

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 12 July 2018

Present: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman Mr Hubbard (TH)
 Mrs H Breach (HB) Mrs S Moister (SM)
 Mr M Tate (MT)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk).

Apologies: Mr G Middleton (County Councillor), Mr J Moriarty (JM) (Borough Councillor),
Mr S Allen (SA), Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice–Chairman, Mr N Patrick (NP), Ms C Williams (CW)

- 35. Minutes of PC meeting Thursday 14 June 2018** – proposed by Mrs Sheila Moister,
Mr Tim Hubbard seconded.
Minutes of PC planning meeting Thursday 21 June 2018 – proposed by Mr Tim Hubbard,
Mr Martin Tate seconded.

36. Actions from Previous Meetings:

28. Bailey Gate – the second restricted access warning sign is in place before Jubilee Bridge. Highways agreed for the posts on the Stocks Green side to be moved further inwards. Once in place, the Clerk to request that EH reinstates the Portcullis.

49. County Council Highways funding – the Highways improvements requested in the 2017/18 funding round were rejected. However, our NCC Cllr Middleton will support a bid in the 2018/19 funding round as well as promoting the PC’s bid for funds for a new bus shelter from the 2018/19 Parish Partnership Scheme .

51. Replacement street sign at Pales Green – after months of procrastination by the Borough Council officers, MH has demanded immediate action to replace the damaged road sign, particularly as it is in the Conservation Area.

Newton Road bridge flooding – while the drain cover has been lowered, the channels have still not been dug out.

54. Minns Meadow walk boardwalk – Norfolk Rivers Trust will install the new surface wire on 16 August. A resident volunteer will replace the rotten top handrail and will help lay the wire.

79. Repainting seat and litter bin at Ford – To be done in early September.

99. Litter bin by village hall – NP was thanked for installing the bin before the village fete. BCKLWN has added this bin to its collection schedule. The litter team is struggling to keep up with disposing of the litter bags as the combination of sunny weather and fish & chip boxes is leading to exceptional amounts of litter with overflowing bins. Visitors are not taking their litter home when the Castle bin is full, despite being requested. The litter team is asking for steps to be taken. Agreed the Clerk should contact BCKLWN requesting their litter specialist assess what options might be available.

104. New brick, flint and pantile bus shelter – SM has contacted builders for quotes. MH suggested a builder at Sporle who might be cheaper. NCC’s Parish Partnership Scheme is an option to pay for 50% of the costs plus any CIL payments which must go towards

infrastructure. In the interim SM proposed to renovate the existing shelter to get it through the winter and provide a bench for waiting passengers. She presented a £220 quote from a resident which was agreed. Some Cllrs suggested that the blue felt roof might be replaced with something more suitable. On completion, the Clerk will advise residents through the Nar Valley News that the PC is looking at grants for a new, more permanent shelter for 2019.

67. New Sewerage Line –Anglian Water has confirmed in writing that a new pumping station will be installed to replace the sewage treatment plant on the Water Meadows and the sewerage will be pumped to Swaffham. The Clerk to ask Anglian Water for a site plan as the PC has not been advised of any planning application.

11. Enlarged directional sign at top of Pyes Lane to include the Priory – Highways confirmed that the owner of the tourist site must pay for a brown sign. The Clerk to contact Historic England.

18. On-street parking in village – traffic risk assessment update – MH contacted a traffic consultant from Alpha Parking who will make a site visit in August. Funding could be obtained through the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. HB to supply details of local consultants.

27. On-street parking on corner of Spa shop – after consulting with Highways on solutions to overcome the dangers of blocked sightlines at the junction, MH advised a zebra crossing would cost £25,000. Highways would support a two way convex mirror opposite the junction. Yellow lines would require an expensive traffic order. MT suggested that changing the nature of the junction would be a permanent solution, perhaps to a mini roundabout. MH to investigate further.

28. Placing the Parish noticeboard on the side wall of the Spa shop – MH has urged NP and SA to put this up asap.

Registration of rights of way and open access on Holkham Land around Castle Acre - John Roff is working hard to encourage signatories – 47 volunteers took away forms at the Village Fete. John wishes to attend a Local Council Advisory Service footpath workshop at a cost of £40. Agreed. No response yet from Holkham on open access land around CA.

Car park sign at Ostrich – update - Highways have been reminded about costing the agreed signage.

30. Dog fouling posters – the volunteer litter picking team has now put these up around the village. Cllrs expressed their thanks.

33 Back Lane - preserving the nature reserve grass verges - both Holkham and the Ball Committee have been informed. The Ball Committee has acknowledged by email.

Cutting path to Tipple Wood - TH to check the current status.

Borough cutting of grass verges – PC to take over? - the Clerk sent a map indicating all the verges around Foxes Meadow etc. which are cut by BCKLWN for their confirmation but no reply yet received.

Overgrown Nar Valley Way path – the Clerk reported this through the NCC website

Damaged road sign South Acre Road – just needs twisting round.

37. Health & Safety matters (including tree report)

No matters arising. Tree report in hand.

38. Matters requested by Councillors

Amended 5 year Action Plan – Councillors discussed some further amendments/clarifications to the Plan, as presented last March. TH suggested a more proactive approach from the PC on communicating with residents – perhaps a leaflet drop with key issues every 6 months. TH asked for time to consider others possible actions. SM suggested promoting new business opportunities as well as a review of empty village properties. The Clerk to email the owner of the Old School to ask what progress has occurred on his development plans. Taking all these points into consideration, MH will present a further amended Action Plan at the September PC meeting.

