

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 15 AUGUST 2013**

Present:

Councillor Mrs M Wilmer (Chair)
Councillors D Martin, Mrs V Robertson and B Turnbull

Also Present:

PCSO I Goodwin and D Edson, Mrs A Moon – ACE, Mrs H Johnson and Mrs C Turnbull

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors B Robertson and B Nutter and County Councillor L Pounder.

2. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Goodwin explained that since the last meeting, 15 incidents had been reported comprising theft from motor vehicles that had been unlocked, anti-social behaviour from an ongoing neighbour dispute and a suspicious activity of travelers on the golf course.

Councillor Turnbull had reported some traffic issues and they had been referred to Maxine Stubbs at Police HQ. The issues related to residents complaining about the speed and amount of traffic coming through the village, concerns about the roundabouts, u-turns and bollards on the flyover of the A19 as well as the short run on the exit onto the A19 from Stockton Road.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on **18 JULY 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 4 refers – The Clerk advised that the issue of the recycling bin had been referred to Planning Enforcement Officers and a reply was awaited.

Minute No 9(iii) refers – It was explained that the NHS were looking for volunteers to use public transport to access North Tees hospital on 19 August 2013, expenses would be reimbursed. Councillor Crute explained that he intended to use public transport from Hutton Henry and Councillor Pounder from Blackhall. Councillor Wilmer advised that she would make the journey from Castle Eden.

Minute No 11 refers – Mr Tough had offered to tend to the weeds and general look around the war memorial as best he could. The gardener from the Castle Eden Inn had agreed to trim and remove the grass on a fortnightly basis free of charge. A letter of thanks be sent to Mr Tough.

Minute No 12 refers – The Clerk advised that no election had been called for the vacancy of Parish Councillor and no expressions of interest had been received for co-option.

Minute No 13 refers – Councillor B Robertson was to attend a meeting at Peterlee Ambulance station on 16 August 2013 to ascertain if an AED could be located within the village.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Notice of Consultation on Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area by Shotton Parish Council

The Clerk advised that DCC had received an application from Shotton 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.

RESOLVED that no objection or comment be made on the application.

- (ii) Celebrate your Space Grant

The Clerk advised that information had been received regarding a grant for up to £2000 that was available for delivering community events and activities and support with achieving local community quality standards awards. On further investigation, the grant was only open to community groups who had delivered a community spaces funded project.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Crute explained that he had previously reported the missing manhole cover and would report it once again. He had not received any update from the Estates Department regarding the key for the gate for emergency services to access the golf course. He would request an update from the Manager of the Estates Department.

There was to be a Castle Eden Wildflower Meadow event on 1 September 2013 from 10am to 12noon. Anyone wishing to attend should park at the Village Hall, opposite the Castle Eden Inn, off B1281, Castle Eden.

Councillor Turnbull commented that newly resurfaced road at the junction with the B1281 adjacent to the war memorial had left the road surface level with the kerb line. Traffic was mounting the kerb when negotiating the corner.

RESOLVED that the issues raised be reported.

7. PLANNING PROPOSALS

The Clerk reported that no planning applications had been received in the period.

Amanda Moon explained that she had received notification that an application had been submitted for a dwelling on St James' field. Residents were concerned about the size of the property as it was a three storey dwelling. One tree was to be removed and the drains re-routed. The consultation period ended prior to the next meeting.

RESOLVED that details of the application be forwarded to Members for consideration and The Clerk will co-ordinate responses.

8. FINANCE REPORT

(i) Balance at Bank

Balance at Bank as at 18 July 2013	£13,101.65
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Expenditure

Hire of Village Hall – Parish Plan Event	£160.00
Clerks Expenses June/July	£87.59
Blackhall Youth Band Donation	<u>£100.00</u>

Balance at Bank	£12,754.06
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(ii) St James Church Donation

Concerns had been raised that the old graves were overgrown with grass, ivy and plants and had not been tended to. The donation from the Parish Council was specifically to assist with the maintenance provision of the graveyard. The donation would be reviewed when the budget was being set for the coming year.

RESOLVED that £600 donation be given to St James Church to assist with the maintenance provision of the graveyard.

(iii) Your Money, Your Area, Your Views Community Grants Fund

Amanda Moon explained that there was an opportunity via East Durham Area Action Partnership to apply for funding from Your Money, Your Area, Your Views Community Grants Fund. £20,000 had been made available to 'not for profit', voluntary or community group/organisation in the AAP area to apply for a grant ranging from £1000 to £5000.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

9. VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) **Parish Plan**

The Parish Plan had been printed and circulated to residents. Councillors would be requested to provide an update on progress at the monthly meetings.

(ii) **ACE Report**

Amanda Moon circulated the key points from the last ACE meeting and gave an update on progress.

Councillor Martin explained that dog fouling could be reported online. He had been approached by East Durham Physiotherapy who was looking to erect signs so his customers would park considerately and also looking at what could be done so that people could park on the verge without damaging it and to keep it green.

A vehicle was regularly parked in the turning circle from an employee at the brewery. The Chair explained that she would mention it to the receptionist.

10. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

The Chair explained that she and The Clerk had attended a meeting at DCC with an Officer from Regeneration and Economic Development regarding Neighbourhood Planning to ascertain the way forward for Castle Eden. As Castle Eden was in a Conservation Area and was an Area of High Landscape Value, planning was currently restrictive. If there was an area that required protection then a Neighbourhood Plan could be used. Neighbourhood Development Orders were also available. There were huge resource implications in compiling a Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

11. **CONSULTATION: PROVIDING SAFE AND HIGH QUALITY CARE LEADING UP TO THE OPENING OF THE NEW HOSPITAL**

The consultation was to get views on the proposals and understand concerns about the proposed changes. Members commented that the whole issues was around transport and accessing services. Any comments were to be fed back to Councillor Nutter.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.