

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024**

Councillor Mrs M Wilmer (Chair)

Councillors D Gordon, L Taylor and Mrs J Welch

Also Present: 1 resident

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Crute and Denali

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. POLICE REPORT

There had been 18 reported incidents in the area from 13 December to 13 January 2024, of these incidents, 11 were road or A19 related, 2 ASB calls – these refer to a neighbourly dispute which appears to have been resolved, 1 Criminal Damage – off-road vehicles being ridden on land belonging to the Golf Course.

They wished to remind everyone around keeping their home safe from unwanted visitors. Light timers and door alarms were available through the Safer Homes initiative and could be requested from the PCSO for the area . Keep doors locked, windows secure and, when the cold weather starts to take hold, please don't leave the car unattended while defrosting the windscreen or heating up the car prior to driving.

There was a car parking outside of the old brewery that was in a dangerous position and an accident was waiting to happen.

RESOLVED that the parked car be referred to the Police to ascertain if it was parked legally.

4. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on **16 November 2023**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Planters – a decision would be required on the type of planter to be ordered for the spring.

War Memorial – a rail would be installed to 3 sides which would replicate the poppies on the benches.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

8. **PLANNING PROPOSALS**

DM/23/03646/TCA T1. Ash - 30% reduction, crown thinning and the removal of deadwood
At Castle Eden Inn, Stockton Road, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

DM/23/03749/TCA T1 - Ash - Removal of tree due to early signs of ash dieback causing a risk of
damage to neighbouring property at Castle Eden Inn, Stockton Road, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

DM/24/00038/TCA Cherry - Fell due to stability concerns and proximity to overhead powerlines at 3
Bankside, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

9. **FINANCE**

Balance as per bank reconciliation as £35,724.09

Bank statements were viewed by the Chair

The church had not yet requested a donation for upkeep of the churchyard. It was **RESOLVED** that
£600 be donated for the upkeep of the churchyard.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO
Clerk	Microsoft renewal	£59.99	000736

10. **PRECEPT 2024/25**

The Clerk advised that the notification of the Tax Base and request for Precept for 2024/25 had now
been received from Durham County Council. The Clerk circulated an estimate of income and
expenditure for 2024/25. The Clerk advised that the LCTRS grant applicable to the Council was £24.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the 2024/25 budget be set at £10,000 comprising a
Precept of £10,000 which equated to a Band D charge of £31.99.

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

There were no issues to discuss.