

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall on Monday 17th October 2011 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Enid Hastings (Chairman), John Bye, Ken Humphris, May Mackie and Claire Wildsmith, five members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from County and District Councillor K J Lancaster, and District Councillors I Mcpherson and E Westwood.

40/11 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any item on the Agenda.

41/11 County and District matters:

None.

42/11 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2011, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

43/11 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

- a. The fence on Chapel house field encroaching on to the grass verge. The Council has been asked to contact the land register to clarify.
- b. The Council has had confirmation from school that the building waste stored on the railway bank would be removed. It appears this hasn't happened and more soil has been put on top. It was resolved to contact the school again and ask if the debris has been removed from the site by now.
- c. Cumbria Highways are looking into getting a grit bin with grit for High Casterton – it may be end of November when it arrives, the Council may have to negotiate getting the grit to the bin as the CC route for dropping off grit is down Gateheads Lane /Colliers Lane. It could possibly be delivered to the cross roads and then taken by trailer to High Casterton. It needs to be ascertained that there is grit in the existing bins.
- d. Earlier in the year grants were provided to the Civic society from Casterton and Kirkby Lonsdale Councils, towards the cost of providing interpretation boards at each end of Devil's Bridge and as there are now sufficient funds to proceed the Council has been asked if a credit acknowledgement on the board on the Casterton side of the Bridge is required and clarification of the typeface. It was resolved that this should be in the same font as the rest of the notice. The Clerk agreed to confirm this with the Clerk at Barbon Parish Council.
- e. Training – no date has yet been fixed for training with Kirkby Lonsdale Council. The Clerk is in touch with CALC concerning this. District Councillor Ian Mcpherson is doing some 'planning' training with Kirkby Lonsdale Councillors at 6.30pm on Friday 21st October in The Institute, Kirkby Lonsdale.
- f. Councillor Humphris has updated the website. Rob Best is to be contacted again regarding any ongoing problems.

(The business of the Council was adjourned for this item)

Public participation:

- a. It was reported that Stanley Bridge has been cleared of weeds, etc.
- b. It was noted that the gateway at Devils Bridge, previously mentioned, has been widened.
- c. It was noted that there is a lot of standing water on Stanley Bridge and this is a safety issue. The Clerk agreed to report this to the Highways Authority.
- d. It was reported that the Council's minutes have been removed from the notice boards by an unknown person.
- e. It was claimed that, should the National Park boundaries be extended, rural jobs will disappear due to the proposed reduction of the sheep stocking rate. The Council presumes that the NFU will be pursuing this matter with Natural England.

(The business of the Council was then resumed)

44/11 Light at Fern Croft/Smithy Howe/ Church Lane:

The Chairman reported that contact has been made with Keith Masser of the Highways Authority by email and also with Electricity North West in Carlisle and map obtained of electricity cables in the village. More quotations for different sites were received from ENW. Finally Councillor Lancaster contacted Rob Kitchen from SLDC and it was suggested that a less expensive solution may be the use a SLDC contractor Norfolk Property Services. A meeting was arranged with representatives from NPS and the Chairman and Councillor Bye last week.

Councillor Lancaster remains committed to giving £2,000 plus a bit more to getting the light in place, one way or another.

The Council was reminded of the history of this light:

This was a BT pole with a United Utilities Lantern attached. When the wooden pole required replacing BT's policy is now not to allow a lantern to be attached. Casterton Parish Council are responsible for all the street lights in the village – there are 7 in all:

101. Fern croft/smithy Howe – removed
102. Gable end 4 Ferncroft
103. A685 Pheasant / Woodside TP
104. A685 opposite Village Hall TP redundant
105. A685 School Crossing TP redundant
106. Front of Church Cottage
107. Glebe Cottage – behind Church cottage church – main school entrance TP

1 Fern croft/smithy Howe. – options for replacement

- a. Replace next to existing BT Pole – most expensive option as previous supply was by overhead cable and this has to be replaced by an underground one, the nearest point across road would cost approximately £5,000. Funding of £2,500 was promised from Keith Masser.

