

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 14 July 2016:

Present: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman
Mr S Allen (SA), Mr T Hubbard (TH)
Mr N Patrick (NP),

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

Apologies: Mrs H Breach (HB), Mr J Moriarty (JM), Ms C Williams (CW)

34 Cllr Richard Read – a statement by the Chairman of the Council

Richard and his wife Susan came to live in Castle Acre in 2011, following their move back to England from France where they ran a small holiday rental business. Richard immersed himself in village life, as well as being employed at Castle Acre Priory on a part-time basis. He played a very active role in the organisation of the first Castle Acre Summer Ball in 2014 and also acted as a volunteer Community Car Driver.

Sadly, Richard spent much of this time looking after his wife, Susan, who was seriously ill.

Richard joined the Parish Council in May 2015 and soon volunteered to run the embryo Community Speedwatch Group and to coordinate the placing of the SAM2 flashing speed sign unit around the village and its monthly transfer to Sporle. Richard also agreed to oversee the village allotments on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is shocked to learn of his death on 16 June after a very brave and difficult battle with cancer in Australia. Richard announced his illness in his usual quiet and understated way in an e-mail to the Council from Melbourne on 22 January 2016 with the words ‘Anyway, the bad news, I’m afraid, is that yours truly is a very poorly boy.’ Richard will be missed on the Council and in Castle Acre. I would like this statement to be placed in the Minutes as a record of our appreciation. The Parish Council extends its sincere condolences to his children, Jim, Emily and Martyn, and to his family.

35 Minutes of PC meeting Thursday 16 June 2016

Proposed by Mr Laurie Fisher, Seconded by Mr Neil Patrick. Agreed

36 Actions from previous meeting:

- 84 **Village defibrillator** – the housing cabinet is now fixed to the external wall of Costcutters (now Premier). Thanks to Alex Boardman for her labour and to Jack Corder for hooking up the electricity supply which provides temperature control and external lighting. The unit is covered by 24 hour CCTV. Written CPR instructions will be left in the shop. The shop staff are not so keen to attend a professional CPR training course. Agreed to get external quotes for an evening course on the basis that participants from the village may accept paying an attendance fee.
- 6 **Priory Precinct meadow and dog fouling** – waiting for Holkham to clarify its position on providing a sign.
- 15 **Stocks Green litter bins** – BCKLWN has installed the new litter bins but has yet to remove the old ones. **Castle litter bin** – now arrived. The contractors to install. The bin and installation costs came out at only £10 over budget.
- 15 **Stocks Green trees** - JM met with the tree officer . He agrees the five trees are too big and their crowns must be substantially reduced but will not approve cutting down any

of the trees. Both TH and the Clerk to obtain two quotes each from their contacts to undertake the work.

Neighbourhood Plan public meeting –this is arranged for 28 July at 7.30pm in the village hall. Cllrs are urged to attend.

South Acre Road board walk repair - Norfolk Rivers Trust is planning a site meeting on Tuesday 19 July.

- 28 **Orchard Lane parking bays** - MH explained that with some excavation, an extra two more bays could be squeezed into the present cutting. All the parking spaces should be delineated by small white posts along the top of the bank. SA asked that sufficient width is retained for pedestrians to walk from the Green to Orchard lane. SA may find time to clear the space with his digger while NP confirmed a location for the excess earth.

Bailey Gate damage and signage - MH read out an e-mail from the Clerk to Glazewing highlighting the damage caused by one of their skip lorries forcing its way through the Gate on Thursday 7 July. The e-mail requested that Glazewing ask all its operatives never to attempt passage through Bailey Gate in the future. No reply had been received to date. MH to contact their MD. Cllrs again debated the traffic measures required to stop large vehicles from passing through the Gate. TH expressed his frustration at the long delay in repairing the damage to Bailey Gate. MH is meeting soon with both Highways and Historic England and will inform Cllrs of progress at the next meeting.

- 28 **Verge cutting** - TTSR are aware that the Priory Road verge still needs strimming, now planned for Friday 15 July.
- Outstanding Highways maintenance tasks** - these include: tarmac breaking up around manhole covers along St James' Green and West Acre Road, blocked drains in North Street, subsidence in Orchard Lane and pot holes in Back Lane. The damage to and flooding in Archer Lane is still unresolved . Highways are now in touch with Holkham.

37 **Health & Safety** - no concerns raised.

38 **Matters requested by Councillors** - none raised

39 **Planning** – no plans to consider.

40 **Correspondence**

Superfast Broadband – The Chairman and Clerk met with representatives of Better Broadland for Norfolk and BT Openreach who plan to install a 1.5 metre square cabinet with fibre broadband transmissions sited close to the telegraph pole by Manx Cottage on the corner of St James Green/Massingham Road. All properties within 1,000 metre radius should receive a minimum download speed of 25Mbps. The installation is planned for early 2017. A further cabinet is planned to service properties at the southern end of the village.

SAM 2 Speed reports – e-mail read out from a Newton Road resident calling for the Council to ask the police to undertake speed checks on Newton Road in light of the published SAM2 data that shows 43% of vehicles exceed the 30 mph speed limit when exiting the village. Cllrs agreed to review one more month of stats before contacting the police.

41 **Reports**

Highways – See paras: 36, 28.

Castle Acre School- report from Mike Dwyer, Chairman of the Governors, that for the first time in ten years the school will have a full pupil intake this September.

Friends of Castle Acre School – no report

Village Hall - no report

CAPFA – the excessive rain in early July led to surface damage by contractor’s vehicles to both the grass and parking areas while erecting/dismantling the large Ball marquee. CAPFA will consider various surface options for an enlarged car park, paid by grant funding. The summer Fete was a success and raised £1,550 profit.

Borough Council – no report

42 Accounts

The following cheques were signed - payments were proposed for approval by Mr Tim Hubbard, Mr Neil Patrick seconded. Agreed with amendment on CP Trees – should be £260 and not £290 as stated on the agenda.

Berrymans Glass Recycling Ltd - £34.90 (including £5.82 VAT)

E.on Energy (electricity) - £61.32 (including £2.92 VAT)

CP Trees Services (emergency limb removed from Stocks Green lime tree) - £130.00

BSD (annual internal accounts audit) - £ 50.00 (no VAT)

Linda Roast (Clerk’s wages) - £ 488.34 (no VAT)

43 Village Maintenance

Repeat request to the Highways Rangers to fill in the existing grip and cut a new one further away from the bus shelter as waiting passengers are being soaked by vehicles passing through the excess surface water.

Grit bin to be installed soon on the corner of Little Lane and Back Lane

33 Public Question Time

None

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next full Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 8 September at 7.30pm in the village hall.