

Castle Acre Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Libby Firth, 7 Sandles Court, Back Lane, Castle Acre, Norfolk PE32 2XF
Telephone: 07825 229345 Email: libbyofirth@gmail.com

Minuted record of Parish Council business conducted by circular e-mail during April 2020.

Cllrs contacted:

Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman
S Allen (SA),
Mrs H Breach (HB)
Mrs S Moister (SM)

Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman,
Mr T Hubbard (TH),
Mr N Patrick (NP)
Mr M Tate (MT)

Mr J Moriarty (JM) (Borough Councillor)

Guided by: Mrs L Firth (Clerk)

84. Minutes of PC meeting on Thursday 12 March 2020

LF proposed approval of the Minutes, TH seconded.

85. Actions from previous meetings

62. Newton Road speed checks

No further developments due to Coronavirus lockdown restrictions. SAM2 to be re-installed once traffic is flowing freely again.

28. Re-installing Bailey Gate portcullis and Bailey Street warning sign

MH and SA to install the warning sign on Bailey Street when the Coronavirus lockdown regulations allow. Noted Highways has installed a further width restriction repeater sign at the bottom of the street. Once Highways has completed the previously agreed changes to the traffic signs on the A1065, the Clerk will contact English Heritage to advise that the portcullis can be safely reinstalled.

20. Extra litter bin on playing field

No new update. NP to enlarge the picket housing to accommodate the new bin.

41. Drainage in High Street - update

MT advised by e-mail: there has been no follow up by way of Anglian Water (AW) letting us know if the work was successful or not. I will follow up on the drainage to ascertain what is happening. To my knowledge they did not flush it through to check the water flowed freely. AW removed the BT ductwork and cabling from the surface water drain and made good, they also fitted a new manhole cover a bit further down the system towards Bailey Street. This was one that could not be moved, previously it was stuck and as a result hindering drain inspection and clearance.

55. Repair surface of alleyway off Foxes Meadow

JM is following up with the Borough Council regarding their ownership of the alleyway and the repair work required. JM to feed back to Clerk.

55. Pales Green memorial bench and signage on the Green.

Clerk has placed an order for the public access sign with Limelight Signs Ltd. Clerk to remind villagers through the Nar Valley News, once this publication re-starts, that the Green is open to the public, no dogs allowed. A local family would like to place a memorial bench on the Green. Clerk to contact the family to progress the issue

61. Damaged gate East Green. Holkham confirmed last December that their fencing contractor is scheduled in Castle Acre in the new year and will add repairing the gate to his list. Not repaired by 23 April. Clerk to chase.

66. Pot holes Foxes Meadow

No new update. Clerk confirmed in March that the pot holes on Foxes Meadow outside no.36 and 84, on Massingham Road outside no.91, plus several potholes on Archers and Orchard Lanes, were all reported to Highways and are scheduled to be repaired in the next six weeks. Now delayed due to Coronavirus restrictions. Clerk to chase up if not done by the end of May.

72. Tree in river behind Ranrevir,

Castle Acre Fishing Club has offered to cut up the tree and remove. Not yet actioned as at 23 April.

76. Debris remaining from a traffic incident near Jubilee Bridge

The carriageway is cleared. BT has replaced the damaged telephone pole while Newton Road was closed. Highways were unable to arrange for the damaged barrier opposite to be repaired at the same time. In the works programme for the bridge department.

Ground level outbuildings at The Water Tower

Enquiry from local resident who questioned when the unsightly out-buildings will be hidden by planted hedges, as outlined in the first approved variation to the planning application conditions. JM has asked the Borough Council's Enforcement Team to investigate.

86. Health & Safety matters

Broken 30mph repeater sign on North Street, outside herbs Cottage

Clerk has reported this to Highways.

87. Matters requested by Councillors

77. British Legion 8 May VE day celebrations

The government has moved the May celebrations to be held jointly with the August 75th VJ Day. PC to monitor developments, subject to ongoing Coronavirus movement restrictions.

