrs. K. Farmbrough, Mrs. J. Horner. Mr. J. Rogers (Breckland & County)
Also present: - PCSO Tonya Winsley, Mrs. Uskeiwicz, Mr. Skipper, Matt (Red Lion architect)

1. To accept apologies for absence: - Mr. C. Bearne (Homewatch)
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 7th December 2009. The minutes were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting could be signed by the Chairman, as a true and correct record.
3. Declarations of Interest from members, in any item to be discussed were noted: - Item 4.B. Mr. Bunn, Mrs. Horner
- 3.A. The meeting was adjourned at 7.32pm for PCSO Tonya to give her report. Caston has had no reported crimes since may 2009. The Police will be running a stall at the monthly Farmers Market at Watton 9.30-12.00am, 1st Saturday of month, for any questions and concerns villagers have. There will also be free shed alarms for collection. This service is in addition to the police Station in Watton. A Police information pack with useful numbers, "no cold caller" door stickers and other info is available from the parish clerk, the Homewatch co-ordinator or from the Police station for all residents. Weekly Cops and Coffee sessions are held at The Surge behind the Co-op in Watton on Wednesdays between 11.00 - 12.00am. All are welcome. "Make Sam Smile" speed detection signs will be visiting the village during this year. For more information see their website. Tonya continues to regularly visit the village in an unmarked car to check for any problems. If Any residents can meet her at the Watton Farmers market.
The meeting resumed at 7.40pm.
4. Planning. The following decisions were noted:-
 - A. Chapel Partners, The Red Lion Pub, Caston - change of use of building from a Public House to residential and demolition of flat roof extension between and main building and store. This application is also to be considered under Listed Buildings rules. Planning Permission refused by Breckland on both applications.
 - B. Mr. A. Bunn, Fallowfield, Northacre - continued use of residential property as living accommodation. This application was withdrawn and a new one submitted. To be considered by PC.
 - C. Mr. Richardson, Clematis Cottage, The Street - two storey side extension and associated alterations. Original application withdrawn by Mr. Richardson and new application with change of design submitted. Planning Permission granted by Breckland.
 - A. Mr. P. Crosthwaite, Cloverleaf Home Interiors, The Barns, Bridge House Farm, Attleborough Road - Change of use of a shed to a shop in the grounds, shop selling restored furniture and collectables. Planning Permission granted by Breckland.
5. Finance: It was RESOLVED that the following payments could be made:-
 - A. CPRE membership £29.00 in budget. Proposed and seconded £29.00 to be paid.
6. Matters to report: - Clerk
 - A. Speed roundels for Northacre and the village. These are usually only added to A and B roads. Any other road has to first have "enhanced signage" and Police speed checks by the Police. It was question why roads at Cranworth had them when they too are not a B road. Clerk to find out more information.
 - B. Flaxmoor and Chase End pavement repair update. The work has been "identified" by the Highways dept. And will be attended to when the pot holes created by the bad weather all over the area are filled in. Some are very deep and are seen as apriority as they could cause road traffic accidents.
 - C. Request from parishioners for village grit bins. The PC was shown examples of grit bins, colours sizes and prices. After much discussion the decision was made not to purchase grit bins for the village. However the Clerk is to request that the Caston/ Stow Bedon/Thetford road is to be added

to the gritting list for next year as the pack ice on this very well used road proved very dangerous during the bad weather.

- D. Awards for All - consider seat costs and styles. Various park bench seat styles were considered by the Councillors. The options of oak, softwood, metal or recycled plastic used for the manufacture of the seat were discussed. The future maintenance of the bench was also considered. It was decided to purchase a park style bench seat made of brown recycled plastic, as this offered the least maintenance in the future and the company offered a good guarantee. The cost is within budget and the payment for the seat and its potential site on The Green are to be added to the next Agenda.
- E. Awards for All - consider litter picking equipment costs and styles. The list of items needed for litter picking was read out by the Chairman. It was decided to purchase 2 litter pickers, 2 bag hoops and high visibility jackets. The style of picker is to be chosen by Mrs. Horner because she has used this type of equipment before. The Clerk is to order the equipment as soon as possible trying to keep within the £56.50 budget.
- F. Request for info on clerks wages & expenses costs over last 5 years. This information has been added to the Councillors folder.

7. Correspondence from: -

- A. BT payphone box adoption and removal of phone equipment. The Clerk requested the retention of the phone boxes and equipment on The Green and outside the village school. BT said "the kiosks will remain in service until a fresh consultation would be initiated to remove the payphones." If any parishioner notices any changes to the phone boxes please inform the parish clerk.
- B. Breckland Town & Parish Council Forum. The PC has no questions to put to them at this time.
- C. Additional item. The Chairman showed the councillors a card sent to the PC by the Caston Mother and Toddler Group. This was made by the children to thank the PC for the storage shed.

8. Home Watch: - Colin Bearne reported: There is nothing to report directly affecting Caston. The Police wish to alert the public to the most prevalent crimes: - the theft of domestic heating oil and red diesel and the theft of metal for scrap. Please be vigilant and inform the police if you suspect that either metal or oil is being removed by unauthorised persons.

9. Speed Watch: - Two checks were done in December and 2 vehicles were driving at over 30mph.

10. Items for the next agenda: - As above plus purchase of hedge plants for Coronation Terrace.

Councillor's folder circulated for information only

The next meeting will be Monday 1st March in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

District & County Councillor report and public participation: - Councillor John Rogers
CLERK: - Alison Skipper 1st February 2010

Report from Councillor John Rogers-

Breckland are sponsoring free First aid training on 9th February contact Cat Lang on 01362 656870. The roundabout along Norwich Road, Watton is to be sorted out as soon as possible so that it is safer. The street lighting belonging to NCC may be switched off between 12 midnight and 5.00am in some areas. Carbrooke PC requested winter salting on roads through to the village but this was refused. Breckland will not be increasing the Council Tax but the Police want 3.5% and N.C.C. want 1.9% extra.

Public Participation -

Matt, the architect for the Red Lion, thanked the villagers for attending the recent exhibition of proposed plans for the Red Lion held in the village hall on 28th January 09. He requested that villagers refer to Caston web site Blog for information. (www.caston-online.co.uk/blog.asp?blogid=3350) It was noted that the Clerk was not informed of this event so could not advise parishioners of the event if needed. An apology was given by the architect.

It was asked if the heritage walk maps on the village hall exterior were ever updated as the walks were not very clearly marked. The councillors thought that these were only updated after many years of use. Ordinance Survey maps should show all public footpaths in greater detail. The Clerk is to check the map.