

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 8th December 2011

Present: Mrs. G. Thorneywork (GT) Chair
Ms. C. Williams (CW)
Mr. L. Fisher (LF)
Mr. T. Hubbard (TH)
Mrs. H. Breach (HB)
Mr. M. Dwyer (MD)
Mr. M. Hickey (MH)
Mr. J. Moriarty (JM)

In attendance: The Clerk, Cllr. Janet Murphy (NCC), Ms. Amanda Jermy (NCC),
9 members of the public.

Apologies: Mr. S. Barnfield

69. Minutes of the meeting on 10th November 2011

Mr. Moriarty proposed and Mr. Fisher seconded that the minutes of the meeting on 10th November be accepted. Agreed. The Chairman signed the minutes.

70. Miss Jermy was invited to speak on NCC refuse and re-cycling policies. She advised the Council that there are credits and financial benefits available related to re-cycling and community composting, and that there are personnel available to assist and advise communities. She also said that advice and information was available on the subject of going "plastic bag free". Ms. Jermy tabled information leaflets for Council's reference. The Chairman thanked her for the information and advice she had provided.

71. (a) The Clerk presented copies of a financial projection to April 2012.
(b) The Clerk suggested to Council that a financial forecast for 2012-2013 be left until the Precept amount had been calculated.
(c) The Clerk had provided Councillors with copies of the BCKLWN tax Base figures on which the Precept may be based. **A full discussion will be on the agenda for the January meeting.**

72. Actions required from previous meetings

(a) HMRC re Village Hall VAT – the Clerk reiterated previous information – that as a registered charity, the Village Hall is entitled to apply for refunding of some VAT. He has not been able to obtain any written commitment from HMRC.
(b) Bottle bank rental (MH) – this has been set at £350 per annum plus VAT (£420). The bank will be delivered ASAP to be sited on the Ostrich car park. Its use could produce revenue to about £600 per annum. MH suggested that it should be included in the Council's insurance policy. A copy of the contract will be circulated. CW is still trying to source a clothing bank, and suggested that the proceeds from that facility be split between the Playing Field and FOCAS.
(c) The Clerk has written to Dr. Tom North thanking him for information on the previous waste disposal site application at West Lexham (see Minute 74).
(d) Anaerobic digester – LF has informed RAF Marham. Cllr. Murphy will check on the duration of the consultation period.

(e) The Chairman told Council that a quote of £400 plus VAT (£480) has been obtained for a speed control gate to be sited in Newton Road. **This will be discussed when SB is in attendance.** JM suggested writing to Mr. Graham Plant (NCC) re speed watch equipment.

73. Matters raised by Councillors
5 year priorities – The Chairman suggested that Councillors present ideas at the next meeting.

The Chairman also asked Councillors to consider involving the village in celebrations to mark the Queen's diamond jubilee, and will call an open meeting to set up a sub-committee. CW will try to stimulate interest from the school.

74. Correspondence

From Dr. Tom North: Copies of Rougham P.C. objection to proposed anaerobic waste disposal plant and Inspector's decision to refuse previous application.

75. Reports

Highways (MH): The Newton Road signs are on order. South Acre Ford road closure – still waiting to hear from S. Acre Parish Meeting and Breckland DC. JM not happy to go ahead until we have heard from the above.

FOCAS (CW): The Christmas Fair raised £700.

New School Playground: NCC will not buy the disputed land. MD – the governors will approach the land owner and the Diocese to try to resolve the situation. Cllr. Murphy will try to get some action – it may be known in January if some funding could be available.

Village Hall (HB): The open day was a great success.

Playing Field (GT): The PF Committee has asked for an increase in subscriptions from user clubs. The football club has agreed, the bowls club will report back, while the cricket club was not present at the meeting. The tea dance raised £500.

76. Planning

(a) GT and JM reported that the BCKLWN Planning Committee had refused the latest application for development of the Albert Victor site. It has been suggested to the developers that they meet with the Parish Council to discuss further progress.

(b) Mr. Singh was present at the meeting and outlined his ideas for extending the Costcutter premises to include first floor accommodation, additional storage and service space and the possibility of a fish and chip provision if this were thought to be acceptable to residents. A planning application will be prepared for submission to BCKLWN

(c) (c) Old school playground - Mr. Bracey (Holkham Estate surveyor) has yet to confirm any development plans.

JM told Council that the BCKLWN Planning Committee had refused the Tree Preservation Order sought for the trees on St James Green.

77. Accounts

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

E.on Energy (Electricity October)	£ 45.49
Glasdons (Pales Green Grit Bin)	£169.26

Agreed.

78. Village Maintenance

(a) Fly tipping St James Road – BCKLWN to be pressed into action, otherwise Council to make a formal complaint.

(b) **LF asked if it were possible to get a CPSO to attend meetings on a regular basis?**

(c) New Parish Clerk – due to retirement of the incumbent, GT proposed interviews of prospective candidates. She, MD and MH were prepared to be the interviewing panel.

80. Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 12th January 2012
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**