Defibrillator & CPR training evening.

Clerk to advertise the opportunity for further Defibrillator & CPR training in the Nar Valley News asking for those interested to contact the Clerk. It is a two hour training course for the total cost of £200. Once numbers are known, a cost per head can be calculated, with location, time and venue to be arranged. No action until Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

Free trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust

HB reported that The Woodland Trust are offering free packs of tree saplings to those who apply now, for delivery in November. CA school is already aware. Cllrs suggested the information should be shared in the PC's Nar Valley News report once this publication re-starts.

Neighbourhood Plan

The deadline for residents and stakeholders' responses is 27 April.

Holkham

MH reported by e-mail to Cllrs on his recent telephone call with James Bracey (JB). JB confirmed that Holkham still expects to start the Massingham Road housing development in September but he has yet to have the £3.0 million project signed off by top management. JB also highlighted the other key consideration – will there still be buyers for the properties when they go on the market? He will keep the PC posted.

Holkham has still not replaced their surveyor, Hermione, who was handling the PC's request to extend the number of public rights of way across their land. JB appears sympathetic to the Council's proposal and promised to push it through to NCC to activate. Given NCC staff is either reduced or assigned to other duties, this may take quite some time.

88. Planning –

20/00415/F – Single storey rear/side extension at 65, Bailey Street

By circular e-mail, Cllrs signalled their support for this application.

89. Correspondence

None

90. Reports

Highways – no new update

School – no new update

Village hall – no new update

CAPFA– the fundraising committee obtained three quotations for both the new play equipment and the junior play area. They have now selected the best competitive supplier who has included two adult exercise machines for free. The supplier's product quality is excellent and fully guaranteed. The grant provider has been informed. Their funding agreement will take up to four weeks to be issued. The committee still expects to instruct the supplier to proceed by June, subject to lockdown restrictions, and aiming for an installation deadline of September 2020.

Borough Council – no report

County Council – no report.

91. Accounts to be paid

Berrymans Glass Recycling Ltd (URM UK Ltd)	£37.20 (£6.20 VAT)
E.on Energy (electricity)	£tbc (VAT)
BCKLWN annual dog bin disposal charge (budget £726)	£646.46 (£107.47 VAT)
Limelight Signs Ltd, Pales Green gate sign	£16.75 (£2.79 VAT)
NALC membership renewal (budget £195)	£185.10
Reimbursement to CAPFA 2020/21 PF insurance premium (budget £1,435)	£1508.06
Norfolk Rivers Drainage Board annual rate	£26.68
K&M Lighting Services, 9017 Foxes Meadow	£78.00 (£13.00 VAT)
BHIB Insurance Brokers –PC annual insurance premium (budget £385)	£385.98(VAT)
Clerk expense - printer ink	£60.48 (£10.08 VAT)
Clerk expense - stamps	£8.40
Clerk's salary Jan – March	£636.50

Approval of accounts to be paid proposed by LF and seconded by TH by circular e-mail.

92. Village Maintenance

Clearance work on Further Pond Close

Concerns were raised by Cllrs over the clearance work on Further Pond Close and an unauthorised container placed onsite. MH has reported this to Borough Council's Enforcement Team who will investigate when their officers are relieved of their current Coronavirus staff duties.

Stocks Green Village Sign rot repair

Following a recent clean of the village sign, it was reported that the wood rot is severe and needs addressing urgently. Clerk to seek quotes for a new sign or repair work. Also to research the television show 'Repair Shop' BBC2 which may be interested in such a project, in the expectation that this might subsidise the cost of a new sign.

Next Parish Council meeting

The next full Parish Council meeting was scheduled for on Thursday 14 May but has been postponed to Thursday 21 May in anticipation of some easing of the Coronavirus restrictions. Should this not occur, key decisions such as election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman and co-option of a new Parish Cllr will be considered at the regular PC meeting scheduled for Thursday 11 June, again subject to any continuing Coronavirus lockdown restrictions.