

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Mrs G Thorneywork (GT) Mr T Hubbard (TH)
Mr S Barnfield (SB) Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman
Mrs H Breach (HB)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), 13 members of the public.

Apologies: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman, Mr J Moriarty (JM), Mr M Dwyer (MD), Deborah Pearson PCSO

133 Police Crime Report.

No report available.

134 Minutes of Previous Meetings of extraordinary February 3 and February 12 2014.

Mr S Barnfield proposed and Mrs G Thorneywork seconded. Agreed.

135 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.** The Clerk reported that Gary Lake had concerns over the joining of the Playing Field and Green cutting contract in the future.

86 **Pales Green lease.** The Clerk read an email from James Bracey of the Holkham Estate which asked about cars parked on the strip of land owned by the PC. The PC agreed that the parking places here should not be lost. The Clerk to Email Mr Bracey with decision.

Priory Walls Restoration visit. English Heritage, Peter Wade martins and R S Hogg settled on 29th June for open day. Anne Mason had offered here help in the organisation as she had been involved in these previously. The Clerk to Email Ms Mason and accept offer.

104 **Tubs/garden ornaments on Stocks Green.** The Clerk read out revised note which was approved with only one amendment from 'the tubs' to 'your tubs'. The Clerk to deliver note.

118 **Letter to Lakenheath about aircraft noise.** LF spoken to East Anglia Airforce working group to put forward the views of the PC rather than sending another letter. The meeting would be held at Marham and LF to report back.

126 **Stocks Green gravel.** SB estimated that 2 cubic metres would do adequate to patch the affected areas.

131 **Bailey Gate Damage.** The Clerk had contacted English Heritage who had inspected the Gate and decided that work needed to be carried out. This would be in the next financial year starting April.

136 5 Year Action Plan

CA Notice Board. The positioning of the sign was not agreed – suggestion had been near the picket fence by the Bailey Gate. Item to be on agenda for next meeting. A suggestion was put forward that Costcutter would be a good place for the Village Notice Board whilst the Tourist Notice Board should be on Stocks Green as agreed before.

137 Health & Safety

SB asked the councilors if there were any reports – none advised. Discussion opened to floor. Flooding at Jubilee Bridge a health and safety issue. Ditches into the river had been blocked so water could not run into the Nar – water was forcing drivers onto the wrong side of the road and vehicles still speeding. SB asked that dangerous incidents be recorded and passed onto the clerk to go on record. TH suggested that Highways and the Norfolk Rivers Trust may be able to resolve the flooding issue. JM to attend a meeting of Norfolk Rivers Trust - ask JM to bring this to Helen Mandley's attention as if ditches are to be opened up, the water may need

filtering. TH suggested that the speeding and safety issue be brought into the Through Traffic Plan.

138 **Matters requested by Councillors.**

Castle Acre Through Traffic Plan (CATTP)

SB opened discussion with a recap of what had happened at the last PC meeting and included reference to Jim Hughes St James Green Petition to Highways. SB produced a draft plan.

Castle Acre a busy tourist village used to traffic but there had been step changes in the events of the village – volume, size of vehicles were causing problems which could be from use of SatNavs and of pig farms around the area. Speed of large vehicles too fast at 30mph. No data collected at the moment but the PC asked for incidents to be recorded by residents and passed onto the Clerk who would keep a database of the evidence. Safety issue still outstanding – gritting of St James Green Through Road.

Potential solutions – vehicle calming methods. SB had referred to 146 pages of government research before preparing proposed Through Traffic plan. Options included 30mph reduced to 20mph, speed warning signs, humps and footpaths.

30mph reduced to 20mph – Reduces accidents and speed but the village would need evidence to take this to Highways. Other villages have signs that flash up speed and collect data which are portable so able to be moved around village. SB to look into.

Speed warning signs – Permanent signs expensive and need electricity. Question posed – would they be allowed in conservation area?

Road/Speed Humps – Need to warn traffic prior to humps and have signs where humps are situated. Signs need to be illuminated. Noise an issue – overall levels reduced but higher peaks with empty trailers going over them etc. Not a preferred option.

