

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall on Monday 20th January 2014 at 7.15pm.

Present were: Councillors Enid Hastings (Chairman), John Bye, Ken Humphris, May Mackie and Claire Wildsmith, PCSO Mandy Coleman, nine members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from County and District Councillor Nick Cotton, and District Councillors Ian McPherson and Evelyn Westwood.

Community Speed Watch:

The Chairman welcomed Michael Roberts who addressed the Council on the Community Speed Watch scheme. Michael is a Police Volunteer who will administer the scheme and provide a link between volunteers and police. He was a familiar figure to many in Kirkby Lonsdale in his role as Special Constable.

It was resolved, on behalf of Casterton residents, that the Council congratulates him on being awarded a British Empire Medal in the New Years Honours for his services as a Special Constable in three counties over three decades.

Any residents interested in becoming volunteers for a possible Community Speed Watch scheme in Casterton are invited to contact the Chairman.

14/1 Public participation:

- a. Concern was expressed at the likely cost to the parish of replacing street lights. This would be considered later in the meeting.
- b. A question was asked as to why the minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 15th November had not yet been signed. The Clerk explained that these would be signed at the next Parish Assembly Meeting. The Chairman said that the Parish Council is the founder Trustee of Casterton Village Trust and that nomination papers for both Trustees and beneficiaries will be distributed soon.
- c. David Metcalfe raised the following matters:
 - i. He complained about the effect of neighbour's lights being left on at night.
 - ii. He mentioned the fact that his comments at a previous meeting when he had praised the good work done in the village by volunteer litter pickers had not been recorded.
 - iii. He asked who would be responsible for the maintenance of Laitha Lane after the planned work was completed.
 - iv. He mentioned the overhanging trees and branches in the parish and Councillor Bye agreed to ask CCC Highways if these could be cut back.
 - v. He said a number of nails were still being found on Brownthwaite Fell, near the site of previous bonfires.
- d. Mel Mackie informed the Council of the news from the LAP meeting earlier this evening that £6,800 is to be divided among the 10 LAP parishes for highways work. The monies will be held by Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council and applications will be dealt with by Councillors Nick Cotton and Graham Dalton.

14/2 Requests for Dispensations: None.

14/3 Declarations of Interest:

The Chairman declared an interest in agenda item 13, 'Village Maintenance' and left the room while this was being discussed.

14/4 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2013, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

14/5 County and District matters: None.

14/6 Police Report:

PCSO Mandy Coleman gave a brief report and this had also been circulated to all Councillors. Lights had been stolen from a cycle parked overnight at The Pheasant and trial bikes had been seen in the Brownthwaite Brow area heading towards Bullpot. The registration details were taken and enquiries are ongoing.

14/7 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

- a. It was reported that there had been further hedge cutting near Chapel House lane, resulted in considerable un-cleared debris being left on the lane. This has been reported to CCC.
- b. The new grit bin, which at the August 2013 meeting of the Council, was agreed to be funded from Councillor Nick Cotton's member's fund, has still not been delivered, despite many contacts with Tony Beaty at CCC. This bin will cost £260 purchased by CCC; however, it is possible to purchase one exactly the same size and specifications via the internet for £172. An email has been received from Councillor Cotton today reporting the new bin has been delivered, but, having checked all the cross roads, there is no sight of a new bin. Remaining bins were refilled with grit just before Christmas.
- c. Councillor Mackie spotted a short article in a local paper about a new initiative by CCC to supply home food waste digesters. This was a decision made in November by CCC Cabinet to approve plans to distribute heavily discounted home food waste digesters to around 6,500 Cumbrian Households in Allerdale, Barrow and Eden as these areas still have weekly waste collections. The units have a 10 year life span and will be available for households to purchase at a discount of 75% - approximately £15-£20 each. This £606,000 project is funded by money from the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- d. Resource Cumbria is also offering compost bins at discounted prices from £8 (220 litres) with £5 delivery charge.
- e. The annual Risk Assessment is required before the Annual Meeting so this will be an agenda item for the March meeting.
- f. The next Respect Meeting will be on Monday 3rd February 10am in Sedbergh.

14/8 Street Lighting:

A response to the Clerk's letter to Electricity North West is awaited, to see if they are likely to offer any funding towards the necessary street lighting work. It is accepted that the Parish Council will have to replace redundant lights at some point and it was agreed that no lights should be taken away, as the village would be extremely dark without them.

