

Castle Acre Parish News

The Parish Council (PC) met on Thursday 3rd May for an extra planning meeting with two members of the public in attendance and again on 10th May for the Annual Parish Meeting, plus the usual monthly meeting, with nine in attendance.

Extra planning meeting: The Council reviewed the changes to Holkham's planning application for eleven dwellings off the Massingham Road since Cllrs originally objected to the original application in January 2018. After much discussion, Cllrs agreed Holkham had gone some way towards meeting Cllrs concerns and voted six in favour of supporting this revised application. However, the previous conditional clauses should stand, adding Tree Preservation Orders on the new trees to the west and north of the site boundary and a comprehensive landscaping plan. To see the Council's full submission, go to www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/planning.

Annual Parish Meeting. The Chairman, Martin Hickey, read out his report on the PC's activities for the year 2017-18 which was dominated by housing developments and the proposed Castle Acre Neighbourhood Plan. To read the full report go to: www.castleacre.info/parish_news.htm

Usual monthly meeting. This opened with the re-election of Mr Martin Hickey as Chairman and Mr Laurie Fisher as Vice Chairman.

Bailey Gate – new signage. You may have noticed the new Highways sign on the A1065 telling HGV's not to use the Bailey Gate for village access. The PC has been assured that other signs will be in place soon and that the posts either side of the Bailey Gate will be moved further inwards to deter wide sided vehicles. English Heritage should then replace the portcullis that was knocked off by a skip lorry

Holkham - Commons Act and field margins. Holkham has submitted a deposit application to NCC appearing to stop all public access on any of its land around Castle Acre, including the water meadows, Minns Meadow etc. Permissive paths are unaffected. The PC has expressed its alarm at such apparently draconian restrictions and is requesting urgent clarification. You may have also noticed Private Land signs popping up on some of Holkham's field margins. These signs are to deter walkers because of conditions imposed by the Higher Level Stewardship Agreement, designed to assist wildlife conservation. Please respect these signs.

Parking. A recurring subject over the years, parking and traffic remain emotive issues throughout the village, especially as car ownership per household is increasing. Although road side parking can reduce traffic speeds in some places, on other streets over parking is causing great difficulties. The PC would urge residents to show consideration for other road users by using their garages and off-road parking spaces wherever possible.

Recycling Centre, Ostrich car park. Please remember that any recycling put into these bins, makes additional money for the village to improve or repair village amenities. Please collect your old newspapers, magazines, bottles and textiles and put them into the appropriate bin – all your recycling needs in one location – IT'S EASY!

To view past Council Minutes and finances, go to www.castleacre.info/parish_news.htm
The next PC meeting is at 7.30pm on **Thursday 14 June** at the village hall.

Linda Roast. 755319

Email: linda.roast@btopenworld.com