

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thurs 12 December 2013:

Present: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman Mrs H Breach (HB)
Mr T Hubbard (TH) Mrs G Thorneywork (GT)
Mr J Moriarty (JM) Mr M Dwyer (MD)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman (retrospective), Mr S Barnfield (SB),
Ms C Williams (CW), Deborah Pearson PCSO

94 Police Crime Report.

None supplied from Debbie Pearson.

95 Minutes of Previous Meeting of 10 October.

Agreed with change of Stocks Green to St James Green bottom of Page 1. Mr M Dwyer proposed and Mrs G Thorneywork seconded.

96 Actions from Previous Meeting.

41 **Seat at South Acre Ford.** Paint bought. GT, MH & The Clerk to arrange a date.

71 **Pales Green Chimney Fire.** The Clerk read out the email from Fire officer Derek Simm, “ *The standard fire appliance is stowed with enough fire hose to reach all of the properties on Pales Green(I take the length of Pales Green to be approximately 100m or so in length). The 60m of hose I mentioned was our High Pressure hose reel, this can be doubled where necessary to give a total length of 120m. We have access to a fire hydrant which can be used to supplement our water supply as you have pointed out this should be available at all times*”.

72 **Beech Hedge – Little Lane.** Highway Rangers had cut this back

78 **Dog Fouling – The Castle.** No response from English Heritage.

84 **Parking at Stocks Green.** Letters sent to relevant residents

Stocks Green Cutting contract. Mr Ellis is preparing a quote. The Clerk has not received any further enquiries from interested parties.

Pales Green lease.

Following negotiations, Holkham Estate has increased its proposed lease from 20 to 50 years and reduced the annual rent from £20 to £5. It also agreed to a bench on the green, subject to location. A formal lease will be sent to the PC for signature.

Priory Walls Restoration visit. MH stated that he and the Clerk were in negotiations with Peter Wade-Martins on whether R S Hogg would be available for a village open day in May or June.

89 **Newton Road Bridge Grips.** MH stated that these has been re-cleared.

97 5 Year Action Plan

CA Notice Board. Possible funding available up to £1500 through the Post Office Scheme, which Mr Singh from Costcutters was chasing. Based on Rob Craigan’s preferred quote this grant could pay for two noticeboards.

98 Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Smaller braches on St James’s Green still need looking at.

Stocks Green Lime Trees. Agreed to include the lowest quote for pruning the trees in the 2014/15 PC budget, approving that expenditure no later than the September meeting for implementation in Nov/Dec 2014.

99 Matters requested by Councillors

None requested.

100 Planning.

Local Development plan – site specific options.

JM reported that BCKLWN were no nearer getting to Castle Acre on their very long list of LDF reviews. The LDF board are aware that there are issues around the proposed site.

North Street – extension to no 4. 13/01689/F

JM expressed an interest and withdrew. The plans were shown to the council and the plans considered. Sympathetic to existing building – No objections agreed.

Costcutter and Fish & Chip Shop - 13/01630/F.

Now closed for comment – 127 people had commented.

76 Foxes Meadow 13/01367/F – Freebridge

BCKLWN had approved this application, despite the PC's strenuous objections.

Pyes Lane / De Warenne Place 13/01614/F– Freebridge

Plans show only the location and proposal to replace cladding with similar product. The PC is worried about compromising the houses and making them look worse by not using painted wood or MDF. Assurance required from Freebridge that the material will be sympathetic to the conservation area, copy to the conservation officer.

101 Correspondence

South Acre Ford road / verge

The Parish Council have had a report that there is a large hole on the bank of the road just south of South Acre Ford - on the other side of the bridge. The hole is quite big and need filling in. The Clerk to establish who owns this land –Holkham or the Fountaine Estate.

South Acre Ford - Norfolk Rivers Trust

The project here is near completion apart from reseeding the grass.

West Acre Road

The Parish Council expressed their sincere condolences to the family of Rebecca Brown, who was killed in a collision with a tractor on West Acre Road. The PC will consider steps to improve visibility on that dangerous road once the inquest is completed.

102 Reports.

Martin Hickey - Highways.

- St James Green curb reduction. Not Done.
- South Acre Ford vehicle prohibition signs. MH chasing.
- Bailey Street, Stocks Green white lines not done. Chimney Street junction white lines restored.
- Massingham Finger Post – Highways had replaced this but it had been knocked off again.
- New Footpath beneath pavement at Massingham Road – Highways had checked that the drains underneath were clear. Grips along the road not taking all the water away. Major drainage scheme still required.
- East Green – getting more damage from large vehicles. Local resident had asked for posts. Highways would strengthen the grass edges in preference to posts.

Helen Breach - Village Hall.

Grant meeting taken place and the grant had been awarded - £33,000 in all with the Village Hall putting in approximately £9,000 as match funding / third party. Would need to fundraise. Wedding booked in May which dictates the completion date.

Mike Dwyer - Castle Acre School.

Highest pupil roll in the school in 3 years – next year up to 69 registered,- the highest in 20 year. New teacher will be appointed-to meet Ofsted standards.

Martin Hickey - CA Playing Field Association.

£14,000 in bank balance includes £9,200 funding (ring fenced). Skate board park to be revamped. Youth sports coaching continuing with a football team. Disco at Village Hall raised £315. CAPFA to have page on Castle Acre website. Conifer trees on field to be cut back – in the planning stage at present. CAPFA have informed the PC that they would like a £500 donation towards new pavilion fittings in the new financial year.

James Moriarty - BCKLWN.

County Council has decided to go forward with incinerator plans.

Borough Housing (opposite Costcutter) – 2 local families have moved in and the children are now attending the school. The third house had not been needed for a local family and had been let to a family from outside the village.

Gwyneth Thornework - Playing Field Charity Ball 2014.

19 tables reserved out of the 25 available. Each table seats 10. Tickets £55 before January 31st, £65 after.

- 103. Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by MD and seconded by GT: FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd £34.90, E.on Energy (Electricity November)£44.87, Castle Acre PCC (churchyard maintenance) £ 1,000.00, IRS Limited (Village Hall signs) £108.00, Castle Acre Village Hall (sponsor a chair) £92.00, Linda Roast (Black paint for bench) £ 21.00.
- 104. Village Maintenance.**
Area around South Acre Ford – looks a mess but reflects the current weather conditions
Tubs on Stocks Green – JM asked whether residents were asking permission for placing these. The Clerk responded negative. The Clerk to send polite notice to residents in this area confirming that Stocks Green is the property of Castle Acre Parish Council.
Speeding in village – JM suggested that the PC buy a speed recording sign. Grant funding may be available for this. MH to investigate. Perhaps dropping limit to 20mph ?
Gritting North Street – MH to put this forward to Highways for winter/spring 2014
- 105. Public Question Time.**
Resident questioned the through road to North Street – large vehicles damaging the surface and travelling too fast. MH will ask Highways to repair the road.
- 106. 2014-15 Budget and Precept**
MH presented the figures for 2014-15 and went through details with Councillors. An increase of 3% on the precept was suggested to keep revenue and costs in line with inflation. Revised figures to be circulated to Cllrs. The final budget and precept to be approved at the January PC meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is Thurs 9 January in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.