

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thurs 13 February 2014:

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

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), 11 members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs H Breach (HB), Deborah Pearson PCSO

121 Police Crime Report.

The Clerk read the report.

3rd February 2014 – Burglary Other Than Dwelling, at the restoration site, Castle Acre Priory.

Anti-Social Behaviour. There have been no reported incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Any Other Business. There is no other business except that PCSO has chased Andy Wallace at Highways to get some signage improvement to assist with preventing lorries from using the Bailey Gates.

122 Minutes of Previous Meeting of January 9 2014.

Mr S Barnfield proposed and Mr L Fisher seconded. Agreed.

123 Actions from Previous Meeting.

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

84 **Stocks Green Cutting contract.** PC received quotes from contractors and prices compared. TH proposed that the quote from TTSR Ltd/ Will Smith Landscapes be accepted, being considerably less than alternative quote. MD seconded. The Motion was carried 6 to 2.

86 **Pales Green lease.** Revised lease not received yet.

Priory Walls Restoration visit. MH in negotiations with Peter Wade-Martins and had decided on 28/29th June when R S Hogg would be available for a village open day. The PC agreed. MH went on to say that work on capping the outer walls with turf was taking place over the next two weeks. Turf to be taken from overflow car park field.

104 **Tubs/garden ornaments on Stocks Green.** MH read out proposed note. The Councillors asked for a new draft to be presented which would make the residents aware that if anything or anyone was hurt in an accident by said resident's tubs or stones, the residents would be liable, not the PC.

Norfolk Rivers Trust (NRT) – Nar River. Mr Ellis had placed 30 4ft posts along edge of road to stop people parking on the verge. Highways Contractor had swept the road and Highways would be asked to cut in more grips. Problem area still by the gated entrance to the field and river walk. NRT had suggested extending the boardwalk over the muddy area. The PC agreed to the suggestion – NRT would pay for this installation.

118 **Letter to Lakenheath about aircraft noise.** MH read out the letter sent to RAF Commander Neild. The Clerk read out reply which mainly blamed the harsh weather for the drill practising by F15's over the village. The clerk to ask for Castle Acre residents to keep a log of activity over the village (Nar Valley News).

Holkham Agricultural Allotments. Rent received from tenants. The Clerk awaiting revised invoices from Holkham.

124 5 Year Action Plan

CA Notice Board. Refused funding from the Post Office Scheme. Rob Craigan had been contacted and would be making a 12 poster notice board for the edge of the playing field. MH to ask him to quote for doubling the size of the existing Stocks Green notice board and

repositioning it. Notice board to be called “ Castle Acre Diamond Jubilee Notice Board” preferably on material similar to plaque on village sign.

125 Health & Safety

No large tree branches had been reported down during high winds. CW asked about branches of trees on gravel area. SB stated that these had been pruned and it was better to keep them extended and smaller at the ends rather than risk a 10mm point which would be more dangerous.

**126 Matters requested by Councillors.
East Green.**

MH stated that the green was beginning to look like a lay-by due to damage from traffic and asked whether highways might be persuaded to put something on the edge. The PC agreed as long as there was enough room for 2 vehicles to pass with adequate space. MH to talk to Highways.

Stocks Green Gravel.

SB stated that the gravel needed topping up as there were large holes and suggested that 2 tonnes at £50 per tonne might be enough to smarten up the area. The PC agreed, noting this sum was not budgeted.

127 Matters requested by Councillors.

JM opted out of the planning discussions

Pre planning application – Pales Green.

The plans were displayed and the meeting opened to the public. The PC discussed the intention to extend the property and add a garage. The PC was concerned that this might have an adverse effect for the residents of the old school which could cause a problem with the application. SB stated that the PC had been in careful negotiations with Holkham before the planning drawings had been accepted.

Local Development Framework – site specific options.

JM reported that the committee were meeting on a weekly basis and had been asked to get everything tied up by the July cabinet meeting. The plan framework would then go to the inspector and that PCs and residents would have a further opportunity to comment on the results.

