

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13th September 2012

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Janet Murphy (NCC), Bill Corocan

Apologies: Ms. C. Williams (CW), Mr. M. Dwyer (MD)

49 Minutes of the meeting on THURSDAY JULY 12th, AUGUST 27, SEPTEMBER 6th

Mr Laurie Fisher proposed and Mr Steve Barnfield seconded. Agreed.
No Matters arising.

50 Actions required from previous Minutes

78 (a) Fly Tipping in St James's Road The Clerk to email James Bracey of Holkham to ask for removal

98 (c) Ash trees. Quote from Nigel Wright received. The Clerk to get another quote for comparison.

104 (b) Snow clearance of school path –John Roff has been told not to clear the path because of insurance complications. Possibility of putting a grit bin here instead.

4 (c) Wherry Housing – Their intention is to attend the next PC meeting on 11th October. The Clerk to confirm.

10 (b) Rangers – Asked to do many works including • Repair/seeding the grass bank on the corner Massingham Road/Town. • Clearing the area in front on the 30 mph sign on Newton Road in anticipation of a new speed gate sign to be erected

• Re-clear grips at the Newton Road bridge -silting up again. • Clear up the mud and mess on Archer Road and sort out the edge drainage to prevent future flooding across the road. • Dangerous to the footpath on corner of High Street and Massingham Road is a large Fig Tree which needs cutting back (done)

• St James's Green/Archer Lane high banked corner needs repairing and seeding.

18 Reports – Pales Green playground strip – GT opened the meeting to the floor so that Bill Corocan (previous Clerk) could talk about the strip and the solicitor's advice he had sought. The strip had been included in a land registration request by Holkham although the Estate had acknowledged that the ownership of this was the Parish in a letter. Holkham may need to re-apply for their registration without including this piece of land. If ownership is maintained, which is has been, for 20 years, then a piece of land can have possessionary ownership. The Solicitor suggested that herself, Mr Corocan and a representative from the Parish Council meet Mr Bracey of the Holkham Estate, Mr Corocan left this with the PC to decide when this would take place. GT stated that she would attend the meeting if available but it was agreed this would take place once we had received some plans.

51 5 Year Action Plan

Village Notice Boards. SB had been asked to get quotes for 2 notice boards – one on Stocks Green, one vandal proof version on the playing field, thus reducing the visual litter around the village After some research he could confirm that these would prove expensive between £900-1,000. The old school on Stocks Green has left their notice board and because of it's position it seems prudent to use this instead of paying for a new one. The vegetation had been cut back to expose it and it is in good condition, holding 6 A4 sheets. SB suggested that anyone wishing to place a promotional poster should get the key from him, place and return the key or he would put it in – he suggested this go in Nar Valley News.

A notice board for the Playing Field would still be required and the Jubilee Committee has agreed that the monies made at the weekend should go towards this. TH agreed to contact Sean Allen to get a quote for its making.

52 Matters requested by Councillors

Playing Field

An update had been received from Sarah Brown which included this statement: *In 1977 the Honourable Edward Douglas Coke gave the playing field to the Parish Council on the condition that it was used as a playing field. No evidence has been found of an agreement between CAPFA and the Parish Council detailing the responsibilities of each party with respect to the playing field. As owner, ultimate responsibility for the site clearly rests with the Parish Council and it is therefore important that there is an agreement between the Parish Council and CAPFA, which gives CAPFA a clear mandate to continue the work that it does to run and raise funds for the playing field. There also needs to be agreement as to the level of reporting that is required between CAPFA to the Parish Council regarding operational matters to ensure the Parish Council has sufficient information to fulfil its responsibility to safeguard this asset. The committee would like the Parish Council, as the owner, to consider assuming full responsibility for the insurance of the playing field, recharging CAPFA for any costs of this insurance, which cannot be met through precept.* The PC agreed that both the Playing Field Association and the Parish Council need an agreement so that each knows their expected responsibilities. GT had researched Service Agreements and would send a PDF to the Clerk to circulate. GT would also ask Mrs Brown for a copy of their Constitution.

