

DRAFT

GREAT CASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held at Casterton College at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 10th.January 2018.

In Attendance:

Councillors Mark Bush (MB) in the Chair, Michael Markey (MM), John Sylvester (JS), Alasdair Ryder (AR) and Derek Patience, Parish Clerk. Also present 1 member of the public, Mr. Tom Lamb

16.158 Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Wanda Allen, County Councillors David Wilby & Chris Parsons, and David Clarke

16.159. Declarations of Interest and Amendments:

None

16.160 Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 6th.December 2017

The minutes were approved on the proposal of MM seconded AR

16.161 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Remembrance Day Poppies: Now removed.

New Streetlight: Highways will be holding a site meeting with contractors on 15th. January.

Main Road Closure: Clerk had written to Highways, but no response yet. Tom Lamb reported that the new drain did not cope well with the recent heavy rains. Clerk to chase Highways.

Environment Agency: Clerk had written to EA regarding overgrown River Gwash, with no response yet. AR observed that the problem was a lot to do with fallen trees blocking the river. These appear to be from the far bank, which is Burghley land, and it was suggested that the Clerk should write to Strutt & Parker, their agents, asking for them to be removed.

Neighbourhood Watch: MB had received further information from Mr. Gombault.

16.162 Police & Neighbourhood Watch

No report in the absence of a Police representative. The recent monthly crime report email indicated there had been one instance of criminal damage in the village last month. It also reported a new officer on the beat, PCSO Orgill, who had already been seen in the village.

16.163 Financial Update

Current Position: The Clerk presented details of the current position. This showed expenditure so far of £5,076, from income totalling £6,598, leaving a current balance of £9,108.

Precept 2018-19: Following last month's discussion of budget figures, it was agreed that the precept should be set at £5,000 (no increase) for the coming year, on the proposal of MM, seconded AR, all in favour.

16.164 Planning

1. Home Farm, Pickworth Road: This application has gone to appeal, to be heard on 30th. January. It was agreed that the Council should submit a letter of support for the

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application. JS suggested that this should highlight the fact that the farm had moved to the current site from within the village, removing the farm traffic and livestock, with associated detritus, from the village

2. Crown Inn: No further developments. The owner had now submitted another application for pruning the trees, and for the removal of just the walnut tree, which currently precludes the widening of the entrance.

3. Barkers: No further developments. Demolition of the existing buildings has not yet taken place.

16.165 Streetlighting Charges

Neil Tomlinson had responded to the Clerk regarding the increase in streetlighting levy for 2018-19 – this had been calculated using the up-dated inventory following the takeover of streetlight, which suggested that this year's figure had been worked using an old, out-of-date inventory.

He also reported that the compensation figure for our updating of the streetlights had now been calculated, and we would be receiving a payment of £650 in due course.

16.166 LRALC Constitution

LRALC is in the process of incorporating itself as a limited company, principally to limit the liability of its officers, and had asked councils to formally agree to its new constitution. This is a lengthy document couched in the inevitable legal terms, which MB had studied, and it was agreed on his proposal, seconded MM, all agreed, that we should write in support.

16.167 Any Other Business

None.

16.168 Date of Next Meetings:

Wednesday 21st. March 2018 at CBEC room 6, 7.00pm – Council Meeting.

Wednesday 23rd. May 2018, venue to be confirmed – Annual Parish Meeting

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.