14/9 Officer's Reports and updates:

- a. **Rights of Way.** Councillor Wildsmith reported as follows:

Bridleway 509019/509020 - Laitha Lane

A meeting with Eve Borino, Countryside Access Ranger from CCC, had taken place on 28th November, together with Steve McEvoy, representing Woodclose Caravan site and Jack Ellerby of Friends of the Lake District. The path was walked along and sections of overgrown hedge were identified, which will be cut back. Some of these sections will be layered by Woodclose Caravan Site. Sections of wall on the boundary between their land and the bridleway are in need of repair and Jack Ellerby has offered to get teams of volunteers to deal with these sometime after March. The path had been walked since then and it was noted that the clearance work had begun.

Footpath 500908 – Ridding Wood

As has been reported several times during the past couple of years, the public right of way through Ridding Wood on land belonging to the Underley Estate is in an extremely boggy condition. Following unsuccessful representations to Underley, both by this Council and by CCC, it appears the only way forward would be for the Parish Council to apply for a grant under the Rights of Way Improvement Project scheme. Chris Graham of the Countryside Access team at CCC has been informally approached and has replied that this could be considered during the financial year 2014/15. They are willing to provide around 50% of the cost if the Parish Council finds funding from elsewhere.

It was resolved that the Council should proceed with this application for funding.

- b. **Highways.** Councillor Bye reported that the details of the re-organisation of CCC Highways had been received but very little has been seen yet of the road repair team.
- c. **Village Hall.** Councillor Mackie reported that this year's carol singing was cancelled due to lack of support. The Bacon Butties & Fizz night on 1st January was a happy occasion and was attended by around 50 villagers. The '100 Club' grand draw was made along with the monthly draw. The Children's Party, with 15 in attendance, was organised by Lisa Lodge on 5th January. The next function is a quiz with a fish and chip supper on 22nd February. Grants have been applied for from Cumbria Community Foundation, Hadfield Trust and Garfield Weston Foundation, for improvements to windows, lights and ceiling.
- d. **Broadband.** Councillor Humphris said there had been no new developments since the last meeting. A further meeting with BT and Cumbria Connect was to be held the following day and it was hoped that more information on coverage for the village would be made known.

- e. **War Memorial.** The Clerk had received no reply from Rev Richard Snow, although it was known he had received the letter (minute 13/123f refers) and he will write again. Councillor Mackie agreed to take on the task of checking the names on the Memorial and the details of the Regiments.

14/10 Correspondence:

CALC. It was resolved to nominate the Chairman and her husband for attendance at the Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2014.

14/11 Finance:

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

CALC	£42.19	Publications (training) (noted)
Ian Johnson	£71.90	Newsletter (noted)
HMRC	£188.00	PAYE (noted)
Ken Humphris	£74.43	Notice board expenses etc
Casterton Village Hall	£175.50	Hire of hall
K M Price	£144.14	Quarterly expenses to 31 st December. (includes use of home office)

- b. The Clerk presented the Budget Report. It was resolved that this Council makes a Precept upon South Lakeland District Council in the sum of £8,766 for the financial year 2014-15.

14/12 Standing Orders:

The Council resolved to adopt the Standing Orders as discussed previously and since circulated.

14/13 Village maintenance:

(Councillor Bye took the chair for this item)

In the interests of openness and transparency, it was resolved that the maintenance of the Village Green should be advertised, with the honorarium the same as last year. Payment will be made at the close of the season, providing the work is carried out satisfactorily.

14/14 Casterton Community Trust:

Nomination forms for Trustees and beneficiaries will be delivered to all residents, with a closing date of 26th January and there will be a public opening of the envelopes on Thursday 30th January at 7.30pm at Casterton Village Hall. Councillor Humphris agreed to advertise this on the website.

14/15 Tripartite Meeting – Tuesday 28th January 2014:

Agenda items for this meeting will include Broadband and future Councillor training needs.

14/16 Planning:

- a. *The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:*

SL/2013/1037 The Mews, Casterton. Installation of 2 roof lights to eastern roof slope. Refusal recommended.

SL/2013/1094 North Heads, Casterton. Single storey rear extension, two storey side extension to side, and erection of detached garage/studio. Approval recommended.

- b. *The following Appeals were noted:*

SL/2013/0471 Casterton Golf Course Ltd. Proposed single storey monopitch practice range building with associated landscaping works.

SL/2013/0759 Whelprigg White House, Casterton. Extension and addition of lean-to conservatory.

14/17 Date of next meeting:

Monday 17th March 2014 at 7.30pm at Casterton Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed:

Dated: