

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 13 November 2014:

Present: Mr T Hubbard (TH) Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman
Mr M Dwyer (MD) Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman
Mrs H Breach (HB) Mr J Moriarty (JM)
Mrs G Thorneywork (GT) Mr Sean Allen (SA)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), Deborah Pearson PCSO, 4 members of the public.

Apologies: Ms Charlie Williams (CW)

Cllrs expressed concern that Cllr Toby Coke, the NCC councillor for Castle Acre, had only attended CAPC meetings twice since his election 18 months ago. Clerk requested to write to Cllr Coke to this effect.

80 Police Crime Report - Deborah Pearson PCSO - No crimes reported, apart from youths drinking and leaving their rubbish in the Priory.

81 Minutes of previous meeting of October 9
Mr Mike Dwyer proposed, Mr Sean Allen seconded. Agreed

82 Actions from previous meeting.

- 28 Lease for Pales Green** – still waiting for Holkham Estates and their solicitors
- 137 Allotment moat trees** – waiting to hear back from the Heritage Historic Environment for grant/funding to thin out the number of trees.
- 24 Bailey Gate damage** – waiting to hear from English Heritage.
- 33 Fir tree on allotment** - removed and only the stump remains.
- 35 NRT extension of boardwalk at South Acre Road** – construction in progress.
- 45 NAT Work Group** - decision on hold until Holkham Estates grants a lease to NAT
- 58 Rubbish Bin at Ford** - TH reported that the previous handmade sign had disappeared. MH proposed putting up a metal proper sign saying “ Heritage Site - Please take your litter home”. Agreed.
- 59 Stocks Green Trees** – waiting planning permission from BCKLWN tree officer.
- 60 Agri-Allotments** - waiting for Holkham Estates to issue their rent invoice. Also waiting for Holkham to advise the PC on the new lease and rent for the school garden allotments post 11/10/15.
- 65 Castle Acre Village Sign.** The Clerk read out notes from Harry Stebbings, sign maker, who has agreed to do the repair work at no cost but the sign has to be taken down to dry out. SA, JM, LF, TH and MD agreed to organise a work party to take down the sign. The Clerk to email the supplier.
2 new grit bins. The best quote of £260/£280 will go into next year’s budget. The position in Back Lane is confirmed. The site for the school bin to be emailed to the Clerk. The Clerk will then apply for a Street Furniture license.
East Green Slap Gates. Holkham Estates still to replace.
Clearing overgrown Permissive Paths. Holkham Estates still to do.

83 5 Year Action Plan.

CA Notice Board. Contractor had promised to erect the board on w/c 13 October but had still not done so. MH chasing contractor. Other possible joiners have been asked to supply quotations.

Through Traffic Plan.

MH presented a paper on the next steps and asked Cllr to decide which items to budget and include in the PC's bid in early January to NCC's Parish Partnership Scheme for a 50% grant. Agreed to support a trod footway at St James Green (specification and £1,000 gross cost TBC), to purchase a SAM2 mobile flashing speed sign at £2,800 and print 500 A4 'Slow Down' stickers for village wheelie bins at £242 (TBC). The PC agreed that the A4 sticker size was adequate.

The Community Speedwatch programme - update from SA. Still waiting for some application forms from the volunteer residents.

84 Health & Safety - no issues reported

85 Matters requested by Councillors.

Newton Heath/Mill Common

The PC reviewed correspondence received concerning public access to Newton Heath/Mill Common. A draft reply was read out which will be circulated to Cllrs by e-mail after the meeting and any amendments sent to the Clerk. Noted that Newton Heath/Mill Common is not in the Castle Acre Parish but in Newton-by-Castle Acre.

Costcutter bus shelter

MH thanked all those who had helped to move the shelter across the road. MH asked whether there was need for an interim bus shelter or whether the present one would suffice until Rash went ahead with the shop extension and built a brick and flint replacement shelter, as promised. The PC agreed to leave the present one in its new position and called for a few repairs to be made.

South Acre Ford prohibition of traffic order

MH reported that a traffic prohibition order was ready for consultation and implementation this financial year. NCC Highways had erected advisory no entry signs in advance of any closure, though with no legal force, to encourage vehicles not to park or cross over the ford. A formal complaint by an off-roader organisation that these signs were prejudicial to the outcome of the consultation exercise were deemed by NCC lawyers to have compromised that order and that it cannot proceed. The PC agreed to contact Natural England to determine if there may be another way to prevent vehicles from damaging the river bed.

Christmas Tree on Stocks Green

A resident suggested there should be a Christmas tree on Stocks Green. The PC agreed it was a nice idea. JM to ask BCKLWN whether a risk assessment would be required. LF to find out about the availability and cost of a tree for this December. Agreed that solar powered lighting would be best. No allowance made in this year's budget.

86 Planning

Local Development Framework. JM gave an update on the LDF process. The chief planning officer, in conjunction with the LDF team, had just decided, arbitrarily and without prior consultation with CAPC, in respect of the outstanding planning application for Rose Cottage, to issue a revised policy whereby any development on both the Rose and Alberma Cottage sites (1131) and the adjoining 508 must now be considered as a whole and moreover for 15 dwellings, not 11 as in earlier consultations. The building line on 1131 has been reduced to force road side dwellings only, effectively undermining the Rose Cottage application that is recommended for refusal on these grounds. A belated request to English Heritage led to their recommendation not to demolish Rose and Alberma Cottages unless the public benefit of any new

scheme outweighed the perceived harm. The LDF document will go out for further consultation and then for review by the Planning Inspector. CAPC had called in the Rose Cottage application so MH could attend the planning meeting to argue that 1131 and 508 sites should be developed as one, citing the exemplar designs agreed for the four Rose Cottage dwellings – a view shared by Holkham Estate and finally recognised by BCKLWN! The PC agreed his attendance was superfluous and concurred with MH's proposal that he meets with Holkham Estates to encourage them to work with a developer and the PC to create a worthwhile scheme across both sites.

87 Correspondence

Financial challenge from NCC. Comments can be taken on the NCC proposals until 19th December 2014.

NRCC sector led plan for Norfolk. Cllrs noted a series of consultation events on the sector led plan aimed at voluntary and community sector organisations.

Mayors Civic Awards. Applications invited.

88 Reports.

Martin Hickey - Highways. No progress on many issues.

Mike Dwyer – Castle Acre School. A new Head Teacher should be appointed before Christmas.

Helen Breach – Village Hall. Lighting in the Hall under review. Daisy's Cat concert a success, raising around £400.

Playing Field MH reported that the new temporary dug outs had been repaired and that the new entry gates from Pales Green should be in place in January.

89. Accounts.

The following cheques were signed; payments were proposed by Mr Tim Hubbard and seconded by Mrs Gwyneth Thorneywork: FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd £34.90, E.on Energy (electricity) £46.36, Gary Lake (playing field grass cutting) £950.00, Sean Allen (material costs for bus shelter) £89.90, K&M Lighting Services (street light repair Foxes Meadow) £72.00, CMG Landscapes (Fir tree allotment) £189.00.

90. Village Maintenance

Pot hole on side of Jubilee Bridge Road coming into Castle Acre – The Clerk to submit report to Highways.

91. Public Question Time

No questions

The meeting closed at 9.50pm. The next Parish Council meeting is Thursday 11th December in the village hall at 7.30pm.