- b. Replace on the opposite side of the road from the garage towards Smithy Howe, although there are concerns that the light may shine in nearby flat – although there would be a timer on the light switching it off between 11pm and 6am – considerably less costly as it would be easier and nearer existing electric spur. The post is 5metres high and gives a downward spread of white light of approx 30metres.

To fund either option the Council needs to investigate other means of raising the shortfall. Suggestions are from County and District Councillors, LAP, CALC, Neighbourhood Forum or to consider the Council taking a loan from the Public Works Loan Board to be repaid over five years.

45/11 Officer's Reports:

- a. Public Rights of Way. Councillor Wildsmith reported that, although a small drainage ditch had been made on the footpath through Riddings Wood, fundamental changes are still awaited.
- b. Highways. Councillor Bye reported that the Better Highways team is now functioning, after catching up with highways damage from the previous winter. The team will be visiting each parish approximately every eight weeks, the next visit being during the week commencing 23rd November. It was noted that branches still requiring cutting back at Lowfields Hill and the Clerk agreed to contact Barbon Parish Clerk to ascertain details of the exact location.
- c. Village Hall. Councillor Mackie reported that a talk and demonstration had recently been given by Duncan Hamlett on the Aviation Fellowship Mission but the event has been poorly supported. A joint Village Hall and Church Harvest Supper had been held, with the food being prepared and donated by the school. £289 had been raised which was divided between the two organisations. The next function will be a film show. The exterior painting has been completed and the inside should be completed with the next few weeks.
- d. CALC. Councillor Wildsmith gave a summary of the monthly CALC newsletter and reminded Councillors that the AGM will be on Saturday 12th November in Kendal.

46/11 Financial business:

- a. The monthly cash and budget statements were noted.

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

K M Price	£124.19	Quarterly expenses to 30 th September
K M Price	£39.00	Use of home office to 30 th September

47/11 Planning:

The following applications were discussed:

SL/2011/0754 The Cragg, Casterton. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden. Approval recommended.

SL/2011/0769 The Croft, High Casterton. Detached building for home office. Approval recommended, with the proviso that the office remains ancillary to the house.

SL/2011/0767 The Croft, High Casterton. Single storey extension & alterations. Approval recommended

48/11 Queen's Diamond Jubilee:

An excellent steering group meeting was held at the Pheasant Inn on Monday 11th October. The dates for the celebration will be Sunday 4th June and Monday 5th June. On the Sunday there will be a Big Lunch – this is a national event - to be held in the school pavilion, or outside if the weather is good, followed by games, activities and competitions. Exhibition of Memorabilia from the 50s will be held in the Church. On the Monday evening we will light the Beacon and hold a get together at a good viewing point in the village which means it is accessible to everyone. Everyone will be kept informed by posters and newsletters. The next steering group meeting is on Tuesday 22nd November at The Pheasant.

49/11 Parish Plan:

The working group have met and looked at the previous Parish Plan for Casterton as well as other parishes. ACT has been contacted and information has been received together with the offer of a visit from Julia Wilson, which is planned for 29th November at 9.30am. The working group will consist of all Parish Councillors, Duncan Hamlett, Louise Mellor and Graham Lobley. Councillor Humphris has already started the draft questionnaire so we a further meeting will be arranged soon.

50/11 Tripartite Meeting:

This is to take place on Monday 24th October 2011 at Casterton Village Hall at 7.30pm and the following items were placed on the agenda:

- a. The field at the Bridges – possible change to a community park. Jim Walker from Woodside Caravan Park will attend and following discussion will answer questions.
- b. Drains on Stanley Bridge blocked creating large pools of water on both sides of the road. This is a safety issue.
- c. Libraries consultation – Kirkby Lonsdale Library.
- d. High Speed Broadband
- e. Lighting issues.

51/11 Dates of next meetings:

All to take place in Casterton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Monday 7th November 2011 – this will be the Precept Meeting

Monday 5th December 2011

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed:

Dated: