



# 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 1<sup>st</sup> November 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: - Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch), Mr. G. Edwards

1. To accept apologies for absence: - PCSO Tonya Winsley
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010. 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. Proposed by Mrs. K. Farmbrough seconded by Mrs. J. Horner.
3. Declarations of Interest from members, in any item to be discussed were noted: - Item 4.c. Mr A. Bunn & Mrs. J. Horner
4. Planning. The following decisions were noted:-
  - A. Red Lion, Caston - Alterations to public house & car park, conversion of store to dwelling and erection of new dwelling. Plus Alts to PH, inc. creation of flat. Erect a 3 bed house. Convert store to dwelling & alts to car park etc Listed Buildings consent. The clerk is to ask Breckland Council again whether the section 106 agreement has been signed.
  - B. Mr. D. Grindley, The Meadows, The Street Caston - Change of use from paddock to garden land. Permission given by Breckland Council.
  - C. Mr. A Bunn, Fallowfield Cottage, Northacre - Conversion of a disused piggery to a 3 bedroom single storey dwelling. Mr Ellis - Mr Bunn's agent will be at this meeting to talk to the Parish Council and Parishioners.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.32pm.

The Chairman introduced Mr Ellis, Mr Bunn's agent who described the conversion and answered questions from the public. Mr. Ellis quoted the latest Govt. information on changing old agricultural buildings into dwellings. The paper plans were held up for all to see. He explained that the old piggery, behind Fallowfield Northacre, was built in the 1970's and its conversion into a new bungalow would be for sole use of the client. Mr. Bunn said that his son would move into Fallowfield. The surrounding hedges would not be affected in any way. The existing access, to the right of Fallowfield, along Northacre would be used for the entrance to the bungalow. The paddock area, parallel to Griston road, would be the garden belonging to the new bungalow. The plans are to be sent round to all the Councillors for their comments. The meeting was reconvened at 7.47pm

5. Finance: It was RESOLVED that the following payments could be made:-
  - A. RGM cutting village green in September. £72.85 in budget. Proposed by Mrs. K. Farmbrough seconded by Mr. P. Hall.
  - B. Repayment to the clerk for purchasing wood nails, lining etc for making the village planters. £285.70. In Awards for All budget. Proposed by Mrs. K. Farmbrough seconded by Mrs. J. Horner.
  - C. Clerks' wages and expenses for July to October. In budget. Proposed by Mrs. J. Horner Seconded by Mr. P. Chapman.
  - D. Payment of fee to Mazars for external audit work for the Parish Council. The clerk explained that the increase in fee from last year was due to the income from the Awards for All grant and the income amount then fitting into the next fee scale. £135.00 +VAT. Proposed by Mr. P. Hall seconded by Mrs. J. Horner.
6. Matters to report: - Clerk
  - A. Coronation Terrace - The Chairman read a letter of 28.10.10 from Mark Stokes, deputy Chief Executive at Breckland Council, in reply to a letter from the clerk requesting a rethink on the options offered to Caston in May this year. These would not be reconsidered by Breckland so the four options were read to the Councillors. A decision on this matter was needed as any fees incurred would have to be paid back to the Awards for All funding body as they were not used for

any gain for the village. The councillors discussed the matter and decided although they to choose option - C. "to repay the Parish Council reasonable costs with regard to the purchase of (A) and (B), which we understand to be circa £700.00". (A) Being the long strip in front of Coronation Terrace and (B) being the small piece of land next to the telephone exchange. It was suggested that when planning applications were received for the land then the Parish Council should consider then very carefully. The Parish Council do not feel that Breckland Council has been reasonable in reconsidering the situation so it was decided the Clerk is to request that all monies paid to Breckland Councils solicitor and the Parish Councils solicitor should be, as a gesture of goodwill, paid by Breckland to Caston Parish Council so that they can repay Awards for All as requested.

B. Town & Parish forum in October. The clerk visited this meeting. Information collected on Council, Police and Fire services and was added to the notice boards and councillors' folder for reference.

