

## CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thurs 8 May 2014:

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

**In attendance:** Ms L Roast (Clerk), 35 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Mrs H Breach (HB), Ms Charlie Williams (CW), Deborah Pearson PCSO

### 13 **Police Crime Report.**

Unavailable – PCSO unable to attend through illness.

### 14 **Mr Alan Gomm – Local Development Framework Manager**

Mr Gomm outlined the process of the LDF – how the Borough Council (BC) will decide the core planning strategy over the next 15/20 years, starting with 100 larger towns and key rural service centres, including Castle Acre. Development is based on number of properties and residents – 11 new properties for Castle Acre. In 2010 detailed site plans were issued with options presented to settlements. From September to December 2011 the public consultation included 508 and 1131 as well as 1193. The comments received were then analysed to produce a new document in 2013. New sites are being put forward all the time. BC chosen allocations 508 and 1131 were supported by the PC who drew attention to 1131 being both in the conservation area and subject to a planning application (since withdrawn). The LDF team are visiting sites on May 13th and consulting with Highways to try to make the best decision for the village and in the process will consider plots that were not the original preferred options. No decisions have yet been made and the LDF plan is still in development. The finalised plan will supersede the 1998 plan and will be sent to the Cabinet on the 29<sup>th</sup> July and the Secretary of State in September 2014 who has the authority to put it into action. When the plan is submitted, it enters into the public domain and is open for comment. MH stated that one of the reasons the PC was in favour of plot 508 (Massingham Road) was because the Borough Council's guidance notes stated: "It would need careful design and that standard housing was unlikely to achieve this". MH also asked whether the LDF would take more land than necessary and build more houses than the 11 allocated. Mr Gomm answered that this would not be the case – only enough land to build 11 houses would be acquired. LF asked if it was possible to get a copy of the LDF teams discussions. Mr Gomm said that they were available through a request via 'Freedom of Information' act.

MH opened up discussion to members of the public. Questions included the unsuitability of the school road for more traffic, the difficulty of Highways at Massingham Road and whether the 11 houses could be split among 2 sites. Mr Gomm gave no indication as to any decisions that had been made. JM stated that he would make sure Highways came to visit the village.

### **Mr Patrick Grange – Property Developer (Rose Cottage)**

1131 is Rose Cottage site and Plot 508 wraps around it. Both Rose Cottage and Alberma House are within the LDF. In his pre application to BCKLWN, Mr Grange was told he was expected to build 4 identical houses and put a road to the north of the plot (outside of his development area). The plot would be developed i.e. the BC Heritage Consultant deemed Rose Cottage not worthy of restoration as it has no historical features. The plot has 43 metres of visibility splays along the roadside. Mr Grange left various housing design proposals with the PC to discuss in more detail at a suitable meeting. Mr Grange stressed that he would like the PC's support to his next application and would like their input into the design process.

- 15 Minutes of Previous Meetings of 10 April 2014.**  
Mr S Barnfield proposed and Mr Jim Moriarty seconded. Agreed.
- 16 Actions from Previous Meeting.**
- 41 Painting Seat at South Acre Ford.** Completed
- 86/140 Pales Green lease.** James Bracey and Joanna Stapleton from the Holkham Estate to attend PC meeting on 12 June.
- 118 Letter to Lakenheath about aircraft noise.** LF had reported the unusual aircraft activity to Operations at RAF Marham, saying that not only did Castle Acre get the noise from Marham, but now had additional aircraft noise from Lakenheath. JM referred to the earlier letter which stated that the activity would stop by the spring and that it was due to the weather. LF to follow this up.
- 137 Flooding at Jubilee Bridge.** Norfolk Rivers Trust has been contacted to come up with a solution between them and Highways.
- 7 Old Butchers Shop letter** – Fig tree has been trimmed and the Clerk received a phone call from the owners.
- Friday Food Market signage** – Letter sent but no response has been received
- Playing Field litter bins** – CAPFA to get quotes for bespoke housing construction
- 9 - 12 Pyes Lane cavity** – Highways have referred this to Anglian Water, it is a stop cock.
- Street lamp Massingham Road** – has been reported but clerk will re- send email
- Allotment trees** – explanation has been received from Gus Stafford Allen. The clerk to re- email to ask whether the trees are safe or not.
- 17 5 Year Action Plan**
- CA Notice Board.** New board half completed although it had been promised for early April. MH has asked for new completion date. Estimate received for refurbishing Stocks Green notice board - £200
- 18 Health & Safety**
- Fire Officer from Thetford visited the village to look at the problems of access to Pales Green. They are aware of the problems and have the equipment to deal with any fire there should the occasion arise. The fire hydrant needs to be kept clear at all times. Swaffham and Massingham fire stations are aware of the problem and they are equipped with portable pumps.
- 19 Matters requested by Councillors.**
- Castle Acre Through Traffic Plan (CATTP)**  
SB reviewed progress of the plan - village gateway at Newton to be installed 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Price to lay tubes over highways to collect information on traffic activity is £700 - £1000. Flashing signs – NCC does not yet know if they will be running a funding scheme for these until December. The NCC will write to the Parish Clerk in December if the grant scheme is going ahead in 2015/16. Types of signs available are many. Agenda item for June meeting.
- The Priory – Norfolk Archaeological Trust (NAT) – future collaboration.**  
NAT has asked for a working group to be formed from residents and councilors. Mr Bowers-Jolly letter read out. MH asked if the PC were in favour of the work group and they agreed. Councillors to contact the Clerk if they are interested to be part of the group. The clerk to put a note in Nar Valley News asking for residents to come forward
- 20 PLANNING**
- JM declared an interest TH declared an interest**  
**Local Development Framework – site specific options.**

