



Castle Acre

Parish Council

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Five year Village Action Plan - 2016 to 2021
(adopted June 2016 – amended and approved November 2018)

- Undertake a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Encourage building of low cost, affordable housing, either social or shared equity, family friendly. Encourage Holkham to donate a parcel of agricultural or brownfield land for an exception site.
- Ensure the housing development at Massingham Road is to the design standards and landscaping expected under the Borough's current Local Plan and to Conservation Area guidelines.
- Encourage start up of more clubs and societies and promote the existing village groups. Youth Club?
- Maintain support for the through traffic scheme (TTS) – speeding, signage, HGV/tractor usage. Continue to lobby for gritting North Street and St James' Green.
- Continue to encourage re-cycling facilities in the village, through information and promotion.
- Street lights: upgrade to low usage LED bulbs (now 18 out of 34 at November 18) and, after consultation, extend the number of lights going off at midnight from the current eleven to fourteen. Support a 'dark skies' policy for any new build.
- Encourage the further planting of native flowers on village Greens/verges/entrance points, as recommended by Hort: Soc:
- Work in conjunction with Holkham on the management of the Priory Precinct Meadow.
- Encourage the promotion of the village as a heritage tourist attraction in cooperation with Historic England and Norfolk Tourism.
- Encourage and support CAPFA in seeking funding for new/upgraded play equipment (£6,670 in reserve funds).

- Maintain a regular inspection of village trees on parish owned and leased land and carry out remedial work as deemed necessary.
- Support the legal change of the highway status of the South Acre Road, after the turning into Blind Lane, from adopted to un-adopted with restricted entry to vehicles. Same restrictions on the other side of the ford.
- Maintain the amenities and surfaces around South Acre ford.
- Encourage formation of a youth committee to be involved with the Council.
- Set up an Emergency response co-ordinator and team in village.
- Encourage & support local village businesses. Ensure local businesses are asked to quote for any Parish Council commissions.
- Through communications and signage, ensure an orderly parking of vehicles in the village centre at times of church funerals/weddings.

Additional Action Points from 08/11/18

- Find an alternative location for overflow parking in the village centre. Undertake a traffic/on-street parking survey.
- Convert the former basketball area on the playing field into a MUGA (inc: tennis court).
- Encourage/promote the use of public transport and look at additional routes (e.g. Fakenham?). Publicise the Community Car Scheme (link with the active one in Great Massingham?).
- Fundraise for a new bus shelter on Massingham Road.
- Support a Castle Acre Heritage project (HLF bid).
- Ask Highways for a regular maintenance programme of drain clearing in key flood prone areas – Foxes Meadow, Orchard Lane, High Street, bottom of Bailey Street/Jubilee Bridge, Cuckstool Lane.
- Promote new business opportunities.
- Encourage Holkham to consider converting outbuildings at Manor Farm, some into residential, some into small business workshops?
- Secure an agreement with Holkham to maintain open access over their lands close to the River Nar, convert existing footpaths into PROWs, register the Water Meadows and Minns Meadow as 'Green Open Spaces' and, potentially, lease these lands from Holkham.
- Encourage all residential properties in the village to be fully lived in and not left empty for any length of time.

- Take a more proactive approach on communicating with residents – perhaps a leaflet drop with key issues every 6 months.
- Foster a sense of community and involvement in village matters.
- Set up a group of willing volunteers to undertake minor DIY around the village on behalf of CAPC.
- As a longer term aspiration, seek funding for a trod along the south side of Newton Road from East Green to Sandy Lane. Mow and maintain a grass path as an interim measure.