

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council held at Casterton Village Hall on Thursday 24th October 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Chris Benson (Chairman), Steve Bentley, Martin Coombs and Stephen Wilman, District Councillor Kevin Lancaster, four members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stephen Evans and County Councillor Nick Cotton.

19/97 Public participation:

- a. Fly tipping was reported but the Chairman had already reported this to John Barwise at SLDC some time ago. Councillor Lancaster said he would follow this up.
- b. In one of the three letters received by the Council, to be considered later in the meeting (minute 19/103), there was a reference to 'Casterton Community Plan sub-committee'. The Council was asked to confirm that there is no such sub-committee in the present Council. The Clerk confirmed this, as there is a requirement for any committees or sub-committees to hold their meetings in public and to produce publicly displayed agendas/minutes, and this had never been the case. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting

19/98 Requests for Dispensations: None.

19/99 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

19/100 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2019, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

19/101 Reports:

- a. **Police:** Two separate reports had been received, one was read and the other had already been circulated. An elderly couple in Kirkby Lonsdale have had fish sellers at their door, were sold a quantity of fish, all rotten and paid around £90. There have been similar incidents in other areas so the public are asked to be vigilant and not allow them into homes.
- b. **County Councillor:** None.
- c. **District Councillor:** Councillor Lancaster expressed serious concerns regarding the number of quad bikes being stolen in various locations but said it was important that the public did not try to take the law into their own hands. The Clerk agreed to write to the Police Commissioner in order to pass on the concerns of this Council.

19/102 Finance:

- a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

TRBL Poppy Appeal	£25.00	Remembrance wreath
K M Price	£151.71	Quarterly expenses to 30th September, including use of home office and travel.

- b. The cash and budget statements were noted.
- c. The Clerk's Quarterly expenses claim was approved.
- d. An application for a grant from Great North Air Ambulance was approved but a proposal was made that the grant should be shared with the North West Air Ambulance. As this proposal was not on the agenda it was resolved to make it an agenda item for the next meeting.

19/103 Defibrillator post at High Casterton:

Councillor Bentley gave a full report and detailed the history of the two defibrillators being provided for the parish, including the decisions taken and the finance thereof. This project had been initiated by the previous Council and completed during the new Council's term of office. An agreement with CCC had been made for the siting of the defibrillator at High Casterton and this is now up and running, having been registered with the ambulance service. Councillor Bentley and Enid Hastings have agreed to monitor both sites on a weekly basis. The Council resolved to receive the report and approve all the actions taken, and the matter is now closed.

Three letters from residents regarding the location and colour of the defibrillator in High Casterton had been circulated and were considered. The Clerk will respond to these.

There are two training sessions arranged, both in the Village Hall, on Thursday 28th November at 7pm and Saturday 30th November at 10am, and anyone is welcome to attend. Councillors agreed to deliver the fliers around the parish.

19/104 Boon Day:

It was resolved to postpone the Boon Day planned for 2nd November and a possible re-arranging will be considered at the next meeting.

There will be some informal tidying up by Councillors around the village before Remembrance Sunday.

19/105 Councillor Training:

Councillor Bentley reported on the training he had undertaken, including the Code of Conduct training and the 'Effective Councillor' course, Part 1. He hopes to attend the planning training course shortly and he encouraged other Councillors to take advantage of the excellent courses at present on offer.

Councillor Coombs has already attended a training session but the Chairman's Course, which Councillor Benson had registered for was unfortunately cancelled.

19/106 Respect Meeting:

Councillor Bentley reported on his attendance at the recent Respect meeting and indicated his willingness to attend future meetings. The Appleby Horse Fair had proceeded this year without any major incidents, and the higher level of policing had been appreciated. It is anticipated that this will be maintained for next year's event. The Clerk agreed to write a letter of thanks to Inspector Latham for the police presence at this year's event.

19/107 Casterton Community Trust:

Councillor Benson reported on the recent meeting of Casterton Community Trust, when two applications for funding were made. Neither of these involve the Council at this stage.

19/108 Grit boxes:

Councillor Bentley has inspected the grit boxes in the parish, of which there are 10, one being owned by Casterton School. Of the nine grit boxes the council have responsibility for eight of these are well stocked although the grit has solidified. Councillor Bentley will ensure SLDC refill the empty grit box. It was agreed to request an extra grit box, to be sited at Chapel House Lane. Some of the boxes have no spades in them and the possible replacement of these will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

19/109 CALC South Lakeland Association Meeting - 28th November 2019:

Councillor Coombs agreed to attend this event and Councillor Benson said he may also be available. The meeting is being hosted by CCC Highways and there may be an opportunity to relate the concerns in this parish over highways issues.

19/110 General maintenance:

- a. An email (circulated) from Councillor Stephen Evans will be considered at the next meeting.
- b. The decayed picnic table and seats on the Village Green will be removed this week and the replacement one installed in its place by Spring. A number of road signs in the parish are in need of cleaning.

- c. The Clerk will contact Councillor Cotton regarding the former LAP funds being held by Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council, requesting that some of this money could be used for the clearing of drains, many of which are blocked.
- d. The Chairman will collate a list of drains requiring cleaning and the Clerk will follow these up. He will also enquire as to what drainage work is currently carried out by J Hartley & Sons.

19/111 YDNPA Parish Forum meeting:

Councillor Coombs reported on his attendance at the recent meeting in Orton and said it had been most useful

19/112 Remembrance Sunday service:

Councillor Chris Benson will lay the wreath at the Remembrance Sunday service on 10th November.

19/113 Special events:

Councillors are requested to bring any ideas for a possible special event to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day - 8th May 2020 - to the next meeting. In the meantime the Clerk will ask other organisations in the village if there is any interest in such an event.

19/114 Planning:

The following comments, submitted by the Clerk under his delegated authority, since the last meeting, were noted:

S/05/33 The Croft, High Casterton. Householder application for erection of single storey extension and internal alterations. Approval recommended.

19/115 Casterton Newsletter:

Ken Humphris had informed the Clerk that he did not wish to continue producing the Casterton Newsletter. It was resolved to advertise for someone to take this over and it will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

19/116 Issues at Gateheads Brow and Wandaes Lane:

The Clerk has not made any further progress on this issue but will continue to make enquires.

19/117 Parish Council website:

Ken Humphris has offered to continue running the village website, which includes the Parish Council, for a token payment. It was resolved to accept this offer but the Clerk explained that the new Accessibility Regulations will be coming into force in September 2020 and this may involve considerable work and cost, which will be considered in due course so that the Council will be compliant.

An enquiry has been made a local specialist company for advice and some guidance is expected within the next two weeks.

19/118 Footpaths:

Claire Wildsmith has been looking after the footpaths in the parish on an informal basis for some years, walking the paths regularly and reporting concerns to YDNPA. She has established a good relationship with the Authority, which has led to maintenance and improvements being carried out. She is willing to continue in this informal role and the Council resolved to accept this kind offer. The Clerk will ask her for any available details of the current state of the footpaths.

19/119 Village Hall committee:

The next meeting is not until January.

19/119 Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 7.30pm at Casterton Village Hall (this will be the Precept Meeting), when dates for meetings during 2020 will be discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed: