

GREAT CASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held at the Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 21st. October 2015.

In Attendance:

Councillors Mark Bush (MB) in the Chair, Michael Markey (MM), John Sylvester (JS), Alasdair Ryder (AR), Clare Rowbotham (CR) and Derek Patience, Parish Clerk. Also present were County Councillor David Wilby (DW), PC Laurie Appleby (LA). There were no members of the public present.

15.051 Apologies for Absence:

County Councillor Chris Parsons and David Clarke

15.052. Declarations of Interest and Amendments:

MB declared an interest in item 10 on the agenda – Streetlight in Home Farm Close

15.053 Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd. September 2015 were accepted as a true record, proposed MB, seconded MM all in favour

15.053 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Woolfox Wind Farm: DW confirmed that the application was still ongoing.

15.054 Police Matters

LA reported that there had been no crimes or incidents reported in the past 31 days. The last recorded crime was in June, a break in at a commercial premises. MB drew LA's attention to the demolished bollards on the Crown chicane, which had happened that morning, and he promised to report the matter to Highways. MB pointed out that the white lines had not been properly re-painted following the recent re-surfacing.

LA reported that funding had now been received for marking events across the region, and these will be taking place over the next few months, starting with the smaller villages. He would like to hold the Casterton event in the Church Hall and would appreciate PC help in setting it up. Items will be marked for no charge, and free marker pens will be available for people to do their own marking. He asked the PC to consider purchasing signs indicating that the village had been "marked" at approx. £18 each.

LA had received a complaint from a resident about parking in Ryhall Road at school pick-up time – cars frequently block entrances to driveways. He suggested that we approach Highways to request T-bars to be painted across driveways – Clerk to arrange. Meanwhile he will try to maintain a regular presence at school times.

15.055. Financial Update

Current Position: The Clerk reported expenditure so far this year of £3,123, and income of £5,476, leaving a current balance of £8,643. Payment had still not been received for grass cutting, and DW had chased the matter up with RCC.

Payments authorised: £1,416.00 to Physio-Control for the defibrillator, and £20.00 donation to CPRE.

Cheques issued since last meeting:

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17/09/2015	Eon	Streetlight Maint	100544	£	93.84
17/09/2015	Plough Env.	Grass cutting	100545	£	70.00
30/09/2015	D C Patience	Net salary	100546	£	451.88
30/09/2015	HMRC	PAYE	100547	£	113.00
30/09/2015	LRALC	Councillor Training	100548	£	35.00
30/09/2015	Eon	Electricity Supply	100549	£	39.24
04/10/2015	GCPC	Hall Hire	100550	£	30.00
04/10/2015	Plough Env.	Grass cutting – Sep	100551	£	70.00

15.056. Planning:

1. Barkers: No further firm news.
2. Trees at Home Farm: MB reported that the RCC tree man has agreed to one tree being removed and the others being pruned. The yew tree, which is rotten, might also be removed.

15.057. Defibrillator

The defibrillator and cabinet had now been received, and the Clerk had arranged for Steve Rudkin, who had installed the unit at Ryhall, to install it. He had agreed to install for no charge, as a gesture to the community, but had asked whether it might be possible to arrange a use of the hall for a training session. Clerk to investigate.

15.058. Bowling Green and Bench

The Clerk had written to David Pennell's PA, who replied that the matter was being taken up with the planners, and he would report further in the New Year. DW suggested that it would be prudent to write to all parties, including RCC, setting out its case, with particular regard to the retention of a green space leisure amenity within the village. Chairman and Clerk to work on this. AR suggested that it would be useful to try to get an indication of the level of support, when next we undertake a leaflet drop. DW also suggested that it would also be an idea to commence costings for equipment and applications for grant funding now rather than wait for the result of Burghley's deliberations.

The Clerk had written to Mr. Hinch regarding the installation of the Millenium bench, without reply. JS promised to contact Tom Parker and report back.

15.059. Any Other Business

1. Dog Bins: The Clerk had received an approach from the manager of the garage at the A1 junction, requesting that the PC consider installing a dog bin in the vicinity of the footpath leading up to its premises. She had found that people walking dogs along this path were depositing their litter in the garage's waste bins, which she felt was inappropriate.

JS felt strongly that this was not necessarily a local issue, and the perpetrators were more likely to be visitors to the OK Diner who took the opportunity to exercise their dogs along that footpath. It was agreed that the Clerk should respond to the garage in those terms.

3. Horses in the village: MB felt that it might be appropriate to arrange for

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“Horses” road signs to be installed in strategic points – there are over 50 horses in the village which are frequently to be seen on the highways. He reported a recent incident at the Crown Inn, whose window was almost smashed by a horse frightened by an unsympathetic passing vehicle. MM felt that the worst area was at the bridge over the A1 in Water Lane, a blind spot which was particularly dangerous for horse-riders. It was generally felt that additional signs would have little impact on the problem, and that there was already a plethora of signage within the village.

4. Emergency Action Plan: DW suggested that the PC should consider establishing an action plan for the village, and promised to send a copy of Ryhall’s plan to the Clerk. MM felt sure that a plan had been drawn up in the past, which probably needed reviewing and updating.

15.050. Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 9th. December at CBEC.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.