

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall on Monday 16th January 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Enid Hastings (Chairman), John Bye, Ken Humphris, May Mackie and Claire Wildsmith, Paul Stephenson and Craig Bradshaw of Cumbria Fire Service, 12 members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from County and District Councillor K J Lancaster, District Councillors I Mcpherson and E Westwood, and PCSOs Karen Dakin and Rachel Thomas.

Cumbria Fire Service:

The Chairman introduced Paul Stephenson and Craig Bradshaw of Cumbria Fire Service who had been requested to advise the Council on issues relating to the provision of a Community Resilience Plan. Discussion took place on the siting of fire hydrants in the parish and the ability of vehicles to negotiate narrow lanes. Advice was given on the installation of smoke alarms, with special provision for the deaf, and home visits to advice on fire safety issues. The Council will include contact details in the next Village Newsletter. Councillor John Bye proposed a vote of thanks following this most useful visit.

1/12 Declarations of Interest:

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

2/12 County and District matters:

None.

3/12 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2011, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4/12 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

- a. Chapelhouse hedge appeal – the Planning Inspector has not been on site yet and this is scheduled for 17th January, when Graham Nicholson the Arboriculturist will be in attendance. Clarification will then be sought with the Land Registry.
- b. Casterton School. On inspection it has been found that the waste materials have not been removed from the site, but simply covered with soil. Advice is awaited from the Local Authority.
- c. Grit bins. Casterton now has two grit bins and two piles of loose salt but still no loose salt at Chapel Garth and Gateshead Brow.
- d. Newsletter. The first Casterton Newsletter was distributed to those attending the 'fizz and sausage sizzle' on New Year's Day and to the remaining houses since then. It is planned to produce this quarterly and to involve all organisations in Casterton.
- e. Councillor training. This has been delayed but CALC are still in touch with the Council to arrange it shortly.
- f. Dog fouling. This has become a problem, especially in the area between the Church, Medical Centre, and railway bridge. It will be highlighted in the next Village Newsletter. Casterton School is also concerned about the situation..

- g. Vehicles are often parking outside the Village Hall on the pavement, preventing prams and wheelchairs from getting through. The Clerk agreed to ask the Highways Authority for advice, and possibly to supply a sign to ask motorists not to use the pavement.
- h. Councillor Humphris reported that the Council is now officially registered under the Public Mapping Agreement.

(The business of the Council was then adjourned)

Public participation:

- a. Mr R Read said that if grit/grit bin is placed by Langthwaite crossroads he will spread it.
- b. Mr R Read drew the attention of the Council to the increasing problem of dog fouling in the village. It is not permissible to place dog waste in the bus shelter bin but there is a suitable bin on the opposite side of the road.
- c. Mrs M Stocks complimented the Council on the recent Village Newsletter.
- d. Mrs M Stocks thanked the Council for the ongoing work to resolve the lighting problems in the village.
- e. Andrea Sharp asked who would be responsible for maintaining the Village Green if the regeneration of this area is carried out and where will the money come from. She had concerns about safety, litter, dog fouling and feared the area would become an extension to the Pheasant's Beer Garden.
- f. Mr M Stocks asked what the purpose of the proposed regeneration of the Village Green was and expressed concerns over safety issues. The boundaries of his property and the Village Green need to be checked.
- g. Mr R Read said the existing trees on the Village Green need to be pruned.
- h. Mrs M Stocks said that some young people have been cutting back trees on the Village Green. The Chairman agreed to investigate.

(The business of the Council was then resumed)

The Council resolved to arrange a meeting of interested parties to discuss issues relating to the regeneration of the Village Green.

5/12 Lighting on A683:

The Chairman reported that on 29th December, Electricity North West had taken down a lighting pole and left the lamp by the side of the road, and therefore the village has lost a further light. It was resolved that, due to the seriousness of the lighting problems, the matter must be escalated to a much higher level.

