

## CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 9 March 2017:

Present: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman                      Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman  
Ms C Williams (CW)                                      Mr N Patrick (NP)  
Mr Martin Tate (MT)                                      Mr S Allen (SA)  
Mr T Hubbard (TH)                                        Mrs Sheila Moister (SM)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), J Moriarty (Borough Councillor), and three members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs H Breach (HB)

**109 Public Question Time** – no questions.

**110 Minutes of PC meeting Thursday 9 February 2017** amended and proposed by Mr Neil Patrick, seconded Mrs Sheila Moister. Agreed.

**Minutes of the Extra Planning meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017**  
Proposed by Mr Laurie Fisher, seconded by Mrs Sheila Moister. Agreed.

**111 Actions from previous meeting:**

28 **Bailey Gate damage and signage** – no update available.

48 **Police speed checks** – a speed check was conducted in February along Newton Road from 4.20 to 5.00pm. One person was caught driving at 35mph out of Castle Acre in the 30mph zone. The police to return and do more speed checks.

55 **Loss of footpath** – Holkham is not convinced that they should re-instate the path off Orchard Lane as the field is now farmed as a whole. MH held a site meeting with Holkham and the concerned resident to explain its use over many years. It is accepted the path does not link to any further access. If the PC wish to pursue this further, it would have to formally request Norfolk County Council to take legal action. Cllrs agreed to step back and accept the decision to plough it over for the time being.

85 **Superfast Broadband** – positioning the third cabinet on Stocks Green has been finally agreed by Historic England. Still no date when the superfast broadband will go 'live'.  
**PCC wedding/funeral parking consultation** – Canon Stuart Nairn, MH, SM and the Clerk met at the Ostrich. While acknowledging that the County funeral last year did lead to traffic and parking difficulties, Fr Nairn feels this is a rare occurrence. With good communications and assistance from the Ostrich, parking at future weddings and funerals should not cause much disruption. Fr Nairn has already e-mailed details of weddings booked this year to the Clerk and will give her as much advance notice as possible of impending funerals. The Clerk will notify both Eagles Coaches and possibly the waste collection services, should the funeral fall on a Friday. The Clerk to contact the police to request No Parking cones that could be stored at and used by Eagles. The Ostrich will place more information on their new website to encourage visitors to use its car park. The landlady has also suggested that the PC request a new road or brown sign directing drivers to their car park. Subject to Highways' approval, this should be positioned at the junction of Back Lane and Massingham Road. MH raised with Fr Nairn about allowing overflow parking on the church owned field off South Acre Road. However, the church has other plans for this land. Equally, Mr Eagle is reluctant to let cars park on his land off Chimney Street for legal reasons.

**105 Large Vehicles/Archer Lane** –MH read out the letter sent by the Clerk to E&SJ Walpole Ltd and Abram’s Bulk Haulage, with emailed copies to The Road Haulage Association and Holkham, requesting “ that they find an alternative route to their destinations and to consider making a beet pad situated just off A1065 near the wormery site. This would reduce the need for any lorries to come through the village at all”. Holkham and E&SJ Walpole have responded but without offering a solution.

**108 Textile bin** – Nothing finalized.

**Road sweeping** – the Borough road sweeper has cleared the road edges around the village.

**Bus Stop - fence repair** – done, thanks to Mr Neil Patrick.

**Bus Stop pothole** – reported and filled.

**112 Health & Safety** – CAPFC has decided to remove any old wooden playground equipment to avoid rot developing.

**Tree Inspection Register** – the 2013 draft is updated with all trees recorded and photographed and this was e-mailed to Cllrs. This is a work-in-progress document and will be discussed regularly at PC meetings and updated as necessary. The Clerk to hold a master copy. Invoices of any work undertaken will be kept with the register and any specific inspection times signed and logged. Cllrs noted CAPC’s insurer’s advice that the Council must show due care and diligence when looking after the trees to meet its policy terms. MH asked that the Tree Inspection Register is officially approved. Mr Laurie Fisher proposed, seconded by Mrs Sheila Moister. All agreed.

**113 Matters requested by Councillors**

**Pollarding Stocks Green trees – report** – MH confirmed that the work went well and that the contractors did exactly what they had been asked. TH confirmed that there had been substantially more work done to the trees than suggested in the tree report from AT Coombes dated January 2013. The limes will need a re-growth management plan. Two letters received from residents about pollarding, root structure and expressing concern over the lime tree nearest the church. It was felt that the councillors could not answer detailed questions about root systems without taking expert advice. It was decided to ask the BCKLWN Tree Officer to make a further inspection of the lime tree nearest the church. TH and SM to attend. Mr Tim Hubbard asked the PC’s approval to attend a one day Lantra tree survey course on 30 March 2017 at a cost of £160. MH proposed that TH attends this course. All agreed.

