

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held in the Tower Room of the Church of St James the Great on Thursday 14th April 2011

Present: Mr P Clarke (PC) (Chair) Mrs G Thorneywork (GT)
Mrs. H. Breach (HB) Mrs J Joice (JJ)
Mr S Barnfield (SB) Mr T Hubbard (TH)
Mr J Moriarty (JM)

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr. L. Fisher

Apologies: Mrs M J Joplin, Ms C Williams, Cllr. Janet Murphy (NCC & BCKLWN)

1. Minutes of the meeting on 10th March 2011

Discussion ensued on Minutes 87 and 89. The Clerk was requested to remove the names from Minute 87 (Village Tree Maintenance) for public display. Agreed – the amendments were initialled by the Chairman and the Clerk. In Minute 89, the Village Fete and Horticultural Society Spring Show dates were corrected to 12th June and 14th March respectively.

Mr. Barnfield proposed and Mrs. Thorneywork seconded that the amended Minutes be accepted. Agreed. The Chairman signed the amended Minutes.

At this point, the Chairman confirmed that he is retiring from the Council – many things remain to be done and he will continue to help as much as possible. JJ, who is also retiring, paid tribute to the Chairman's outstanding contribution to the welfare of Castle Acre over many years, and his work for the Parish Council, the British Legion, the school and for the South Acre Ford project. She thanked the Council for its support during her own chairmanship – her one regret being the failure to establish a viable car park.

2. Chairman's Introduction – Priorities Facing the Council

The Chairman stated that the priorities in his mind were:

- (a) South Acre Ford regeneration
 - (b) Potential use of the old school building as a Community Centre
- JJ supported these suggestions, and Council was in agreement.

3. Actions Required From Previous Meetings

- (a) Enquire re permission for tree work in Conservation Area – see Correspondence
- (b) Contact NCC Highways re provision of sign(s) to Village Hall – no response
- (c) Request Highways/Conservation to remove/replace Priory Road bollards – will be replaced with wooden posts
- (d) Register with HMRC for PAYE – done. Clerk to attend training session.

The Clerk and SB are to liaise on the future format of the agenda and minutes to highlight actions required to be taken.

4. Correspondence

From NCC Highways: re visits by “Highway Rangers” to carry out tasks
From HMRC: acknowledgement of Parish Council registration for PAYE
From Mr. J. Ball: disapproval of posting notices on Village trees
From BCKLWN: re Conservation Area tree management requirements
From BCKLWN: re Priory Road bollards
From Mr. D. Saxby: re dog litter and suggestions
Mr. Paul Grant (English Heritage): via David Saxby re litter and signage at Castle

5. Reports

Allotments (JM): Many allotment holders are beginning to work their plots.
Playing Field (GT): The first cut by the new contractor was not satisfactory, but the second one showed an improvement.
FOCAS (GT): There will be a cake stall on Stocks Green on 23rd April.
Village Hall (HB): Everything OK at the moment
Royal British Legion (PC): The War Widows lunch will be held during the last week in June. On the 11th June, the Legion celebrates its 90th anniversary, and there will be a stall on the Playing Field.

6. Planning

Application for demolition of one dwelling and erection of four dwellings at Alberma House, 3 Massingham Road. On viewing the plans, Councillors were concerned about the inconsistency of the red boundary line, ownership of the strip intended to be a footpath, and access visibility particularly bearing in mind the speed at which some vehicles travel down Massingham Road. It was also felt that the choice of bricks as the facing material was not in keeping with the character of the neighbouring area. HB was asked to formulate Council’s response for submission to BCKLWN Planning.

7. Accounts

Mr. Hubbard proposed and Mrs. Joice seconded that the following accounts be paid:

E.on Energy (Electricity March)	£ 45.49
Internal Drainage Board (C.A. Common Drainage)	£ 23.25
Environment Agency (General Drainage)	£ 33.09
G. & T. Lake (Playing Field Grass Cutting)	£950.00
NALC (Annual Subscription)	£157.53
Mr. W.J. Corcoran (Clerk’s Salary and Expenses)	£333.43

The Clerk informed Council that, since publication of the Agenda, he had received an invoice from Mr. Ellis for two cuts of the village greens, and had prepared an additional cheque for £280.00.

The balance at the bank on 1st April was £ 9,594.31. The Clerk informed Council that he would present draft accounts for 2010 -11 and a draft budget for 2011-12 at the next meeting.

8. Village maintenance

Litter from holiday lets: SB expressed his concern at the continuing use of the litter bins on Stocks Green for household refuse from holiday let properties.

The Clerk was asked to include in the Nar Valley News article a request to the owners of these properties to provide proper disposal facilities for their tenants.

Fly tipping: JJ reported that there is still a heap of rubbish on the verge of St James Road, despite BCKLWN having been notified some time ago. **The Clerk is to urge the appropriate department to clear it as soon as possible.**

Event posters: During a discussion of Mr. Ball's email (see Correspondence), TH said that he agreed with the sentiment expressed. PC, however, stated that for years the practice has been an acceptable method of informing residents (and visitors) of coming events. His only caveat is that the posters must be removed when the event has taken place. Council tacitly agreed.

Incinerator: JM told Council that BCKLWN will allocate from reserves an amount of £195, 000 to oppose the installation.

9. Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.18pm.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 12th May 2011
at 7.30pm in the Tower Room of the Church of St James The Great,
preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm.**