GT reported that she had been made aware some complaints from residences that back onto the Playing Field had been made about retrieval of footballs from their gardens without permission to enter the property. Part of their concern was potentially a risk from dogs at the residences. TH stated that to retrieve a ball from a garden, the owner's agreement needed to be sought first. Also the footballers language and drinking was a concern. It was agreed to pass this onto the Playing Field Committee so that they might talk to the football club. The Clerk to pass on this information.

Mrs Brown had also requested that the ditch running along the west of the playing field be reinstated to help with drainage. JM stated that the verge is cut by highways at the moment but if the ditch was reinstated this would cease. Councillors also expressed concern over the danger of water there. TH thought to reinstate the ditch would be very costly. The Clerk to request that Mrs Brown bring the drainage plans which the Playing Field has, to the next PC meeting.

Costcutter and Bus Shelter

MH stated that he had spoken to Mr Singh who owns Costcutter and that he had agreed to ask his architect to include a plan for a new bus shelter on the west side of the Massingham Road to replace the one to be demolished on the East side where the ground is now owned by Mr Singh. MH asked if the PC agreed with the general proposal. HB expressed concern that the proposed new bus shelter may inhibit visibility from the 34 town Lane site. JM thought it prudent to discuss any bus shelter with local residents. SB thought that a standard-design bus shelter with a large entrance facing west would not protect bus passengers from the rain due to the prevailing wind.. It was agreed to wait to see the plans.

Sound System for use by Parish Council in Village Hall.

MH proposed that a sound system be sought for the village hall because of the bad acoustics and difficulty of hearing. This would cost approximately £340 but he would be happy to see if funding could be sought to pay for this. The PC agreed that MH to apply on the agreement that this would not preclude the Village Hall applying for funding for much needed collapsible tables.

53 Planning

No plans had been received.

54 Correspondence

The Correspondence bag had not been seen by most of the committee. The Clerk to contact MD. GT confirmed with councillors that there was no need to reply to an email about Mineral & Waste Planning in Norfolk. The council agreed.

The Clerk read out a very nice letter received from Jim Hughes thanking the PC for their efforts over the repair of St James' Green.

55 Reports

Highways – MH presented the long awaited for utilities map to enable the village speed gate to proceed. Also he had contacted Highways about culvert along the Newton Road that James Bracey from Holkham had been requested to fill. Highways knew nothing of this request. The posts along St James's Green where still not in position. Nothing had progressed on the Newton Road/North Street priority issue.

Horticultural Society – JM said the annual event had been successful and the prizes had been handed out by Myrtle Eagle. Their AGM was to be held on October 18.

Allotments – The Clerk to put a note in Nar Valley News about rents being due and should be paid by cheque. TH stated that the PC should find out more about their possession of the two large allotments to the north of the village before anything was said to Holkham, although the PC were awaiting a proposition from the Estate on this matter. The Clerk to give TH the agreements and letters held by the Clerk regarding these allotments.

Playing Field Fun Day – Bike rides and various activities on Sunday 23rd September.

56 Accounts

Mr Tim Hubbard proposed and Mr. Laurie Fisher seconded that the following

ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID

FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd	£	34.90
E.on Energy (Electricity February) March	£	46.36
Rob Craigan – Handcut Joinery	£	140.00
Mr A Ellis – Green maintenance	£	360.00

Agreed.

57 Village Maintenance / Questions from the public

The Clerk stated that there were problems with **East London Textiles** as no Weigh tickets, money for the school or key had been received. Janet Murphy requested that details be passed to her so she might get the right department to investigate. This item to be put on the next Agenda.

Streetlamp attached to Barnfields café on Stocks Green has gone out. The Clerk to contact K&M Lighting Services who have taken over from MBH who went into liquidation.

Rubbish Bin By Ford. This has been emptied for quite a while by JM and TH. The vans collecting rubbish are now smaller. He Clerk to contact Wendy Salmon @ Refuse to ask whether this bin could be added to their round. JM to supply the clerk with relevant information

Funding. Janet Murphy informed the council about additional funding available for building works by Community Construction Fund. Grants available from £100-1,000. This information to be passed to the Playing Field and Village Hall committee.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 11th October 2012
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**