The PC discussed the options of available sites, whether they had been preferred sites or not.

509 at Archer Lane was considered and the PC felt it could potentially be the answer. Holkham had said it could offer a larger area behind 509. MH stated that the 1193 Back Lane site would have no building constraints as it is not in the conservation area and would mean more traffic along Back Lane and the School Road which might be problematic. JM suggested that residents be encouraged to give the LDF team their individual views. MD proposed the PC object to the 1193 Back Lane site – GT seconded. Agreed. MH proposed that the PC continue to support site 508. Agreed. MH proposed that site 509 to be a preferred option. Agreed.

#### **Pales Green Old School Plot dwelling-13/00275/F**

It was agreed that a special meeting be put in place to discuss the revised plans

#### **14/000611/F The Hayloft, Drury Lane**

##### **SB and MD declared an interest**

MH read out objections that had been received to the application and the plans were viewed by the councillors. Councillors discussed the plans and agreed to object on the grounds that the three storey building was out of character to the buildings around it and the conservation area. It was suggested that garages in the centre of the village were an important addition.

#### **Costcutter Planning**

It was noted that Planning had given clearance that the fish and chip shop could be open until 11pm. On next agenda – Costcutter bus stop.

### **21 Correspondence**

#### **More Funds for Parish Council - email**

Local businesses want a portion of the rates they pay to go to the Town Council so that the place where those business operate can directly benefit from the rates they are paying. Many rate paying businesses across the country also hold this view. The PC agreed to support.

#### **Foxes Meadow – Freebridge sign**

The signage was deemed to be too big and MH to ask Freebridge to reduce it

#### **Bench on Stocks Green**

A request had been received to place a bench on Stocks Green after a resident's death. Agreed to support in principle.

#### **Photography at Castle**

MH read an email received asking permission for photographs a small group to be taken at the Castle.

### **22 Reports.**

**Mike Dwyer – Castle Acre School.** Highest school role in September for 8 years. Recruiting a new deputy head teacher.

**Jim Moriarty - On behalf of CW.** Duck race raised £1200 for Friend of Castle Acre School

**Jim Moriarty - Borough Council.** The Cabinet has agreed to buy the land where the incinerator had been planned

**Martin Hickey – Castleacre.info.** Changes made and website up to date. Tim Hibbard still to supply photo for Councillors' page.

**Martin Hickey – Castle Acre playing Field Association.** 22<sup>nd</sup> May AGM.

### **23. Accounts.** The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by GT and seconded by LF: FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd £34.90, E.on Energy (Electricity) £ 41.87 Aon UK Limited (Parish Insurance) £ 423.44 BCKLWN (Dog bin collections) £ 468.00 Lorenz Design (Website) £75.00 TTSR Ltd (Grass cutting 1/2) £678.90

**24. Village Maintenance / Public Question Time**

**Rangers Visit** – Sweep round Stocks Green and down Little Lane

**Fir tree on allotment** – Request to cut down – councillors to view it and report back at next meeting.

**Bailey gate** – definite damage – the clerk to email English Heritage.

**25. Public Question Time**

**20mph** – Resident asked for reduced speed. SB answered that it is an aspiration of the councils but evidence needs to be collected that there is a speeding problem in the village and referred to the TTP.

**Highways visit** – Resident asked about requested Highways visit at February meeting. MH answered that this had been requested through the LDF process rather than as a separate issue.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is Thurs 12 June in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.