

GREAT CASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held at the Church Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 19th.April 2017.

In Attendance:

Councillors Mark Bush (MB) in the Chair, Michael Markey (MM), John Sylvester (JS), Clare Rowbotham (CR) and Derek Patience, Parish Clerk. Also present was County Councillor David Wilby, and 1 member of the public, Mr. David Clarke.

16.094 Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Alasdair Ryder, County Councillor Chris Parsons, PC Laurie Appleton

16.095. Declarations of Interest and Amendments:

MB declared an interest in Home Farm Close.

16.096 Minutes of Previous Meetings held on 22nd.March 2017

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record, proposed MM, seconded MB, all in favour.

16.097 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Casterton College: CR asked if the Council has a record of the College's proposal. The Clerk confirmed that he had a copy of their plan on file.

16.098 Police & Neighbourhood Watch

No report in the absence of a police representative. PC Houghton continues off sick, and shift schedules make it difficult for Laurie Appleton to attend, although he has confirmed he will attend the Annual Parish Meeting. He will be holding a beat surgery at the church/primary school fete in June, and is in discussion with the organisers as to whether a property marking session should be held in conjunction with the fete

16.099 Financial Update

Current Position: The Clerk presented details of the final account for the year. Expenditure totalled £5,985 against income of £7,013, with a end-of -year balance of £7,586. This is well within the recommended parameters of reserve balances, which should not exceed 18 months of annual expenditure.

The Clerk confirmed the purchase of an Asus laptop computer from the Transparency Fund grant received last year, at a cost of £497 ex vat.

16.100 Planning

1. Home Farm Lime Trees: No decision has yet been made on this application. DW to lobby again on PC's behalf.

2. The Old Rectory: Full planning permission has been granted on this application, within stringent stipulations regarding archaeology and tree protection.

3. Ingoldsfield, Old Great North Road: Full planning permission granted on this application

16.101 The Crown Inn

Remedial works on the property has commenced, and it is understood that there will be some internal alterations in lay-out. It is hoped to re-open in June.

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16.102. Any Other Business

1. 5 Home Farm Close. MB reported that solicitors working on behalf of the purchasers of this property had discovered that RCC had still not signed off the development of the close, there being a variety of conditions within the original planning permission (2002/1015/CC). One of these refers to the need for the Developer to install two vehicle-activated speed warning signs on Main Street (now Old Great North Road) B1081. This was never done and to our knowledge not enforced by the Planning Authority. These issues are now subject of two further planning applications (2017/0224/DIS & 2017/0225/DIS) and are being dealt with by Mr. Patrick Gear. MB commented that this had implications insofar as our SIDs are concerned, as the Parish Council had eventually purchased and installed these, whereas there had been a requirement for the developers to have provided them.
2. Clerk's Performance Assessment and Remuneration. The Council's review of this is now somewhat overdue, and will be carried out following the next meeting.
3. David Clarke commented on the problems along Water Lane, which is becoming more extensively used by traffic, in spite of the narrowness of the entrance from Main Street, as well as the bridge over the A1.

16.093 Date of Next Meetings:

Wednesday 24th. May 2017 at 7.00pm at Casterton College **Annual Parish Meeting**, followed by a Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.43 pm.