

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

Present:

Councillor Mrs M Wilmer (Chair)
Councillors D Martin, B Turnbull and Mrs J Welch

Also Present:
Mrs A Moon

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Colborn and County Councillors Crute and Pounder.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. POLICE REPORT

The Clerk advised that there had been 30 incidents since the last meeting, 16 of which were road/A19 related. There had been 2 ASB incidents, 1 Nuisance, 1 Environmental – bikes riding over farmers fields, 1 Theft, 1 Burglary – unoccupied farmhouse under renovation at Sheraton and 1 Criminal Damage to vehicle.

Patrols had been increased around the Stockton Road area due to the high profile interest in England cricketer. There had also been information received regarding off-road bikes using the Hart – Haswell walkway. The off-road bike section had been in the area and 2 bikes were seized in the Crimdon area.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

4. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on **7 SEPTEMBER 2017**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING

War Memorial

Councillor Welch explained that the land adjacent to the war memorial was unregistered. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the area around the war memorial should be protected and an application be made to register the land to the Parish Council.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Crute and Pounder had been unable to attend and sent the following report:

- County Durham Plan: a report was considered by Cabinet in December 2016 that resulted in the pausing of the preparation of the County Durham Plan which had reached the Issues and Options stage in June/July 2016. It was paused because of the publication of a Housing White Paper which was expected to have several implications for the preparation of the Plan, including a new national methodology for the calculation of housing numbers. Unfortunately, when the Housing White Paper was published it did not include the methodology which has only recently been

published on 14 September 2017 for an eight week consultation. As a result a report will be considered by Cabinet in November which will seek to resume preparation of the Plan and set out an appropriate timetable for doing so. It also includes the council's response to the consultation.

- St James' Church: Residents have raised a number of concerns about the planning application for change of use to a dwelling place at St James' Church in the Village and have suggested that the matter be referred to the planning committee for consideration. The planning section has been contacted about residents' concerns and the case officer is currently seeking advice from the council's legal department on whether or not those concerns constitute material planning matters. In the event the application cannot be referred to committee advise by the planning team and the Church of England's office is that there is a further formal process of public consultation relating to issues around access, war graves and other residual matters. Both agencies feel that as the planning committee cannot consider non-planning matters this would be a more appropriate route than the planning process to deal with such matters. Contact with residents is being maintained through their representative.
- Housing development at Wellfield: Although these matters are located outside of the division, they are aware that there may be an impact on our residents. We understand that a second application for around 260 houses adjacent to Wellfield Road has been submitted to the council. This is in addition to the application for 161 houses near to Catchgate Farm approved previously, and is currently at the reserved matters stage of the planning process. From their point of view the main impact of additional development at this location is related to traffic flow and traffic generation, particularly at the A19/Wellfield interchange. Although they have no specific detail they have been made aware that there may be plans to alter or amend traffic management structures on the A19 flyover at Wellfield. They have arranged to meet with highways officers during the week commencing Monday 30 October to seek clarification.
- Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP): A period of public consultation to consider the council's budget proposals began on 18 October, and will run until 1 December. As is usual practice the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) will be the main forum for public discussion. More information (including full details of the proposals in the report to Cabinet, dated 18 October) can be found on the council's website.

Concern was raised over the impact the planning application for 260 houses would have on traffic flows and the A19 interchange. At busy times, there were often cars backed right up onto the A19 on the southbound slip road. Many vehicles came into Castle Eden to do "U turns" and some do illegal manoeuvres on the double roundabouts due to the high volumes of traffic. A further housing development and the traffic it would generate would create even more chaos on a very busy road.

RESOLVED that concerns be expressed regarding the traffic flow if additional houses were built.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) General Data Protection Regulations

The Clerk advised that the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations from 25 May 2018 will have an impact on every parish council and parish meeting. The County Training Partnership was therefore organising a training session for Clerks and any interested Councillors on the 1 November 2018.

RESOLVED that the Clerk attend the training course.

b) St James Church Donation

The Clerk advised that a thank you letter had been received for the recent donation.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

c) Invitation

The Chair had been invited to the licensing of the Right Reverend Glyn Webster on 11 November 2017 at 12 noon at St Andrews church, Blackhall.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

8. PLANNING PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

a) DM/17/03255/FPA Conversion of triple garage to create living accommodation (Resubmission) at Broxholme, Stockton Road, Castle Eden

b) DM/17/03268/FPA Two Storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear, replace balustrade to terraced area and alterations to openings and internal layout at Broxholme, Stockton road, Castle Eden

Concerns were expressed regarding both developments. It was felt that the development was inappropriate for an Art Deco House. The proposals were overdevelopment of the site in a contentious area that overlooked the war memorial. There was also concern of a further loss of trees in the Conservation Area as well as traffic and car parking if the garage was converted.

RESOLVED that an objection be made.

c) DM/17/03353/FPA Erection of single storey extension at rear of dwelling and replacement windows at 12 The Foundry, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objections be submitted.

9. FINANCE REPORT

Balance as per bank reconciliation as at 5 October £18,649.13
Bank statements were viewed by the Chair

Invoices for Endorsement of Payment

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO
Mary Wilmer	Poppy Wreath	£17.00	000601
BDO	Audit	£156.00	000602

10. VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) ACE Report

The key points from the last ACE meeting were circulated.

(ii) Remembrance Sunday

The Chair advised that they had been unable to secure a vicar to proceed over the service. If they were unable to find anyone to take the service then this would be carried out by the Chair.

(iii) **Speed Cameras**

Mr Wilmer was still investigating solutions to the erection of the speed cameras. It was suggested that the Inspector for the area be invited to the next meeting to discuss locations and what statistics could be used by the police that come from the cameras.

RESOLVED that the Police be invited to the next meeting.

(iv) **Crematorium Planning Conditions**

The Chair advised that Dignity had not submitted any proposals regarding the planning conditions.

(v) **Spoil Heap Removal, Hesleden**

The Chair advised that she had attending the meeting in Hesleden hosted by the Residents Association. They were very happy with the contractors and how they managed the contract for removal.

(vi) **Parking**

Concern was expressed at the number of cars parked outside the studios and the Castle Eden Inn. It was becoming very dangerous for cars pulling out of nearby junctions as cars were double parked on both sides of the road.

RESOLVED that advice be sought from Durham County Council as to possible solutions.