

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 21 AUGUST 2014**

Present:

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

Also Present:

Councillors R Crute, Mrs L Pounder, Mrs A Moon – ACE and Mrs K Martin

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs M Wilmer.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Turnbull declared an interest in item 9.

3. **POLICE REPORT**

There was no Police representative present.

Councillor Turnbull advised that he attend the PACT meeting which was well attended. He had hoped to talk to the road policing unit but they were not in attendance.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

4. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **17 JULY 2014**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Police Report (Minute no 3 refers)

Councillor Nutter explained that a lot of time had been spent trying to come to a solution for the double roundabouts and funding of any works was an issue. Councillor Martin queried if any consideration had been given to making the sliproad west bound only and creating an eastbound access on the former A19, joining the road at the turning circle. Members thought this was an excellent idea.

Planning Proposals (Minute no 8 refers)

The Clerk gave details of an email received from the Area Team Leader (Central and East Planning) explaining that the application was submitted as works to trees in a Conservation Area which was not subject to any consultation. During consideration of the application it became apparent that it was in fact works to TPO'd trees and the application type was changed. There was some confusion around the change in type of application and the public consultation was not instigated.

Members requested further clarification on what trees required planning permission as they were under the impression that all trees within a Conservation Area required the necessary permissions for any works to be carried out.

RESOLVED that further clarification be sought on what trees required planning permission.

War Memorial (Minute no 10(ii) refers)

Councillor Robertson advised that the contract had been signed and work would begin on 29 September. He had applied for a pack from In Memoriam for the Smart Water.

6. PLANNING APPEAL – PROPOSED CREMATORIUM AT LAND NORTH OF THE OLD BREWERY, CASTLE EDEN

Councillor Crute advised that Phil Barclay, who was leading the residents group, Sam Grant the planning consultant and local Members had met with the planning officer at DCC. They discussed the material planning considerations and the strategy for the appeal hearing. Planning Officers could only concentrate on the planning issues that were raised at the County Planning meeting when the application was considered. A further meeting would be held to finalise the strategy prior to the appeal hearing on 24 September. The Police had submitted a further response focusing around the re-opening of the lane.

Councillor Turnbull explained that he had written to the Chief Constable regarding traffic surveys and took the opportunity to mention the possible opening of the lane should the appeal be successful.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Crute explained that the owners of The Castle had submitted a temporary events notice the previous week and the licensing department had no choice but to agree it. DCC had served an enforcement notice to stop. The Castle had submitted an appeal which allows them to continue with the temporary events notice until the appeal was dealt with.

With regard the Hesleden Pit Heap application, the planning officer had advised that the application would be considered by committee in December/January. There had been an incident whereby a member of the public had broken their leg on the site and he had written to DCC regarding health and safety issues.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) St James Church

In 2004, the Parish Council donated £500 towards the cost of a project to make a feature of the medieval effigy in the churchyard at St James. The project foundered because of difficulties in accommodating different expert opinions as to whether the effigy should be displayed inside or outside the Church. The offer of lottery funding was withdrawn and the project had been abandoned. The Church was facing severe financial hardship and the church had made a request to the Parish Council to release the funds to be used for the Church's general purpose.

The Parish Council had donated both to the Church and ACE recently and ACE as part of their activities had cleaned up the churchyard. It was suggested that representatives of the Parish Council attend the next meeting of the PCC to discuss what the money would be used for, if released. Councillor Mrs Robertson explained that she would be happy to represent the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Robertson attend the next PCC meeting to ascertain what the church would wish to use the money on.

(ii) **NOW East Durham**

NOW East Durham was an online newspaper which were starting a new feature known as “eye-pod” in which they filmed short videos that highlighted news and issues in the local area.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

PRIOR TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM OF BUSINESS, COUNCILLOR B TURNBULL DECLARED AN INTEREST AND LEFT THE MEETING

COUNCILLOR MARTIN WAS PROPOSED AND SECONDED TO CHAIR THE MEETING

COUNCILLOR MARTIN IN THE CHAIR

9. **PLANNING PROPOSALS**

Consideration was given to the following planning application:

a) DM/14/01772/FPA Proposed Dwelling (Retrospective) at Trelayne 4 Parklands Drive Castle Eden for Mr Johnson

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that no objections be made.

COUNCILLOR TURNBULL REJOINED THE MEETING AND TOOK THE CHAIR

10. **FINANCE REPORT**

(i) **Balance at Bank as at 17 July 2014**

Balance at Bank	£15,229.14
<u>Income</u>	
Interest	£1.99
Wayleave agreement	£6.90
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Clerks Expenses	<u>£65.20</u>
Balance at Bank	<u>£15,172.74</u>

(ii) **Repairs to Noticeboard**

The Clerk explained that the noticeboard near South View was damaged and an estimate had been received from the company who provided the noticeboards.

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the repair of the noticeboard.

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

(i) **ACE Report**

Amanda Moon explained that there was no meeting held in July due to the holidays and gave a post meeting update.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

(ii)

Footpaths

Councillor Mrs Robertson explained that some of the footpaths were impassable especially towards The Village and were often flooded in winter. Mrs Moon explained that ACE were to carry out a survey of the footpaths before Christmas.

RESOLVED that the Rights of Way Officer at DCC be contacted regarding the paths.

(iii)

The Castle

This item was dealt with earlier on the agenda.