

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JULY 2013**

Present:

Councillor D Martin (Chair)

Councillors B Nutter, B Robertson, Mrs V Robertson and B Turnbull

Also Present:

PCSO I Goodwin, Mrs A Moon – ACE and Mrs K Martin

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs Wilmer and County Councillors R Crute and L Pounder.

2. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Goodwin explained that since the last meeting, 14 incidents had been reported comprising suspicious activity, anti-social behavior nuisance, noise nuisance and vehicle crime.

Community Speedwatch had been active on Stockton Road, 61 vehicles had been recorded and 3 letters would be sent to motorists who had been going excessively fast.

Crime was up in the section by 35% but was due to crimes committed in the Blackhall area. Incidents were up by 3%.

Members were reminded of the online PACT on 29 July from 5.30-7.30pm. Blackhall PACT would be held on 14 August 2013 at Blackhall Resource Centre.

Councillor Martin advised that there had been some fly tipping of garden waste in the Stockton Road area and the resident had now put a lock on his gate. Some resident were also feeling vulnerable due to general trespass in rural areas.

PCSO Goodwin explained that youths and trespass was a PACT priority and he would patrol those areas that youths generally congregated.

Councillor Mrs Robertson advised that cars were speeding through The Village. A speed visor sign had been erected which records speeds as traffic passed through.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

3. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **20 JUNE 2013**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Minute No 6 refers – Councillor Crute had referred the key for the access gate to the estates department at DCC. Councillor Robertson had supplied the exact location for the gate and this was being pursued by Estates.

Minute No 10 refers – The Clerk advised that Mrs Pearce, Principal AAP Co-ordinator had confirmed that she could attend the meeting on 19 September 2013.

Minute No 13 refers – The Clerk advised that the Environmental Warden had visited the recycling bin and it was not owned by the Council, nor was it located on County Council land. Discussion ensued and it was suggested that The Clerk contact the County Council to ascertain if the bin could be removed.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) New Premises Licence Application – Castle Eden Golf Club

The Clerk advised that an application for a new premises licence had been received for Castle Eden Golf Club. Last date for representations was 31 July 2013. County Councillors Crute and Pounder had no objection to the application.

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the application.

- (ii) Notice of Consultation on Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area by Monk Hesleden Parish Council

The Clerk advised that DCC had received an application from Monk Hesleden Parish Council for the designation of a 'Neighbourhood Area'. The purpose of the application was to seek approval to define a specific area within which the Parish Council intends to undertake future neighbourhood planning activities.

Councillor B Robertson offered to research the rationale behind the application.

RESOLVED that Councillor B Robertson research the rationale behind the application.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The County Councillors had submitted their apologies and their feedback from the last meeting had been incorporated into earlier items.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7. PLANNING PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to the following applications from Durham County Council:

- i) PL/5/2013/0247 Agricultural Building to Store Wet Grain & Machinery at Catchgate Farm, Wingate TS27 4SZ for Mr I Bird

No objection was raised although Members commented that if Planning Officers felt it necessary then some form of screening could be a condition to reduce the visual effect of the development.

RESOLVED that no objection be raised and comments be made regarding the possibility of screening to reduce the visual effect of the development.

- (ii) PL/5/2013/0211 Repointing Window Stones & door Stones at Holly Tree House, The Village, Castle Eden TS27 4SL

RESOLVED that no objection or comment be made.

8. FINANCE REPORT

- (i) Balance at Bank

Balance at Bank as at 20 June 2013	£13,220.00
<u>Receipts</u>	
Interest	£1.65
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Alphagraphics (A1 posters for Parish Plan)	<u>£120.00</u>
Balance at Bank	£13,101.65

9. VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) Parish Plan

Amanda Moon circulated Action Plan summary showing the responsible Parish Councillors for either their leading or supporting action.

(ii) ACE Report

Amanda Moon circulated the key points from the last ACE meeting and gave an update on progress. It was explained that Brass 2013 had been supported by Blackhall Youth Band. Members suggested that a donation of £100 be given to Blackhall Youth Band as it contained some members from the community.

Councillor Turnbull commented that the Mama Mia night had been a very good night but felt that consideration should be given to having the hall fitted with some form of blackout as the film was at times difficult to see.

RESOLVED that a donation of £100 be given to Blackhall Youth Band.

(iii) NHS Consultation

Councillor Nutter circulated the NHS Consultation on how best to ensure people have access to the safest and best quality acute medical care they need in the lead up to the opening of the new hospital in 2017.

RESOLVED that this be discussed at the next meeting.

10. FOI PUBLICATION SCHEME

The Freedom of Information Act requires every public authority to have a publication scheme and to publish information covered by the scheme.

The scheme must set out the commitment to make certain classes of information routinely available, such as policies and procedures, minutes of meetings, annual reports and financial information.

A copy of the draft FOI Publication Scheme was circulated and discussed.

RESOLVED that the FOI Publication Scheme be adopted.

11. MAINTENANCE OF WAR MEMORIAL

Concerns had been raised regarding the maintenance of the war memorial. Mr Brian Tough had paid his gardener at his own expense to tidy the area around the war memorial. There were other remedial works that needed to be considered in the future.

It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Tough and a quote be requested from his gardener to cut the grass every two weeks.

RESOLVED that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Tough and enquire if a quote could be obtained to cut the grass at the war memorial every two weeks.

12. **PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

The Clerk advised that Mr P Carter had resigned his position of Parish Councillor. A Notice of Vacancy had been posted on the noticeboards and website. If a request for an election was not received, then it was suggested that the Parish Council advertise for co-option of the vacancy.

RESOLVED that if a request for an election was not received, the Parish Council advertise for co-option of the vacancy.

13. **AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR**

Councillor Robertson explained that a presentation had been given in January 2013 on Community Responders and the provision of an AED within communities. It would benefit the community if an AED could be located within the Village Hall. He suggested that he could contact NE Ambulance Service for further information

RESOLVED that Councillor Robertson contact NE Ambulance Service for information on the AED.

14. **ANY ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

(i) St James Churchyard

Councillor Mrs Robertson explained that the graveyard was unkempt. It was suggested that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

(ii) Walkway, Stockton Road

Councillor Turnbull explained that the highway verge at Stockton Road has not been cut and is virtually impassable. Previous correspondence from DCC had stated that it was a highway verge and not a public footpath.

(iii) Manhole Cover

The manhole cover near to Hallow Hill on the B1281 was still missing.

(iv) South View

The hedge along South View was overgrown and becoming dangerous and encroaching onto the pathway abutting the highway.

RESOLVED that the issues outlined above be reported to the Highways Action Line.