

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall on Monday 1st September 2014 at 7pm.

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

RESOLVED that the Public and Press are excluded from the following item, due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered:

14/73 Clerk's Contract of Employment:

Following the recent Clerk's Annual Appraisal, it had come to light that the Contract under which the Clerk is employed is out of date and requires revision. The Chairman had taken advice from CALC and a new Contract had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. This was agreed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. This will also regularise the situation regarding the Clerk's annual holiday allowance.

14/74 Public participation: None.

14/75 Requests for Dispensations: None.

14/76 Declarations of Interest:

Councillors Humphris and Mackie declared a personal interest in planning application SL/2014/0711.

14/77 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2014, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

14/78 County and District matters:

Councillor Westwood addressed the Council as follows:

- a. She congratulated residents on the display of flowers around the village.
- b. SLDC is to encourage more local businesses to tender for Council contracts. There are to be two briefing workshops at Kendal Town Hall, when the tendering process will be explained.
- c. A question was asked concerning the development consultation presently being carried out by Lancaster City Council, one of the proposals being a large development at Cowan Bridge. Councillor Westwood confirmed that there had been no official approach to SLDC regarding this, and the Clerk said that Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council had not been consulted either.

14/79 Police Report:

The Clerk read the Police Report. There had been three logs of note since the last meeting. Speed checks have been carried out in the area and these will be continued on a monthly basis. All vehicles checked had been under the 30mph limit.

14/80 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

a. Four Councillors attended the LAP meeting on 11th August in Kirkby Lonsdale. Graham Dalton was elected Chairman and Evelyn Westwood Vice Chairman for the coming year.

Actions agreed included:

To discuss Health watch Cumbria at the next meeting – agenda item

To check if any young people in the parish are affected by the planned changes for post-16 education travel options and report to JD.

To request the next meeting of the Respect Group to consider the role, format and membership of the group, and the possibility of shared meetings / learning with the Upper Eden equivalent group.

b. The CALC AGM will be held on 18th September at Gilpin Bridge.

c. Kirkby Lonsdale Post Office is scheduled to be changed to one of the new style branches, and will close for refurbishment on Tuesday 23rd September at 1730 and is scheduled to be open on Friday 3rd October at 1300. For customers this will mean:

Modern open plan environment

The same products and services

Longer opening hours on a Saturday 0900 to 1730.

d. In the last letter from Scott Carnochan, Headmaster of Casterton/Sedbergh Prep School, Casterton residents are invited to meet staff in the Tom Penny Theatre on 2nd September at 18.00.

Officer's Reports:

a. Public Rights of Way. Councillor Wildsmith submitted her report and this would be appended to these minutes.

b. Highways. Councillor Bye submitted his report and this would be appended to these minutes.

c. Village Hall. Councillor Mackie reported that the renovations are now complete, new ceiling, lighting and double-glazing having been installed.

d. Broadband. Councillor Humphris said there was not a lot to report at present and the postcode level data had not yet been provided. It was understood that Kirkby Lonsdale would be going live in December 2014.

14/82 Casterton Newsletter:

After discussion, it was resolved to continue with the present quarterly publication, and to continue using colour. Residents will be offered the opportunity of receiving their copy by email. The publication date for the next issue is 29th September.

14/83 Village Maintenance:

- a. More silted up drains have been identified and added to the contractors list
- b. Confirmation is still awaited from ENW that they will provide electricity to a new site.
- c. Two new litterbins have now been sited securely

14/84 Standing Orders:

It was resolved, after discussion, that authority to comment on minor planning applications, where a comment is required between meetings of the Council, is delegated to the Clerk. An additional Council meeting will be called if it is felt necessary.

14/85 World War 1 Commemoration:

Councillor Mackie outlined the provisional arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday service. It is hoped this will be held at 11am. Two members of each family with World War 1 connections are being invited and refreshments will be provided in the Village Hall afterwards.

14/86 Health watch Cumbria:

This is an independent organisation set up to champion the views of patients and social care users in Cumbria. They need to gather information from the public of their experiences of local health care and social services – good and bad - and wish to know what services the community want to be provided in the future.

It was suggested that the Council might assist in the distribution of posters, flyers and newsletters. The website might also be used.

14/87 Clerk's Report:

SLDC are arranging a number of planning workshops. The Clerk will circulate the possible dates to Councillors.

14/88 Finance:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Casterton PCC	£81.00	Church clock maintenance (to note)
M D Sanderson	£130.00	Maintenance (to note)
W Putley	£1,000.00	Rebuilding wall on footpath (to note)
Ian Johnson	£105.00	Newsletter printing (to note)
Bill Hastings	£125.00	Honorarium for maintenance work

Graham Linley	£125.00	Honorarium for maintenance work
Duncan Hamlett	£25.00	Honorarium for Internal Audit
Burneside PC	£12.90	Photocopies (one year)
Ken Humphris	£32.86	Signs and fitting
K M Price	£713.25	Back holiday pay under New Contract

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

14/89 Planning:

The following applications were considered:

SL/2013/1040 and 1041 Old Manor Farm, High Casterton. Single storey rear extension, single storey side extension and installation of solar panels and roof lights. No objections.

SL/2014/0711 Laithan Barn, High Casterton. Two storey extension and replacement single storey lean-to extension. Refusal recommended for the follow reasons:

- a. The proposed development would take the property to the very edge of this very narrow lane.
- b. The neighbours will lose light through the proposed development.
- c. Reduced visibility for vehicle movements in and out of the lane.
- d. The sheer size of the proposals.
- e. Such a development would change the character of this area of the village.

(Councillors Humphris and Mackie left the room and took no part in the discussion).

CU/2014/0017 Building on land off A683 (adjacent to Devil's Bridge). Change of use from agricultural building to single dwelling. Refusal recommended. If allowed, this proposed development would look incongruous and would make the area look more urban. The Council reiterates the reasons given previously for the recommendation.

SL/2014/0818 Casterton Old Hall, Casterton. Removal of existing linking building and subsequent alterations. No objections.

Peter Marshall (Bursar Sedbergh/Casterton School) outlined proposals for the sale of land for development at Casterton School and distributed flyers with details. There is to be an open meeting the following day, when questions from the public will be welcomed.

14/90 Date of next meeting:

Monday 6th October 2014 at Casterton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed:

Dated: