

CASTLE ACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 9 February 2017:

Present: Mr M Hickey (MH) Chairman Mrs Sheila Moister (SM)
 Ms C Williams (CW) Mr N Patrick (NP)
 Mr Martin Tate (MT)

In attendance: Ms L Roast (Clerk), J Moriarty (Borough Councillor), and two members of the public.

Apologies: Mr L Fisher (LF) Vice-Chairman, Mr S Allen (SA), Mr T Hubbard (TH),
 Mrs H Breach (HB)

99 Public Question Time – Mrs Anne Loch spoke about her intention to record for the Parish Council a timeline about the village trees of interest which will include the five lime trees on Stocks Green and the Millennium tree. This was planted on the playing field by the Horticultural Society and she had nurtured it since its planting. Its protective fence could probably be removed by 2020. Mrs Loch also suggested that perhaps the Horticultural Society could prepare a document on the history of all the village trees. Mrs Loch noted that the copper beech at the entrance to the playing field had been planted by George Sandle. Mrs Loch would like to donate a sum of money for the husbandry of both the five Stocks Green limes and the Millennium tree. The sum to be ring fenced in the PC's accounts for this purpose. MH thanked Mrs Loch for her very generous offer and that she should speak to the Clerk about arranging her donation.

100 Minutes of PC meeting Thursday 12 January 2017
Proposed by Mrs Sheila Moister, seconded by Mr Neil Patrick. Agreed.

101 Actions from previous meeting:

- 28 Bailey Gate damage and signage** – Historic England advised that the portcullis plans are not yet signed off, although the budget for the installation is approved. Highways' proposals for improved signage are still not available. One of the Bailey Gate posts is leaning over again – the Clerk to report.
- 48 Police speed checks** – speed checks scheduled for February – the Clerk to be onsite.
- 55 Loss of Parish Rights of Way** – Holkham is not convinced that they should re-instate the path off Orchard Lane as the land is now farmed as one field. A site meeting is planned for February with Holkham and MH attending.
- 85 War Memorial ownership** – British Legion confirms that the memorial is owned by CAPC. The Clerk to add it to the CAPC asset list.
- Superfast Broadband** – two cabinets are in position. The third cabinet is scheduled to be placed on Stocks Green but the decision has not been finally agreed by Historic England.
- PCC wedding/funeral parking consultation** – Email received from David Bowman, Church Warden, which was read out and his points noted. MH advised he had already spoken with Fr Stuart Nairn about a meeting between CAPC and the PCC – the date to be confirmed. The Clerk and SM to attend.

102 Health & Safety – two more defective street lights reported: on Newton Road by The Old Foundry and at St James Green/Massingham Road junction. The timing of their repair to be considered in light of the Council's immediate budgetary constraints. PC tree inspections - TBC.

103 Matters requested by Councillors

Pollarding Stocks Green trees – arrangements and publicity – three gangs from CP Trees will start pollarding the lime trees on Monday 13 February from 8.0am. The degree of pollarding are marked on images of each tree for guidance. Highways road closure signs and cones are due for delivery by Friday 10 February. Residents of Stocks Green have received a letter asking them to park elsewhere during working hours. The explanatory circular in the Nar Valley News to all village residents has been well received so far. TH had confirmed previously that there is no cost for any surplus wood or chippings from the trees, apart from a delivery charge. Aon, CAPC's insurance company, is aware of the proposed work.

Date of October Parish Council meeting – MH proposed that the October meeting date is moved forward one week to Thursday 5 October. All agreed.

104 Planning

Planning application 17/00161/RM: detached two bedroom bungalow and pair of detached garages serving both proposed dwelling and existing dwelling at 75 Foxes Meadow – MH clarified that the Parish Council had objected to the first application in August 2015 (given outline permission) citing concerns that the existing privet hedge may be removed during construction (it is a known nesting site for starlings). Also that it is a small area of land for a bungalow, the site is an unnatural shape and it is another infill along Back Lane/Foxes Meadow. Considering the detailed application, Cllrs agreed to support the plans providing:

- 1) The roof line is level with the neighbouring bungalow (200 Foxes Meadow) by moving the dwelling further back into the plot.
- 2) A preservation order to be put on the hedge

Proposed planning meeting 23 February – two planning applications were received after the February Agenda was issued. The Clerk to send out an Agenda for a special planning meeting on 23 February.

Report from MH on his meeting with Holkham about its Massingham Road development – MH met James Bracey and Henry Barringer and he was pleased to report that it is 90% certain that Holkham will not sell the land to a developer. Instead it will design and build the eleven houses in partnership with a builder and in full consultation with the PC. Architects Lucan Hickman and Smith will be briefed on what the PC expect to be exemplar designs for three to four bedroom dwellings. Given 'at least' eleven houses are approved for that part of Holkham's land, MH suggested the scheme might include a couple of smaller houses/bungalows that locals could afford to buy in addition to the two statutory affordable social houses. Holkham noted CAPC's desire for a minimum of light pollution. The service road will be laid during the summer of 2017. Building work could start by autumn 2017. MH also raised Holkham's site allocation submission to the Borough Council's extended Local Plan (to 2036) on the remaining part of the field, noting that 25 dwellings was rather ambitious and may run counter to the outcomes of the village's Neighbourhood Plan scheduled for adoption by September 2018. James Bracey also referred to their intention to convert some of the semi-derelict buildings at Lodge Farm into dwellings - the existing farmhouse into three dwellings, the barn into two. Work on their approved planning application to convert the Smithy will start at the same time.

Update from JM on extension to Borough Local Plan to 2036 – JM confirmed that pressure to extend the Local Plan is coming from central Government. The Local Plan team from BCKLWN will be viewing and considering all the option sites put forward. The Borough

Council must keep five years' housing supply but resist including the words 'at least' in their document, preferring a range of dwellings within certain parameters i.e. 'from' and 'to'. JM explained that central Government housing policies are changing all the time. He confirmed that Neighbourhood Plans cannot deviate from the housing targets set by the Borough's Local Plan.

Cllrs noted the Borough's recent Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and its code of practice involving local communities in planning for the future through the preparation of the extended Local Plan, other planning policy documents and the determination of planning applications. Cllrs also noted that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is applicable for any new development from 15 February 2017 and set at £60 m2.

105 Correspondence

Summer Ball 2018 – new location – Holkham has offered their field adjacent to the Priory as the new venue in 2018 and at no cost. The Ball Committee must provide insurance cover and has asked for the PC's formal agreement to the change of venue. Cllrs unanimously agreed. The Clerk to issue a confirmation to the committee.

Police community engagement e-mail – Email read out: "Our priority is to have increased contact with all our Parish Councils and to encourage two-way communication with you as we are aware that you currently do not receive regular information from us. We want to change this. From next month onwards, you will receive a monthly update with crime figures for your Parish which will be grouped together with a small number of neighbouring Parishes. You will also receive information about what is happening in your area as well as your neighbourhood's priorities".

Dyke Hills – tree work – local consultation – The Borough Council's Tree Officer has approved the tree thinning programme and Gus Stafford Allen is now waiting for the final consent from the Forestry Commission after receiving approval from Norfolk County Council (plus some funding), the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.

Mr Stafford Allen states: 'The Forestry Commission have asked if there has been any local consultation on the proposed removal of dead, dangerous or deformed trees that are likely to fall and therefore damage the Scheduled Ancient Monument when they uproot themselves. I understand the reason the Forestry Commission needs to be consulted is because the proposal is to fell trees with a timber volume that exceeds the minimum requirement for consultation and consent'. MH proposed that CAPC gives its consent to this work. All agreed. The Clerk to inform the village in her March Nar Valley News report.

Large vehicles – Archer Lane - sugar beet lorries have historically made quite a mess of village road and verges. The lorries are not taking any care when turning from St James Green into Archer Lane - a route they probably don't even need to take. A resident has noted some of the company owned lorries that are allegedly responsible - Abram's Bulk Haulage and E&SJ Walpole Ltd and asks the PC to take action. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should write to these companies with a copy to the Road Haulage Association and to Holkham. CW cited a resident's suggestion of putting a beet pad just off A1065 at the former wormery site which would reduce the volume of lorries coming through the village.

106 Reports

Highways – Highways' work to relieve the flooding on Archer Lane by lengthening the ditch has still not started. Orchard Lane surface still not leveled. Pyes Lane drain is scheduled for work. South Acre Road trees – awaiting recommendations from Holkham.

Castle Acre School – no report.

Village Hall – four live music concerts scheduled over the year starting Friday 7 April. MH explained Holkham’s charity arm can support old building repairs/restoration which might be applicable to the village hall?

CAPFA – further investigations are proceeding into the blocked drainage pipes under the playing field. Sunday 9 July is penciled in for the village Fete. Preliminary fete plans are in place. CAPFA is seeking £100 sponsorship from local businesses to cover basic costs, with one pledge already received. The recent Disco made £400 at the bar.

Neighbourhood Plan – MT reported that the Neighbourhood Plan boundary area has been formally adopted. A draft timeline is in place that indicates an adoption date of September 2018 which includes five months slippage. The target is to send out and collect the village questionnaires by 21 July 2017, the last day of the summer school term. During the next few weeks, the steering group will be taking all necessary steps to ensure the final Plan meets the Borough Council’s Health Check. MT will put an article in the March edition of the Nar Valley News, both directing people to the new Facebook page and the village website for background information on Neighbourhood Plans and advertising the pre-questionnaire public meeting with residents and consultees on Tuesday 2 May. James Bracey from Holkham may attend. CW suggested including a questionnaire in the Book Bag children take home from school which would engage 46 families.

Borough Council – Mr Jim Moriarty – if the Neighbourhood plan is ready and adopted in time for the second stage of Massingham Road development, the CIL levy will be in place.

BCKLWN’s Tree Officer is coming to village to check the lime trees. Confirmation that UK Power Network has the authority to override any Conversation Area restrictions that may apply to tree work. The Borough is looking at revitalising recycling as recycling rates are going down. BCKLWN will send out more information to Parishes about the Green Points Scheme, offering prizes of £100 to £3,000 to encourage villages to recycle. If food waste goes into the green bin, the whole bin is contaminated and has to go to land fill. MH equally stressed that the Borough should encourage residents not to put newspapers and glass in their green bin but to use the village recycling bins that earns the PC a gross £1,400 pa.

107 Accounts

The following cheques were signed - payments were proposed for approval by Ms Charlie Williams, Mr Neil Patrick seconded.

Berrymans Glass Recycling Ltd (URM UK Ltd)	£34.90 (£2.42 VAT)
E.on Energy (electricity)	£73.58 (£3.50 VAT)

108 Village Maintenance

Road sweeping/clearance of main village roads. – BCKLWN’s contractor will be sweeping the village roads in about three weeks time.

Repair to damaged Pales Green sign – reported to BCKLWN who will be chasing the lorry driver responsible to pay for the repair.

Drains – High Street and Ostrich drains have been flushed.

Bus Stop fence / pot hole – NP offered to pin the wire fence in place. Pot hole reported near the Bus Stop.

Textile bin – the donation value of rags has diminished. CW looking at new bin supplier. MH to forward a list of companies supplied by Borough..

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

The next full Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 9 March at 7.30pm in the village hall.