

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2015

Present:

Councillor Mrs M Wilmer (Chair)

Councillors D Martin, B Nutter, B Robertson, Mrs V Robertson and B Turnbull

Also Present:

Mrs A Moon – ACE, County Councillors Crute and Pounder, PCSO Kinghorn.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor M Colborn.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Kinghorn advised that there had been 33 incidents since the last meeting, 1 theft of a heating oil container and oil taken from the Foundry area. Extra patrols had been deployed in the village and social media had been used to warn residents.

Councillor Mrs Robertson explained that they had tried to attempt to steal the oil at The Studios. A neighbour had taken a partial registration number and reported it to the police but was advised by them that there wouldn't be much hope catching the thief. The number plate was NY54.

There had been no vehicle crime and 23 incidents were A19 related. Theft was down 38% and was antisocial behaviour at 23%.

There had been more patrols around the bus turning circle and no suspicious activity was noted. Patrols had been continuing in the Dene and there would be regular exercises with English Nature.

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from a resident whose cars had been damaged by a speeding vehicle. Both cars were written off and the driver had explained that he had not seen the cars parked. He had queried why there were no traffic calming measures in Castle Eden.

The Traffic Management Officer for the Police had advised that it was a long time since she had received a complaint of speed in the location and therefore did not have any current speed data to hand. She advised that if Community Speedwatch (CSW) could be carried out to ascertain if it showed an initial problem then she could organise for a full 7 day 24 hour speed survey to be done. In respect of traffic calming generally, physical traffic calming measures could not be implemented by the County Council on a road with a speed limit above 30mph as it goes against guidance.

The PCSO for the area would be arranging some CSW in the area over the next few weeks and offered the resident the opportunity to become involved. He also asked for particular days/times that the resident experienced the speeding at its worst to enable him to target that particular time.

Councillor Crute explained that he had contacted the highways department who had confirmed that they had never received any request for traffic calming measures. The Department of Transport would not permit traffic calming measures on roads with a 40mph speed limit.

RESOLVED that The Clerk respond to the resident inviting him to participate in the CSW and explain the current situation.

4. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **15 JANUARY 2015**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

Digital Durham (Minute No 11 refers)

The Clerk advised that the Wellfield exchange was now an enabled area but the cabinet was not yet ready. This would be upgraded in the near future and residents were urged to check BT on a weekly basis.

6. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Crute explained that the Crematorium application, as most were aware had been dismissed.

The County Durham Plan Inspector had issued an interim report and had given DCC three options, suspend the plan for 6 months, go ahead with the current plan or start all over again. None of the issues raised the inspector were flagged up at the consultation stage.

Councillor Turnbull raised concern that the village had no specific Neighbourhood Plan and asked for advice on the way forward. Councillor Crute explained that he would arrange for a member of the Spatial Team to come to a future meeting.

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from DCC regarding the disposal of land to the east of High Winnings Cottage to be used as garden land. It was felt that an objection should be made as this land could form part of any proposals in a Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that an objection be made.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **Renewal of Cricket Club Licence**

DCC had received an application for a New Premises Licence

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

b) **War Memorial Workshop**

An event was being held on 4 March at Gateshead.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

c) **Fly tipping**

DCC were identifying fly tipping hot spots where cameras could be deployed and were encouraging Parish Councils to become involved and contribute towards a camera in their area. Members queried if the parish council contributed would the camera be used regularly in the village.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact DCC to ascertain how the cameras would be used.

8. PLANNING PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to the following planning application:

DM/15/00107/FPA New Dwelling and Detached Garage (resubmission) at Land adjacent to 4 Parklands on St James Fields, Castle Eden for Mr J Anderson

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the application but would like a condition adding that the potential wildflower meadow indicated on the plans be retained and managed.

9. FINANCE REPORT

Balance at Bank as at 15 January 2015	£6,885.70
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Clerk's Expenses	£64.20
Income	
War Memorial	£1295.00
Balance at Bank	<u>£8,116.50</u>

10. VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) ACE Report

Amanda Moon circulated the key points from the last ACE meeting and gave an update on progress. A Moon suggested that the wreaths on the war memorials be removed as they kept blowing off. No objection was raised at the suggestion.

(ii) Trees

Councillor Mrs Robertson explained that one of the trees at Broxholme that had been felled did not have permission. The tree now looks unsightly and was a feature in a prominent part of the village.

Councillor Robertson suggested that the Tree Officer attend a future meeting to explain why some of the trees in the village are required to be felled.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Concerns be expressed regarding the felled trees at Broxholme.
- (ii) The Tree Officer be invited to a future meeting.
- (iii) **Village Planning Policy**
This item was discussed earlier in the agenda.
- (iv) **Newsletter**
A draft newsletter was circulated. The Chair had approached businesses within the village to enquire if they would like to advertise in the newsletter at a cost of £25 per advert.