14/00148/F Rose Cottage

The plans were displayed and the councillors asked to comment. SB stated that he had two comments: 1) Traffic calming methods may need to be placed further to the north of the site: 2) The four houses proposed looked too similar to each other and should be more individual to reflect quality housing in the conservation area. The other councillors agreed with comments. MH opened the meeting to the floor. Comments from Bill Welch resident of The Bungalow, Massingham Road included: concern over the nature of the construction; concern over the close proximity to the listed Stone Barn; sight line along the road would be affected; development for 4 houses seems tight in this area: important entrance into the village; concern over the heavy vehicles and traffic problems in that area of the village. He continued that the County Council Highways department had not visited the site and asked if the PC would arrange a site visit and that the District Council had a responsibility to enhance the conservation area. MH proposed should the PC should object because of the similarity of the four houses and that they may not fit the conservation area, with concern over Highways and the new access road being proposed. TH stated that something had to be done with the site. The PC agreed to Object to the proposed application and MH would draft objections for councillors to approve.

14/00114/0 New bungalow and garage at 38 Foxes Meadow

The PC felt that the plans were insufficient and could not comment. The Clerk to ask planning

for more detailed drawings and materials outline.
13/01670/F Erection of shed at 37 Foxes Meadow
The PC offered no objections.

128 Correspondence

St James Green traffic petition.

Residents had all signed a petition which had been sent to various council departments requesting reducing speed limit to 20mph, speed bumps and signage put in place, footpaths for safety. MH stated that Highways would respond to the petition formally. JM stated that footpaths would have to be funded by the PC and would be very expensive; MH stated that speed bumps might be a very noisy option. The PC agreed to acknowledge Jim Hughes, who had put the petition together and the Clerk to ask Richard Coke for his views.

World War 1 commemoration fund.

£42,000 available to local organizations for events. Information had been passed to British Legion on 14th January and applications needed to be in by 21st February.

Dog Fouling

PCSO's now have power for fixed penalty notices which carry a fine of £75 and can also be used for those picking up and then throwing the bag of dog faeces in the vicinity, as a littering offence. The Clerk to put edited article in Nar Valley News.

129 Reports.

Martin Hickey - Highways.

- St James Green curb reduction – Tractor has mounted the reduced verge.
- South Acre Ford vehicle prohibition signs. MH chasing.
- Stocks Green white lines - not done.
- Massingham Finger Post – sign not replaced.
- Jubilee Bridge flooding – Highways have promised to come up with a plan.
- West Acre Road - pot hole appearing (Clerk contacted highways with photo)
- Newton Road Bridge – still a large puddle there by new grips and drain. Drain cover should be sunk further into the ground.

The Clerk - Village Hall.

Work started on Hall refurbishment. Two concerts taking place (9th/15th March) with funds from bar going to Hall. Dance on 22nd – proceed to Hall.

Mike Dwyer - Castle Acre School.

Nothing to report.

James Moriarty - BCKLWN.

Nothing to report.

Charlie Williams - Friends of Castle Acre School.

14th February – Valentine Quiz in Village Hall. Friends and Playing Field joint disco. July 20th Castle Acre Fete – joint by Friends of the School and Playing Field. Garden event taking place on 13th July – 10 garden open. Money going to village charities.

English Heritage

No money left in budget for new Castle litter bin but Will Fletcher to keep request on file.

- 130. Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by GT and seconded by TH: FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd £34.90, E.on Energy (Electricity December) £46.36, FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd, Castle Acre Playing Field Association (pavilion repairs part 2) £1,041.60, Castle Acre Village Hall Rent (April 2013-March 2014) £ 280.00, K&M Lighting (repair of faulty light) £ 72.00

131. Village Maintenance.

Bailey Gate damage – The Clerk already contacted English Heritage but will do so again.

Hedge cutting – The Clerk to email Holkham about hedge cutting and debris left in road

132. Public Question Time.

A resident of St James Green asked who was responsible for damage done to the greens by traffic at St James Green. The Councillors stated that the PC would be liable. The Clerk was asked to write to farmers in the area to ask that they be careful driving through the village. There was further discussion about traffic problems along St James Green and it was decided that the PC to form a sub-committee to deal with this issue and to include concerned resident as well as two Councillors. This would encompass both the entrance and exit roads from the village as well as St James Green i.e. Newton Road and Massingham Road. First draft of "Through Traffic Plan" (TTP) to be presented at next meeting by Steve Barnfield, who agreed to lead this issue.

The Clerk to send Rose Cottage objection to resident by email,

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is Thurs 13 March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.