Restrict parking – If roads are cleared of parked cars, traffic speeds up. Issue could be looked at again after some measures put in place.

Footpaths – Estimated cost of putting in footpaths at St James Green, £30,000. Trods used at East Bilney – hard earth with no surface treatment. Would need to be positioned 1 metre from road edge – County Council would maintain them.

Additional ideas – Village Gateways. Vertical traffic measure - 5 bar gates to alert motorists they are entering into a different area. Horizontal traffic measure – colour calming by using red or beige areas of tarmac. Could have one at Newton Road, One by Stone Barn and potentially, one at Jubilee Bridge.

Chicane not good idea because of size of vehicle, Rumble strips not good idea because of proximity to housing.

Damage to greens could be reduced by placing concrete spheres but whatever goes on the greens needs to be licensed.

Summary – There are things the PC can progress to aid situation i.e. Village Gateways. Other measures may need County Council funding and evidence of speeding etc would aid this. Trods could be answer for St James green but where these would go would need to be determined.

Discussion was opened to the floor: Rougham Road has no signage saying you are entering a village. Gateway may be useful here as well.

TH stated that SB had produced a very good document and that the PC could now start a “Wish List”. GT proposed that the PC progress gateways and started a Database of incidents. TH seconded. Agreed.

Maintenance of Stocks Green Gravel

See Correspondence

139 **PLANNING**

Local Development Framework – site specific options.

No further updates available

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

Outline permission to build being sought so in depth plan not required. Main house would lose off road parking. No new access being created. Building looks squeezed into area and is an infill / Back line development.

HB proposed that the PC object on the grounds that the building inappropriate for the size of the plot. LF seconded. Vote: 5 against permission. Motion carried.

13/01630/F Costcutter plan and Bus stop

Borough Council sold the land to Mr Sigh with the bus stop on it. PC needs to talk to Mr Sigh and the Council. JM requested to make comment to Borough Council and clarify the situation.

140 Correspondence

Pales Green New Building Request

Permission sought for safety reasons, during the period of the construction of the new dwelling, to erect heras (safety) fencing to the edge of the highway.

From the permitted planning scaffolding will be needed to be erected up to and along the boundary of the playground. The enclosed area will therefore provide a safety zone, between the boundary of the playground and the edge of the highway, to protect public and property from the risk of damage from the building works.

The new owners acknowledge fencing off this area will remove an amenity area, currently available within Pales Green, for a limited period and as such would be prepared to compensate the village; recognizing that in the normal way of things a permit from Norfolk County Highways would have been required and a license issued together with charges of £75.00 for the license/permission and £20.00 per 56 days thereafter - plus reinstate the area on completion. Precise area of strip needs to be determined. MH to contact Holkham for map.

SB suggested 2 tonnes of gravel be trade off for use of land. Permission granted subject to residents of Pales Green – SB to suggest that Nigel Chambers talks to the residents.

141 Reports.

The Clerk - Highways.

- Pothole fillers had been round the village
- Layby in High Street cleared

Helen Breach - Village Hall.

Village Hall apologise for any inconvenience due to works being carried out on the hall. Front ramp being built start of April.

GT - Playing Field.

Only 14 tickets left for the Summer Ball

- 142. Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by LF and seconded by GT: FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd £34.90, E.on Energy (Electricity) £41.87
Gary Lake (Playing Field cutting part 1) £ 950.00, Holkham Allotments (Agricultural and garden) £ 1,913.00.

143. Village Maintenance / Public Question Time

Town lane / Pyes Lane junction – Water Authority had marked a large area which is scheduled for work. Other ancillary amenities may be in the area of the work. Pot holes had already been filled.

Stone Barn Entrance responsibility – Question arose on whether the entrance should be maintained by the PC as they look after Holkham leased grounds. The PC thought this unlikely as they would be looking after a number of entrances in the village. Suggested that resident contact Holkham.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is Thurs 10 April in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.