

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 17 APRIL 2014**

**Present:**

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

**Also Present:**

PC A Holland, County Councillor Hovvells and Superintendent K Smith

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. TRAVELLERS**

Cllr Hovvells and Superintendent Smith attended the meeting to provide information regarding the County Council's Gypsy Roma Travellers policy, in particular the need for a stop-over site in East Durham and the East Durham Horse Fair. Members were made aware of the County Council's legal duty to both travellers and the settled community. Once a stop-over site had been agreed then the Parish Council would be informed. The County Council and the Police were trying to establish open communications with the organiser of the Horse Fair to enable planning and policing of the event.

The Chair thanked Councillor Hovvells and Superintendent Smith for their attendance.

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

**4. POLICE REPORT**

PC Holland explained that there had been 23 incidents since the last meeting, the majority of which related to the A19. There had been 3 anti-social behaviour incidents, 1 ongoing neighbour dispute and suspicious activity of machinery being offered for sale.

With regard to the forthcoming BBQ event at The Castle over the easter weekend, Inspector Coxon had advised that the Safety Advisory Group had met and a Temporary Event Notice had been granted. Two marshalls had been appointed to control the traffic. Police Officers had been briefed and were aware of the event. Residents would be encouraged to gather any evidence and if there was a genuine obstruction then they would be asked to move.

Councillor Robertson advised that they were allowed to hold the event for 26 times per year before requiring planning permission. He had written to the Development Control Manager outlining the issues around planning and the previous reasons refusal of planning permission for The Castle.

The Clerk advised that she had received a complaint from a resident in Burdon Walk regarding the problem they were experiencing with u turns. She had explained the action that County Councillors

and Police had taken. It was felt that every agency that could be contacted had been and there was no solution.

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

5. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **20 MARCH 2014**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair subject to Councillor B Nutter being added to the Members present.

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**County Councillors Report (Minute No 7 refers)**

The Clerk advised that Inspector Coxon had explained that he was not in a position to allow residents to use speed detecting equipment alone although he would support the community with requests for checks and would welcome volunteers working with them.

**Planning Proposals (Minute No 9 refers)**

The Clerk advised that a response had been received from the Area Team Leader who had apologised for the teething problems experienced with the planning portal. She had also explained that non material amendments to planning permissions were not consulted upon.

**Village Matters (Minute No 11(i) refers)**

Natural England had confirmed that the flooding within the Dene was being addressed and some work had been completed to alleviate the problems and further work was planned.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting (Minute No 4 refers)**

Councillor Mrs Robertson had been contacted by a resident regarding the issues of vans and cars parking on the main road near School House. He had given the intention to keep the road clear and would like information regarding speeding along the road. Councillor Turnbull who was leading on speeding had been contacted in this regard.

**Matters Arising, AED Funding update (Minute No 5 refers)**

Councillor Nutter confirmed that The Village Hall Association had confirmed that the AED could be placed on the outside of The Village Hall and it could also be used for the training.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **Samaritans**

The Samaritans had submitted a request for financial assistance. It was explained that the budget had been planned for 2014/15 and there was no funding available for donations.

(i) **Police and Crime Commissioner Community Safety Fund**

The Clerk reported that £130,000 had been made available to community groups to access so long as the project met the Police and Crime Commissioners objectives as set out in the Police and Crime Plan. The maximum grant would be £20,000 and the closing dates for applications were 14 April and 1 September 2014.

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

(ii) **A1086 Littlethorpe northbound link to A19 Easington**

A temporary road closure and weight limit suspension order had been made from 11 – 30 May 8pm to 6am to enable resurfacing works to take place on the A19 northbound between A181 Wellfield and A182 Easington. A temporary diversion would be in place.

8. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

The County Councillors had submitted their apologies.

9. **PLANNING PROPOSALS**

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

- a) DM/14/00524/FPA Erection of porch to front of existing dwelling at 5 Rowland Crescent, Castle Eden for Mr Fleming

**RESOLVED** that no objections be made.

- b) DM/14/00519/FPA Reclamation of former colliery spoil mound to extract coal spoil, reprofiling of mound on completion of works and landscaping works at former Colliery Spoil Heap, Hesleden for Mr MacQuarrie

Concerns were raised regarding the number of vehicles that would be coming through the village. The planning application differed from the information given at the consultation event in November. It was felt that further information was required regarding the application and information sought from the neighbouring parish and County Councillors.

**RESOLVED** that further information be sought.

- c) DM/14/00663/FL Notification of application for felling license at Castle Eden & Peterlee Golf Club

**RESOLVED** that no objection be made.

10. **FINANCE REPORT**

Balance at Bank as at 20 February 2014	£8,600.07
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Clerks Expenses	£66.00
<u>Income</u>	
VAT refund	£109.67
Interest Dec-Mar	£2.68
Precept	<u>£8,079.81</u>
	£16,726.23

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

- (i) **ACE Report**  
The ACE report was circulated.

- (ii) **War Memorial**  
Councillor Robertson advised that as VAT could be reclaimed which would take the cost of the project under £3000, the application had been submitted to the small grants fund and the outcome would be known after 31 May 2014.

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