

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 19 JUNE 2014**

Present:

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

Also Present:

PCSO Jepson and Robson, Mrs A Moon – ACE, Mr T Ward – DCC, Councillors Crute and Pounder

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs V Robertson and M Colborn.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Jepson explained that there had been 8 incidents since the last meeting. With regard to the ongoing issue with the dog, the dog had been taken to the kennels and would not be returned until further proceedings had been held.

Any issues surrounding the events at The Castle were being dealt with by the licensing department and the alcohol reduction team. Any concerns should be forwarded to the planning department.

The protocols had now changed regarding the community speedwatch and it had been agreed that the machine could be collected from Peterlee Police Station although basic training would be required before first use.

Councillor Nutter referred to the Scarecrow Festival and explained that one of the scarecrows had been stolen, he queried if the area was regularly patrolled. PCSO Jepson advised that resources were concentrated where there was the highest level of crime. Councillor Nutter suggested that ACE contact the Police when the festival was being held so patrols could be increased in the area.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4. **REMOVAL OF STREET LIGHTING**

Mr Ward, Senior Project Manager, Durham County Council advised that DCC were replacing 40,000 street lights with LED lights. There were 7500 lights to be removed Countywide. All lights that were identified to be removed would have to go through a robust risk assessment. There would be a 28 day consultation on any lights that were proposed to be removed. Lights would only be removed outside residential areas but not from contact points and junctions. This was an invest to save project. It was confirmed that the lights would not be removed from residential areas but may include roads either side. The Parish Council would be consulted prior to any decisions being made.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

5. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **15 MAY 2014**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

Easington Area Association of Town and Parish Councils (Minute No 5 refers)

The Chair explained that she had attended the last meeting and a presentation was given on waste collection. Residents recycling unauthorised items would receive a letter informing them what was allowed.

Police Report (Minute No 7 refers)

The Clerk reported that the Countryside Team had offered to meet Councillor Nutter on site to discuss his concerns regarding the walkway.

Parking Near War Memorial (Minute No 15 refers)

Councillor Turnbull commented that the land around the War Memorial would be monitored for further damage to the grass.

6. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Crute advised that he had no further information regarding an appeal for the refusal of the Crematorium application. Dignity had 6 months from the decision in which to lodge an appeal. To date, no appeal had been lodged. He would seek further clarification on the procedure if an appeal was lodged.

With regard to the Hesleden Pit Heap reclamation, he had received some alternative views but the vast majority of residents were opposed to it. He had also received some complaints regarding fly tipping and being used as a bike track.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **Planning Event – 30 July 2014**

The Clerk advised that an event had been arranged for Parish Councils to find out more about the planning system with specific reference to DCCs procedures. 70 spaces were available and were limited to 2 attendees per Council.

RESOLVED that Councillors Mrs M Wilmer and B Turnbull to booked onto the event.

(ii) **Advertising in Newsletter**

Lifetime Heritage had made contact to offer sponsorship which could cover the production and distribution costs of the newsletter.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(iii) **Service at St Andrews, Blackhall**

The vicar of St James, Castle Eden had advised that a service would be held at St Andrews on 4 August 2014 at 6pm to commemorate the beginning of World War 1.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8. **PLANNING PROPOSALS**

There were no planning proposals.

9. **FINANCE REPORT**

Balance at Bank as at 15 May 2014	£16,199.96
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Clerks Expenses	£75.00
CDALC Subs	£78.43
Alphagraphics	£170.00
Heywoods Accountants	<u>£60.00</u>
Balance at Bank	<u>£15,816.53</u>

10. **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Consideration was given to the review of Financial Regulations, a copy of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the Financial Regulations be adopted.

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

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

Councillor Nutter referred to the Food Bank located in Hesleden Primary School and suggested that the school be asked to remind children/parents that there were other available food banks whilst the school was closed.

12. **ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

- (i) **Digital Durham**
Councillor Nutter advised that he attended the Digital Durham presentation. If anyone wanted a copy of the presentation it was available to email.
- (ii) **Pathway near Hulum Lodge**
The Chair had received a complaint that when walking past Hulum Lodge a resident was nearly knocked over by two cycles on the path. It was suggested that this be referred to Maxine Stubbs, Durham Constabulary and DCC be requested to trim the verge on the side of the pathway.