

# CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thurs 10 Jan 2013:

**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),

**In attendance:** 3 members of the public, Ms L Roast (Clerk),  
**Apologies:** Councillor J Murphy (NCC), Mrs H Breach (HB)  
Ms D Pearson (Norfolk Constabulary)

**90 Minutes of Previous Meeting of 13 December.** Agreed. MH proposed and MD seconded.

**91 Adam Gilbertson – Wherry Housing.**

Cancelled – The Clerk is in touch with his deputy.

MD requested visit from English Heritage – JM meeting one of their representatives and will invite them along to a future Parish meeting.

**92 Actions from Previous Meeting.**

57 **Rubbish Bin by Ford.** The Council agreed to remove bin for a trial period. TH offered to remove the bin but the situation would need to be appraised. Keep the bin on Agenda actions. Paul Stevenson from the litter picking team in agreement with removal. CW to make a sign asking ‘Please take your rubbish home’. Clerk to put explanation in Nar Valley News.

62(c) **Town Lane/Eagles.** JM had made contact.

62(e) **Textile Bin.** CW not yet spoken to East London Textiles. The Clerk to chase them.

74(g) **QE2 Land Registry.** QE2 accepted copies of Trust Deeds and are drafting an agreement.

**93 5 Year Action Plan**

PC keeping this on agenda so that councillors can progress any further items – no discussion.

**94 Pre-School Trust Fund**

GT presented to the council that the money now be transferred to the Playing Field as per the Pre-School Trust Fund agreement as there was to be no pre-school at the present in the village. CW proposed, JM seconded. There was discussion about any terms of the money and its donation. It was agreed that the money be given to the Playing Field committee and the Council would delegate the responsibility.

**95 Agreed 2013/14 Parish Council Budget**

GT presented that to the Council had agreed the Precept and now had to agree the budget.

MH brought to the Council’s attention that because of the £2,700 to be donated to the Playing Field there were other cuts necessary, one of which was in the cost of grass cutting.

Two revised quotes had been requested from Mr Ellis and from Mr Lake, the later being £57 per cut. The council agreed to award the contract for 1 year to Mr Lake to assess the quality of his work.

MH presented a letter received from the Borough Council on the Tax Base. There is a grant for Parishes who do not get full benefits from residents i.e. from 2<sup>nd</sup> homes or residents on housing benefits. Castle Acre awarded £720 grant for 2013/14. It was agreed not to change the precept of £9.088. MD proposed the budget be accepted, seconded JM.

**96 Matters requested by Councillors.**

**Orchard Lane Flooding**

MH: Highways due to contact Holkam and the field should be ploughed soon which should alleviate the problem. MH announced that the lane had been swept that morning after which the drains should be cleared. Mr Bighton of Orchard Lane to speak to Mr Wells about his crop field.

**Playing Field – Service level agreement**

The first draft was being looked at and would be re-drafted the following week by the Playing Field Committee. A special meeting to discuss this issue would then be proposed.

**Health & Safety policy**

JM had not contacted the Borough Council yet to see whether they had a policy that covered the village. This issue linked to Tree report on Stocks Green. A T Coombes and Associates Tree report to be circulated by email by the Clerk. To be discussed at next meeting and then report back to Frank Moister of Church Gate Tea Rooms.

**Footpath Officer**

SB stated that two residents had spoken to him about the overgrown footpaths and had suggested there should be a footpath officer from the council. It was agreed that The Clerk would put mention in the Nar Valley news, that residents could contact the Clerk about any overgrown paths in the area that need attention. There was discussion about a fallen tree at South Acre ford on Holkham land. Green Man Woodsmen (Jo Stock) carry work out for Holkham in the village so could be asked to assist in the future.

**97 Planning.**

**Pales Green School Playground – Holkham Proposal.**

JM declared an interest and withdrew.

Since James Bracey from Holkham had attended a Parish meeting, someone wishing to convert the old school to a dwelling had contacted the Council. The Holkham proposal and repositioning of the dwelling on the old playground, (now with access from the small Lane behind the Stocks Green houses), would overshadow the School. The Council agreed that they wished both proposals to go ahead: a single dwelling on the Playground and conversion of the school, and could see a potential conflict. The Clerk to draft a letter to Holkham asking whether the proposed dwelling could be repositioned further into the plot and to suggest a site visit meeting with the Holkham architect.

**Meadow House – Back Lane/Priory Road proposed house.**

HB went to Borough Council planning meeting and the planning application had been turned down on the grounds of the urbanisation of the currently rural aspect of the road.

**Albert Victor – change of use from pub to dwelling**

SB declared an interest and withdrew.

The Council had previously agreed to the change of use. This was once again presented and agreed. The Clerk to inform the planning officer that the PC had No objections.

**98 Correspondence**

### **James Bracey – Holkham Letter**

**The Pig Unit** along Massingham Road. This had been reduced in size and moved further along the road. The Parish Council had no issues with this at the moment.

**Car Park – Back Lane** On further consideration by the council it was agreed that the current use of the car park should be left in the hands of Holkham.

**Agricultural Land/Allotments, Orchard Lane.** TH proposed that the council take professional advice on this as the land had been held by the Parish for around 100 years and could provide an income in the future. SB asked what would happen if the land could not be let in the future. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that TH would get a quote for professional advice.

**Church Gate Tea Rooms** A letter had been received asking for formal permission to have tables, chairs and signs outside the building. Agreed.

### **99 Reports.**

MH reported on Highways. Ditch work in Newton Road to be completed by mid February. South Acre Ford signage should be in place soon. Gritting issue of North street to be followed up. Archer lane kerb stones to be moved back off corner. Pigs on Southern side of A1065 still a water contamination issue with the River nar. MH to send Charlie Ward a letter about the runoff. Rangers report: Bailey Street - Filled potholes and cleaned out gully; Archer Lane - Repaired verge, Cleared mud from carriageway and swept carriageway channels; Town Lane - Cleared grips.

MD reported on school. Now in partnership with Sporle with a shared Head Master across 3 schools. Friends of castle Acre School to hold a Valentines Quiz on 15<sup>th</sup> February.

### **100 Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by TH and seconded by LF

FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd (£34.90), E.on Energy (£46.36),	
A T Coombes Associates (Stocks Green Tree report)	£ 210.00
Linda Roast (Wages)	£ 325.26

### **101 Village Maintenance.**

Request from East Green Cottage resident to clear Ivy off trees on East Green. Agreed.

The Clerk to contact Lighting engineer about Red Lion street Lamp and Newton Road/North street light.

Posts in the river at South Acre Ford been knocked down by vehicles. The clerk to contact Gus Stafford-Allen who had them erected.

Dog fouling on the increase again most noticeable along Massingham Road opposite the Playing Field but a general increase in the village also notices. The Clerk to put this in nar Valley News and to contact Borough Council about Free Poo bags. CW suggested that school be involved in making posters.

### **102 Public Question Time**

Jo Stock suggested that Green Man Woodman raise the crown of the trees on the Play area at the playing Field. EDF power had completed work on the power lines there. GT offered the councils thanks for doing this.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm hrs.

**The next PC Meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Thurs 14 February at the Village Hall.**