

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thurs 11 Oct 2012:

Present: Mrs G Thorneywork (GT) Chair
Mr M Hickey (MH) Vice Chair
Mr T Hubbard (TH)
Mr M Dwyer (MD)
Mr L Fisher (LF)
Mr J Moriarty (JM)
Ms C Williams (CW)
Mr S Barnfield (SB) Sec

In attendance: 7 members of the public

Apologies: Mrs H Breach, Councillor J Murphy (NCC), Ms L Roast (Clerk), Ms D Pearson (Norfolk Constabulary)

58 Playing Field. The Norfolk Community Grant Foundation application needed to be submitted by 19 Oct although there would be another round of funding for submission by March 2013. **Sarah Brown of the Playing Field Committee and GT agreed to submit the application form.** The poor drainage at the Playing Field was discussed. The location of the pooling seemed to coincide with the location of old quarry pits. To address this, the idea of reinstating the ditch adjacent to the Massingham Road was considered but discarded. However, it was agreed the Playing Field Committee would ensure the exit point for the existing land drain was clear before considering clearance of the land drain. The need for a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the PC and the Playing Field Committee was also agreed. **GT agreed to provide a template and, with the assistance of councillors and the Playing Field Committee, provide a draft SLA for the next mtg.**

59 Minutes of Previous Meeting. Agreed. MH proposed and LF seconded.

60 Actions from Previous Meeting.

78(a) Fly Tipping. Clerk notified Holkham Estate manager of the fly tipping (with a photo). **Clerk awaiting response.**

98(a) Ash Trees. Quotes had been received from Nigel Wright, Greenman Woodlands and CGM. TM proposed and JM seconded the selection of CGM. **TH to contact CGM.**

10(b) Highways 'Rangers'. Work carried out during recent visit included: grip clearance on Newton Road, hedges cut back on High Street, and repairs and seeding at Archer Lane. The Archer repair was not as expected and areas outstanding will be highlighted for next visit. Highways will inform the PC 3 weeks prior to the next visit and seek requests for work.

55 Holkham/Allotments. The Estate Manager had provided an update following the discussions at the last PC meeting. Firstly, he informed the PC that the pig farmer, Steven Hart, will have moved from the Estate by the end of the year. Secondly, the Estate would grant a license to allow PC control of the overflow car park close to the Priory. Finally, it was confirmed that a revised proposal for a dwelling on Pales Green would be discussed at a local public consultation meeting prior to formal submission.

57 Stocks Green Street Lamp. Repaired.

57 Rubbish Bin by Ford. JM stated that the Borough Council should have evaluated the feasibility of sending a small collection vehicle to the Ford. Annual cost would be £70 for weekly collections but cost of fortnightly collections to be ascertained. **JM to follow up for next Meeting.**

61 **Playing Field Notice Board.** Diamond Jubilee Committee would progress this item using associated funding.

62 **Matters Requested by Councillors.**

- a. **Residents Speed Watch.** It was noted that Mr & Mrs Coral of Newton Road had shown an interest in setting up a Speed Watch Group.
- b. **Grass Cutting Contract.** It was agreed that an invitation to tender for a new grass cutting contract would be distributed. With a view to merging with the Playing Field contract in 2014, a single year contract would be awarded. In 2014, a 2-year contract merging the PC and Playing Field would be pursued. **It was agreed that the Clerk would distribute an Invitation to Tender and note the potential for increased work for 2014.**
- c. **Town Lane/Eagles.** Following an incident involving a vehicle (not Eagles) mirror hitting a resident pedestrian on Town Lane, this resident had raised the issue of Eagles buses passing through Town Lane and the possibility of routing via St James. It was agreed that the PC would not support such a request but **JM agreed to inform Mr Eagle that this matter was discussed.**
- d. **Audit Fee.** The £402 fee for the audit of the PC accounts was considered extensive. **MH agreed to attempt to reduce the bill prior to payment at the next meeting.**
- e. **Textile Bin.** A cheque for £135 had been received for textile recycling and associated weight tickets. **CW considered the remuneration to be low and agreed to investigate the weight/remuneration calculations and recommend an alternative supplier if appropriate.**

63 **Planning.** To allow the PC to submit a view, BCKLWN had extended the deadline for comments on the revised application at Footpath Cottage (12/01228/F). Councillors, the applicant and immediate neighbours were present and submitted their arguments. The PC agreed that the dwelling had an appealing design but an objection would be submitted on the grounds of: proximity to a private drive, overbearing size, and the plain appearance of the west wall. **MH would draft a letter for GT's submission prior to the deadline of 16 Oct 12.**

64 **Mayor's Civic Awards.** The award was discussed and it was agreed to nominate a suitable candidate. **MH would complete the nomination .**

65 **Reports.**

- a. **Highways.** MH stated that the placement of posts on St James' Green was in the NCC '12-Week Programme'. MH expressed his frustration at the long delays in implementing some of the parish's outstanding requests.
- b. **Recycling.** MH noted that recycling credits of £650 had been received.
- c. **School.** MD discussed an imminent consultation with school governors and parents regarding the potential for a merger of the school with local schools. CW reminded the Meeting of a quiz in support of the Friends of the School to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 26 Oct.
- d. **Albert Victor.** Gary Bolton, the owner of the Albert Victor had written to the Chair informing her that he had marketed robustly the AV for 12 months with no serious interest. He intended to submit a residential application and sought early support for this application to enable the AV to be restored to 'pristine' condition as soon as possible. No decision was made.

66 **Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by MH and seconded by TH: FCC Recycling (£34.90), EonEnergy (£44.87), Ellis (£180).

67 **Public Question Time.** Referring to the earlier item (Eagles/Town Lane) Mrs Q Parker reminded the meeting that Eagles Buses had been travelling along Town Lane for generations. Furthermore, pedestrians need to be very alert and use common sense when walking along the narrow stretch along Town Lane.

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm hrs.

The next PC Meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Thurs 8 November at the Village Hall.