

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 20th October 2011

The meeting postponed from Thursday 13th October

Present: Mrs. G. Thorneywork (GT) Chair Mrs. H. Breach (HB)
 Mr. S. Barnfield (SB) Mr. L. Fisher (LF)
 Mr. M. Hickey (MH) Mr. T. Hubbard (TH)

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr. A. Howman, Mr. D. Sole, Mrs.F.O'Brien, Cllr. Janet Murphy (NCC)

Apologies: Ms. C. Williams, Mr. J. Moriarty *M J Moriarty*

49. Minutes of the meeting on 8th September

Mr. Barnfield proposed and Mr. Fisher seconded that the minutes be accepted. Agreed.
The Chairman signed the minutes.

50. Urgent business

- (a) Tree preservation order – St James Green: Mr. Sole and Mr. Howman, as nearby residents, were invited to speak on this matter. Mr. Sole expressed concern about a beech tree close to the southern wall of the Old Barn Estate. The Holkham surveyor, Mr. Bracey, and a tree manager from the Estate had attended. The result has been a preservation order on the beech plus three adjacent cherry trees. SB said we need to ask why the Parish Council was not consulted in the matter. The closing date for comment was only a week away and those present felt we should object to this. The Chairman felt that Councillors should view the trees with the intention of making any comments to the clerk asap so an objection to the order could be sent.
- (b) Mrs. O'Brien was also asked to speak and requested that a suitable car parking area be made available for groups of ramblers who come to Castle Acre. Council will check that the small field area near the Priory may be used on occasion. The Chairman to also speak with the Playing Field Committee to see if their parking area behind the pavilion would be available.

51. Actions required from previous meetings

- (a) Traffic control: NCC Highways have been asked to defer roundels. MH spoke about a partial gate across Newton Road – this would probably have to be a cost on the Parish Council. Cllr. Murphy said there may be funds available from NCC to help. **SB will draft a design for a gate. MH will talk to highways. Agenda for November.** MH also suggested that we should go with a sign directing through traffic up North Street and showing "Access Only" along Town Lane. Again MH has spoken to Highways who have agreed to provide a sign directing traffic to the new school.
- (b) Group insurance policies – SB has reviewed those held by the Parish Council and the Playing Field Committee. All seem to be adequate – different brokers but the same underwriter.

(c) South Acre Road – MH thought we should ask if it could be closed to traffic — **write to Breckland and South Acre Councils seeking their thoughts. To be reviewed at November meeting.**

(d) Mr. Stafford Allen’s proposal for posts at the Ford to prevent access over the river bank were discussed. TH felt that this was acceptable as a temporary measure. Mr. Hubbard proposed and Mr. Hickey seconded that we support the request. Agreed. **Mr. Stafford Allen to be informed.**

(e) Village sign – the sign is generally in a very poor state – SB has had a quote of £700 for refurbishment. The sign will need to be removed for this work to be done. Mr. Barnfield proposed and Mr. Fisher seconded that we go ahead. Agreed. **The Clerk is to notify through the NVN of the sign’s temporary removal.**

(f) Village Hall and VAT – **Check situation again and get specifics in writing if possible.**

52. **Matters raised by Councillors**

5 year priorities – **postpone to December meeting.**

53. **Correspondence**

From BCKLWN – Tree preservation order notification (See Minute 50(a) above).

From Mr. A. Howman – Copy of letter to BCKLWN objecting to above.

From Mr. D. Sole – Copy of letter to BCKLWN objecting to order on beech tree.

From BCKLWN – New Local development Framework consultation documents.

From NALC – Notification of meeting to elect Executive Committee.

From NCC – Update on Highway services.

From Boundary Commission – Notice of consultation on proposed constituency boundary changes.

From CRPE – Guide to responding to planning APPLICATIONS.

From NCC – Petition form to back “Fair Fares” campaign.

54. **Reports**

Playing Field (GT): Following a query from TH on increasing club fees, GT said that there would be a meeting with the football and cricket clubs in November.

Horticultural Society (HB): A plant swap is planned for the 31st October.

Village Hall (HB): There will be an open day on Sunday 24th November.

Albert Victor (GT): The Chairman has tried to contact Mr. Gary Bolton, but without success.

55. **Planning**

(a) Application for installation of a first floor window, 10 Sandles Court. Approved.

(b) Possible housing development on old school playground – **GT will be meeting Mr. Bracey, Holkham, Estate surveyor, on Monday 31st October.**

56. **Accounts**

(a) Mr. Hubbard proposed and Mr. Hickey seconded that the following accounts be paid:

E.on Energy (Electricity September)	£ 45.49
Mr. W.J. Corcoran (Clerk’s salary & expenses less PAYE)	£ 256.47
Mr. W.J. Corcoran (Reimbursement of PAYE paid personally)	£ 90.00

Holkham Estate (Allotment rents)	£1913.00
Castle Acre PCC (Churchyard maintenance contribution)	£1000.00
Mr. A.Ellis (Greens grass cutting)	£ 140.00

The Clerk explained that he had personally paid HMRC the £90.00 due by September. As the Parish Council is held liable for payment, it was agreed that he be reimbursed as shown above.

- (a) Community car scheme funds – LH felt that this could best be used for the maintenance of the bus shelter.
- (b) Funds in trust – have been re-invested for a further six months.

57. Village Maintenance

- (a) Grit bins – SB has written to NCC asking for the issue of a licence to place a bin in Pales Green but has not yet had a response. Mr. Barnfield proposed and Mr. Fisher seconded that consideration should be given to purchasing a bin. Agreed.
- (b) Event signs – SB asked that event organisers could again be reminded about removing signs when the event had taken place.
- (c) Frank Moister – email received on various issue's including reference to excessive late noise on musical evenings at the Ostrich. One other complaint has been received and these will be passed on to the owner and manager.
- (d) LDF training - HB and MH both said that they would like to go to the session.

58. Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.41 pm.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 10th November 2011
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**