39. Planning

18/01053/F proposed dwelling adjacent to Lime Kiln Cottages, Cuckstool Lane – amended site plan and Heritage, Design and Access statement for PC to review.

Councillors discussed the plans and all agreed to Object and to submit to the Borough Council:

‘Castle Acre Parish Council (CAPC) now objects to both the amended plans, as submitted, and to the original application, as the Council cannot accept Highways recommendations, dated 02/07/18; and because the developer has not taken into account CAPC’s key conditions in his new submission.

1) Highways. Because of the limited turning space in Cuckstool Lane, Highways’ proposal for a turning head to an adoptable highways standard will lead to the urbanisation of this area which is a unique site adjacent to the Castle. It will have a detrimental visual impact on the area and could even become a parking area for visitors to the Castle. It is unclear whose land the proposed turning circle is on - Historic England's or the applicant. Furthermore, the parking area to the west of the proposed dwelling is not large enough to be able to drive in, turn around and come out without reversing - a current planning authority rule.

2) CAPC’s key conditions are:

The boundary to the west has not been assessed by Historic England. The boundary needs confirming before any further submissions.

The current proposed dwelling still shows two dormers and a skylight at the front with two skylights on the back. To keep the design in keeping with the traditional buildings in the area, these skylights should be changed to dormer windows.

The special care requested in setting and softening the proposed development into the landscape has not been taken into account and, in fact, the boundary hedging on the revised plans has been reduced along the east side. Furthermore, the dwelling illustrated on the revised plan, is now situated against the road with no space for a softening hedge along the front. This will lead to more visual urbanisation of the area. If the application is agreed, CAPC would like a condition that a boundary softening hedge be used to screen the building and a covenant put in place that it cannot be removed. The site is an important area within Castle Acre and needs very special attention to keep it unique and not impose on the historic monument.

The site area has been reduced because of the northern boundary with the historic monument but the footprint of the house remains the same as the previous application, whereas it should be reduced.

CAPC's now gives weight to the planning officer's statement ' *At present the proposal does not appear to be a direct form of enabling development, the applicant is not Historic England, rather more an individual member of the public. However site clearance can be done without the need to provide a dwelling, thus the dwelling itself needs to provide some form of public benefit on its own to satisfy paragraph 134 of the NPPF.*'

18/01213/F. Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 16/01823/F, amend plans at Fiddlers Hill Cottage

Castle Acre Parish Council supported the original planning application for the extension to this dwelling. The new plans show no substantial changes. Cllrs considers the further blending to the original building as a positive aesthetic. All agreed to Support.

40. Correspondence

Poor resurfacing of Back Lane and Priory Road - residents are upset by the poor quality application of the new surfacing. MH to bring this to Highways' attention.

Water pressure in the village - MT acknowledged that at certain times his water pressure is significantly down . TH stated that Castle Acre's water is on the end of a long supply from North Pickenham. Cllrs asked for a representative of Anglian Water to attend a PC meeting come in to explain how the system works. The Clerk to organise.

Speeding vehicles along Newton Road - the resident who has kindly taken over the SAM2 is having difficulty in getting any speed statistics from Sporle and suggests that Castle Acre become self- sufficient and buy its own connection lead to the unit for £50. TH to find out if his son can help and possibly has a lead.

Abandoned vehicle on Stocks Green - vehicle has been reported and Borough Council is set to deal with it in what they call "the usual way".

41. Reports

Highways – nothing to report.

School – no report this month.

Village Hall – HB reported: The Shackleton Trio is playing this Saturday. The Hall garden will be spruced up.

CAPFA – MH reported – the Village Fete was a success and raised £1,686 profit after deductions from the gross revenue of £2,773. CAPFA is actively considering different new play equipment schemes.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – MT reported: drafting elements and checking to see if evidence bases are sufficient or whether professional studies should be commissioned.

BCKLWN – no report.

County Council – no report.

42. Accounts to be paid

Mr Tim Hubbard proposed, Mr Martin Tate seconded payments.

ACCOUNTS to be paid:

Berrymans Glass Recycling Ltd (URM UK Ltd)	£ 34.20 (£5.70 VAT)
E.on Energy (electricity)	£ 85.45 (£4.07 VAT)
K&M Lighting (Bailey Street photocell)	£ 78.00 (£13.00 VAT)
Linda Roast (Clerk's wages April to June 2018)	£ 556.00
Paul Slocombe (dog waste signs)	£ 27.90 (£4.68 VAT)

CAPFA (payment for fete footway registration stall) £ 15.00

This payment to be paid when new cheque book arrives.

43. Village Maintenance

Pot holes in Pyes Lane and De Warenne – completed. HB reported a pot hole at the top of Pyes Lane. The Clerk to report.

Village Hall and traffic cones – the Clerk confirmed that the traffic cones in the garden are for village hall and general use and were donated by a parishioner.

Footpath around Priory Field off Common Lane – this is very overgrown. It was cut by Holkham last year. The Clerk to contact. The defective replacement stile has still not been improved. The Clerk to chase.

44. Public Question Time – no questions.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

The next full Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 13 September at 7.30pm.