7. Correspondence from: -

- A. CPRE Norfolk Awards invitation. This was added to the councillors' folder.
- B. Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Policies. Consultation document. The information on this is available from the clerk and any representations about the proposed sites can be made by letter to Norfolk County Council by 17th December. There are no sites directly near Caston although Parishioners may wish to comment on sites at Snetterton and elsewhere.
- C. A notice from the Police is a late addition. There has been an attempted theft of a dog in Hale Rd, Necton on 18<sup>th</sup> October. Please pay attention to the security of your dogs when your pets are in the garden. Tel Police 0845 456 4567 if you have any information.

8. Speed Watch: - There were 2 sessions in October. Both produced a number of motorists driving with excessive speed, although overall the number of vehicles recorded was lower than before. More volunteers are needed urgently. We are now down to 5 of the original 13 or 14. Please contact the clerk to join. Despite reports in the press about speed camera schemes no longer being economic the village speed watch team has not been told by the Police that the service will have to stop.

9. Awards for All: - The list of objectives was reviewed. The final project - a date for positioning and planting the planters at the entrances to the village was discussed. Mr. J. Chapman and his son volunteered to put the finished boxes in position and fill them with soil. Mrs. Horner would contact Mrs. Ash regarding which plants to purchase, so they match the planters outside the village hall. They plants are to be purchased this week and planted as soon as possible. We have volunteer gardeners to water the plants and generally keep an eye on them for Northacre, Griston Road and Stow Bedon Road. But Attleborough Road and Church Lane planters still need a helper. Please let the clerk know if you can help with this simple task over the year. Maybe you could combine dog walking with planter watering/tidying.

10. Home Watch: - Colin Bearne reported: - Bonfire night and dark evenings are upon us, so please keep garages outhouses and sheds securely locked. Please lock vehicles that are left unattended, even if they are near the house. Bogus callers are active again so please be extra vigilant and report anything suspicious to the Police on 0845 456 4567.

11. Items for the next agenda: - Village sign. Telephone boxes. Hedges in village. Paying for planter plants in the future. Parking on corner of The Street near Dukes Lane. Plus items already mentioned.

Councillor's folder circulated for information only

The next meeting will be Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.37pm.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

District & County Councillor report and public participation: - Councillor John Rogers

CLERK: - Alison Skipper 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010

Report from Councillor John Rogers reported : -

There is a reduction in staff at the Highways depot in Watton - reduced to a night watch person. All services including sand bag collection are now available from the Ketteringham depot.

Norfolk County Council has to save £155million over 3 years.

The Mobile Library service will now come from another area not the Watton Library.

Griston to Watton path funding is safe, so will go ahead with a shorter fence, as soon as possible.

Work on the Norwich Road, Watton roundabout will start as soon as a final developer joins the scheme.

It is hoped that Breckland Council can cover the cuts in its budget and still keep Council Tax low.

Breckland Council still hope to get 80% of its funds back from the Iceland banking fiasco.

Public Participation: -

Mr. Edwards of Sengana, Griston Road Caston explained to the Councillors about the very strong smell of raw sewage which pervades his and other properties in the area. Over the last 2 ½ years he has written many letters of complaint to Anglian Water. He has also phoned them and Breckland Council Environmental Health dept. when the stench occurs.

Anglian Water have tried to alleviate the problem by installing a dosing system in April this year but this is not effective, as too much gas is produced by the sewage collecting and fermenting in the pump. It seems that the water table does not affect it as it is a closed system.

There have been similar bad smells through out the village including along Dukes Lane, and in The Street near The Old Curettage. The council wanted to know if other residents have experienced this.

It is thought that the closed system needs to be changed and Anglian water need to be encouraged to get their engineers to install a different system or more villagers need to join the mains sewers to help the flow.

Villagers who suffer from the unpleasant smell around their homes should contact Anglian Water and Breckland Council Environmental Health dept. every time this occurs.

The Councillors requested that the clerk writes to Anglian Water on behalf of Mr. Edwards and the villagers.