

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2014**

**Present:**

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

**Also Present:**

PCSO Goodwin, Mr R Leonard and Mr I Bird

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Goodwin explained that there had been 20 incidents since the last meeting, 14 road related and linked to the A19. There had been calls from local farmers regarding dogs worrying sheep, hare coursing and lamping. He would be contacting the Wildlife Trust as it was occurring on their land. Two males had been arrested in Hesleden for growing a cannabis farm.

A Farm Watch had taken place the previous evening with volunteers from over the North East. Feedback would be provided in due course.

Incidents were down 6% and crime down 44%. The current PACT priority was off road motorcycles in Hesleden.

Members commented that they had witnessed males with dogs in the surrounding fields who were regularly out on a Saturday morning. Councillor Martin explained that he had telephoned 999 and got through to Cleveland Police who advised him to hang up and dial 101. He felt that the incidents needed to be taken more seriously.

Councillor Mrs Robertson advised that a resident near old School House was running a business from home and there were a number of vehicles parked on the road. She was concerned that there would be an accident. Councillor Crute explained that this was an ongoing issue and the Planning Enforcement Team were involved. PCSO Goodwin explained that if vehicles were parked dangerously then they would be requested to move.

Councillor Nutter referred to the report that was written by Durham Constabulary and Durham County Council on Traffic Management Review of the B1281. He suggested that the report be placed on the Parish Council website.

**RESOLVED** that the report on Traffic Management Review be placed on the Parish Council website.

4. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **16 JANUARY 2014**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Broadband Connection (Minute No 10(ii) refers)**

The Clerk explained that no response had been received from BT. Councillor Nutter advised that a full report from BT with timescales for upgrade of broadband provision was discussed at the AAP. Councillor Crute explained that he would obtain an electronic copy of the report. It was suggested that this be placed on the Parish Council website.

**Councillor Vacancy - Co-option (Minute No 11 refers)**

The resident who had expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council was on holiday and unable to attend therefore the item would be placed on the agenda in March.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Concerns around Traveller Encampments**

Jeannette Stephenson, Strategic Programme Manager, Councillor Lucy Hovvels, Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities and Kerrin Smith, Durham Constabulary would be in attendance at the meeting on 17 April 2014 to discuss concerns around Traveller Encampments.

**RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

7. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Crute explained that the planning application for the Crematorium had considerable opposition. Meetings had taken place with residents, Castle Eden Golf Club, the Old Brewery and the press had been involved. Castle Eden Golf Club had concerns over health and safety and stray golf balls going onto the application site. The applicants had offered to install a screen but Planning Officers had advised that it would not be acceptable in planning terms.

A meeting had been arranged with Planning Officers, Highways Officers and a small number of residents to clarify some issues relating to the application. He had asked Maxine Stubbs, Durham Constabulary to provide data on the number of traffic incidents and accidents at the site.

Councillor Nutter suggested that the Chair of the Parish Council write to the Chair of the County Planning Committee to make him aware of the feeling of opposition from residents of Castle Eden.

Councillor Crute explained that there had been some problems with the notification of planning applications submitted and he had written to the Head of Planning to express his concerns.

**RESOLVED** that the Chair write to the Chair of the County Planning Committee to make him aware of feeling of opposition from residents of Castle Eden.

8. **PLANNING PROPOSALS**

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

- (i) CE/13/01699/LB Listed Building Consent for entrance lobby, door opening, rooflights and internal alterations at The Old Brewery, Castle Eden for Durham Associates Retirement Benefit Scheme

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that no objection be made to the application but comments be made that the changing of the internal wall would be a loss of historic fabric.

(ii) DM/14/00084/FPA Demolition of Sun Room, revised elevations and erection of front storey extension at Hallow Hill, The Village, Castle Eden

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that no objection be made.

## 9. FINANCE REPORT

Balance at Bank as at 16 January 2014 £11,027.33

### Expenditure

Clerk's Expenses Dec/Jan £85.99  
£10,941.34

## 10. RISK ASSESSMENT

Consideration was given to a Risk Assessment for the Parish Council, a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

The Risk Assessment gave details of the risks identified by the Parish Council and existing controls and methods used to minimise the risk.

**RESOLVED** that the Risk Assessment be accepted.

## 11. VILLAGE MATTERS

### (i) ACE Report

Mr Leonard gave an update on progress.

### (ii) AED Funding Update

Councillor B Robertson explained that applications for funding to County Durham Community Foundation and Community Heartstart Trust had been submitted previously. Community Heartstart Trust had lost the application form. The cost of the AED would be £750 and the total cost required for the project was £1340. There would be a shortfall of approximately £340 that the Parish Council may consider funding.

Councillor Robertson was able to provide the training which would be a 2 hour basic lifesaving, choking and serious bleeding. The training would be offered to as many residents as possible. It was suggested that an article be placed in the Parish Newsletter informing residents of the dates and maybe request a small donation of £1 towards the hire of the village hall.

**RESOLVED** that the Village Hall Association be approached for suitable dates in April.

### (iii) War Memorial Funding Update

Councillor Robertson explained that he had spoken to the Land Registry and completed a Land Registry Search costing £4 and the outcome was that the land around the War Memorial was not registered. An application had been submitted to the Land Registry along with £30 to register the land in the Parish Council's ownership.

Mr Bird explained than an application had been submitted by himself and the previous Clerk in 2007. Councillor Robertson explained that the Land Registry had confirmed that the land was not registered.

Councillor Robertson advised that two estimates had been sought from a restoration company for restoration only and not to replace the Yorkshire stone as this could not be funded by the War Memorial Fund. Once the estimates had been received then the application would be submitted. The cost was estimated around £3000.

Photographs had been obtained which showed the Yorkshire Stone which had been emailed to the War Memorial Fund for them to consider funding its replacement.

Councillor Nutter suggested that a request be made to the County Councillors to enquire if any funding could be made available from their Member budget.

**RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

(iv) **Tree Management on War Memorial Site**

Councillor Martin advised that the trees to the north of the War Memorial site were encroaching severely on the highway causing difficulty for pedestrians and cars.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk report the issue to Highways Action Line

(v) **Parish Newsletter**

Consideration was given to items that were to be included within the Parish Newsletter. Items included police matters, war memorial, AED and training, community speedwatch, reporting of poachers to the Police, toddlers group, dates of events in the Village Hall, events organised by ACE.

(vi) **Traffic Management**

This item had been dealt with under the Police report.

**PRIOR TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM OF BUSINESS, THE CLERK LEFT THE MEETING.**

12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

13. **REVIEW OF CLERK'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**RESOLVED** that The Clerk's Terms and Conditions of employment be aligned with the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Service. The Clerk's hours be increased to 4 hours per week from 1 April 2014 on LC1 Salary Point 25. The Clerk be remunerated for an additional 2 hours per week worked from 1 May 2013 to 31 March 2014 on the current hourly rate.