6/12 Wayleave:

It was resolved to sign the Wayleave agreement from Electricity North West to enable electricity to be taken across the Village Green to the Coach House.

7/12 Officer's Reports and updates:

- a. Public Rights of Way. Councillor Wildsmith reported that it was unlikely that funding would be available for at least the next three months for any footpath work.
- b. Highways. Councillor Bye reported on the quarterly visits by the Better Highways team and asked that residents notify him of any highway problems in time for the next visit.
- c. Village Hall. Councillor Mackie reported that Carol Singing had taken place around High Casterton and Casterton village on two evenings, when £240 was collected for Manna House in Kendal. The New Year's Day 'fizz and sausage sizzle' had also been held.
- d. LAP. Councillor Mackie reported on the meeting held on 4th January. Casterton Parish Council had been successful in the bid for funding for the Village Green project, in the sum of £3,600. Other topics covered included ongoing provision of High-Speed Broadband and problems with highways and verges.
- e. Spring Litter Pick. Councillor Nick Cotton of Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council is arranging this to take place on the weekends of 10th/11th and 17th/18th March. It was resolved that the Council will manage the Casterton part of the work and Councillor Humphris agreed to confirm this with Councillor Cotton and also to contact Casterton School. Details will be finalised in time for inclusion in the next Casterton Newsletter.
- f. Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The next meeting of the group will take place on 31st January.
- g. Parish Plan. The next meeting of the group will take place on 24th January, when the proposed questionnaire will be finalised. It will then be decided whether to invite responses via email or by hard copy, or both.
- h. Community Resilience Plan. The Chairman reported that there is a list of keyholders for the Village Hall and Church, and venues to use in the event of a major incident would be the Village Hall, Church and The Pheasant. Emergencies caused by snow, rain, or wind could be dealt with by using information obtained from the Parish Plan, such as the number of persons living alone, details of holiday homes, owners of 4 x 4 vehicles, chain saws, long ladders and all-electric houses.
- i. Housing Needs Survey. Iain Withington, SLDC Affordable Housing Policy and Planning Officer will address the next meeting.

8/12 Clerk's Report:

- a. The next Tripartite Meeting will be held at Kirkby Lonsdale on Friday 10th February at 7.30pm. Items for the agenda should reach the Clerk by 31st January.
- b. Consultation on the County Council's Draft Budget. The Clerk has forms and the consultation is also on the CCC website. The closing date for responses is 31st January.
- c. Consultation on proposals for changes to Cumbria's household waste recycling centres. The Clerk has forms and it is also on the CCC website. The closing date for responses is 19th February.

9/12 Financial business:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Robert Best Consultancy	£60.00	Computer support (website)
SK Environmental Solutions Ltd	£312.00	Village Green design/application
The Art Store	£12.50	Newsletter
K M Price	£63.01	Expenses to 31 st December
K M Price	£39.00	Home Office to 31 st December
K M Price	£59.72	Annual stationery order
Councillor John Bye	£21.95	Computer consumables
Casterton Village Hall	£126.00	Hire of hall for 2012

- b. The monthly cash and budget statements were noted.
- c. An application for financial assistance from North West Air Ambulance was considered but it was resolved not to contribute on this occasion. The Council feels its very limited resources should generally be used specifically for activities within the parish.
- d. The 'Grant Awarding Policy' recently adopted by Burneside Parish Council was considered, having been circulated to all Councillors. It was resolved to adopt this policy, with certain alterations and the Clerk will produce the document in its revised form.
- e. It was resolved to make 'Insurance matters' an item for the next agenda.

10/12 Planning:

a. The following application was discussed and approval recommended:

SL/2011/1055 Bees Nest Farm (Wandales Barn), Casterton. Erection of roof over existing sheep pens. It was also resolved to recommend that the proposed development remains as a roof and is not developed into a building.

11/12 Date of next meeting:

Monday 6th February 2012 at 7.30pm at Casterton Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed:

Dated: