

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2017**

**Present:**

Councillor M Wilmer (Chair)  
Councillors D Martin and B Turnbull

Also Present: Mrs Moon (ACE)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were submitted on behalf of Councillors B Robertson, Mrs V Robertson and M Colborn. County Councillors Crute and Pounder.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

**3. POLICE REPORT**

There were no police present.

**4. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **17 NOVEMBER 2016**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

**Speed Visor**

The site assessment had been carried out by the company who supplied the solar powered visors. They felt that a solar option would not be an option in the location as the panels would not provide sufficient charge to cover the discharge when the sign operated. Whilst the tree canopy was not too much of an issue in the winter, it was unable to compensate for the reduced daylight and worse weather conditions. It was suggested that Councillor Robertson obtain a second opinion from the company he had been researching.

**6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

There were no County Councilors present.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

**8. PLANNING PROPOSALS**

There were no planning proposals.

9. **FINANCE REPORT**

Balance at Bank as at 17 November	£15,299.46
J Collins – expenses	£64.20
Dunhouse stone	£608.40
Alphagraphics	£18.00
Derek Tyrrel	£487.00
J Collins – salary	£485.06
HMRC	£121.26
Microsoft	£59.99
Balance at Bank	<u>£13,455.55</u>

10. **PRECEPT 2017/18**

The Clerk advised that the notification of the Tax Base and request for Precept for 2017/18 had now been received from Durham County Council. The Clerk circulated an estimate of income and expenditure for 2017/18. The Clerk advised that the LCTRS grant applicable to the Council had increased by £29 from the previous year.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the 2017/18 budget be set at £10,242 comprising a Precept of £10,200 and Local Council Tax Support Scheme grant of £42 which equated to a Band D charge of £33.45.

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

(i) **ACE Report**

The key points from the last ACE meeting were circulated.

(ii) **Crematorium**

The County Councillors had sought the legal opinion from Durham County Council on which options, if any, were available. There was no third party right of appeal against the inspector's decision. A meeting with senior planners and the legal team had been requested.

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

(iii) **Street Lighting**

Following consultation on the removal of Street Lighting, DCC had decided to remove only some of the street lighting outlined in the consultation document.

If the risk assessment identified any significant road safety issues that could not be mitigated then the Council would not proceed with the removal.

**RSR 414**

In the light of specific feedback received in relation to Site 414 B1281 Castle Eden, further consideration was given to the road safety aspects of the proposal. The review also involved further site surveys and discussions with an external organisation. Consequently the council was withdrawing the proposal to remove street lighting from this section of road.

### **RSR413**

With regard to Site 413 Stockton Road, Castle Eden, having given due consideration to all feedback received, it was still the intention to proceed as per the recommendations in the risk assessment and remove the street lighting.

Where there had been interest from local residents in respect of retaining street lighting and where the County Council had deemed it safe to remove the lighting, a 10 year SLA has been offered to the Parish Council. In these circumstances the Parish Council would enter into a 10 year SLA with the County Council which would mean that the Parish Council would pay for the maintenance and repair of the street lights for a 10 year period. This can either be a one off payment in year 1 or an annual payment for 10 years.

Option 1 was to retain the lighting and replace the lanterns with LED's for which the cost was £11,362.

Option 2 was to retain the lighting as is and would cost £11,636.

**RESOLVED** that Option 1 be agreed.

## 12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Churchyard**

Mrs Moon confirmed that the PCC had responsibility for the churchyard. The headstones were the responsibility of the families.

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