**114 Planning**

**Planning application 17/00341/F: proposed rear extension, various internal and external alterations, including garage conversion to bedroom, reconfiguration of existing fenestration and replacement roof covering. Erection of new detached double open fronted carport at Ran Revir, Bailey Street (comments by 20 March)** – Cllrs considered the plans on display and are of the opinion that the proposed extension and alterations improves the existing building and is befitting to the size of the plot. Noted that care should be taken during construction to ensure that the River Nar does not become polluted by any building materials or waste. MH proposed the PC ‘Support’ this application. Agreed by 7 votes to 0.

**Planning application 17/00273/F: extension to sitting room, alterations to utility room at Motte House, Pyes Lane (comments by 17 March).**

Cllrs considered the plan on display. In their opinion, the proposed extension fits in well with the style of the existing house. MH proposed the PC ‘Support’ this application. Agreed by 7 votes to 0.

**Update from JM on extending the Borough's Local Plan to 2036** – JM confirmed that the Local Plan was approved for the period up to 2026. However, this has now been extended to 2036. The number of dwellings allocated to our village could be exceeded within the time frame i.e. the dwellings required by 2036 could be in place by 2026 or before. The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) cannot deviate from the Boroughs Local Plan housing allocations for up to 2036. The NP can not call for fewer dwelling, irrespective of the majority local opinion but it can propose more. The Local Plan is constantly changing. BCKLWN is still attempting to remove the 'At Least' moniker before deciding on housing allocations. Any site put forward for development will be considered by the Local Plan team. Figures will be available by next meeting detailing the amount of housing required by the Government across the Borough. BCKLWN plans to create a model structure that communities can understand, one which meets the Borough's five year housing land supply. Local Plan officers are keen to work with village's NP aspirations which can influence the location, style and size of dwellings. Castle Acre is noted as a key rural services centre and any more housing development would need extended amenities and services.

## 115 Correspondence

**Back Lane/The Eerie – verge cutting** – e-mail from a resident in Back Lane asking about verge cutting along the end of Back Lane. This section is a roadside nature reserve which contains a rare form of elder. The hedge is under Holkham's jurisdiction and is part of a pre-approved rotational hedge cutting schedule. However no cutting is now allowed until the end of August. Equally, the Newton Road hedge can not be cut further until after August.

**53 Stocks Green - letter** – dealt with in Matters Requested by Councillors – tree pollarding.

## 116 Reports

**Highways** – Highways' work to relieve the flooding on Archer Lane by lengthening the ditch has still not started. Orchard Lane surface is still not leveled. Pyes Lane drain has been looked at by their survey team.

**Village Hall** – four live music concerts scheduled over the year starting Friday 7 April.

**CAPFA** – Sunday 9 July is confirmed date for the village Fete.

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP)** – Pre-questionnaire public meeting with residents and consultees is scheduled for Tuesday 2 May at the village hall. This will influence the content of the residents' questionnaire. NP Facebook page is live with links to other websites. There will also be a NP dedicated page on [www.castleacre.info](http://www.castleacre.info), subject to receipt of funding. The PC has budgeted £150 seed funding for any NP expenditures, prior to receiving the grant.

**Borough Council** – Mr Jim Moriarty – County Council election on May 4<sup>th</sup> with Toby Coke standing. The Borough Council's boundary review is underway, the last was 12 years ago. This will determine the division of Borough Cllrs across Parish Councils based on the number of electors in each area. Castle Acre PC will be consulted.

## 117 Accounts

The following cheques were signed - payments were proposed for approval by Mr Tim Hubbard, Mr Laurie Fisher seconded. There would be about £3,000 left in the PC account once these payments are cashed before the 2017/18 Precept is paid into the PC account.

Berrymans Glass Recycling Ltd (URM UK Ltd)	£34.90 (£2.42 VAT)
E.on Energy (electricity)	£73.58 (£3.50 VAT)
Holkham Estates - Allotment rent for 6 months	£100.00
CP Trees – pollarding lime trees on Stocks Green	£4,850.00

## 118 Village Maintenance

**Nar Valley River walk – Minns meadow** – there are still some grumbles about the path which still needs levelling out in places. The PC had agreed to wait until early spring/summer before consulting with NRT and also asking if NRT could extend the boardwalk by a further ten metres to cover the muddy quagmire from the gate to the main path.

**East Green grass patches and brambles** – Cllrs suggested any reseeded should be done in early autumn. Mrs Mary Anne Garry has requested that the mass of brambles at the east end are cleared and is offering to make a contribution towards the cost. PC to get a quote and review with her.

**Posts on the Water Meadow** – 5 to 6 posts are down and reported to Holkham.

**Daffodils at St James Green/playing field entrance** – the Clerk to ask the contractor not to mow the bulbs until the growth has died down.

**PCC graveyard grass cutting** – SM met the PCC who confirm that it will not request an increased contribution from the PC.

**Massingham Road development** – SM noted that the garage flint wall currently being constructed seems to be tight against the proposed pathway considering the plans called for extending the road width there by 2ft 6ins. MH to send SM details to clarify.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

The next full Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 13 April at 7.30pm in the village hall.