

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall, on Monday 16th March 2015 at 2pm.

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

36/15 Public participation: None.

37/15 Requests for Dispensations: None.

38/15 Declarations of Interest:

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

39/15 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2015, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

40/15 County and District matters:

Councillor Lancaster spoke regarding this year's Appleby Horse Fair - this would be discussed later in the meeting.

Councillor Westwood mentioned likely cost of holding Parish Elections, should there be one. She also mentioned the environmental directive whereby private water supplies are being tested, but tests can cost between £300 and £500. Further information is available on request.

41/15 Police Report:

The Clerk read the Police Report. Five incidents had been recorded in the Casterton area and there have been a number of break -ins and thefts recently in the rural area. Residents are reminded to be vigilant and to take extra care in locking and securing all premises.

42/15 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

- a. The next newsletter is due out the beginning of April and all contributions should be sent to Councillor Humphris.
- b. The Chairman attended the LAP meeting on Monday 23rd February at Dent Village Hall. The minutes have been circulated.
- c. Councillor Wildsmith and the Chairman had a very positive informal meeting with Mr and Mrs Lamb of Casterton Grange and were invited to see the new Hereford cattle and discuss various Public Rights of Way.
- d. A resident has asked if Casterton will be marking the 70th anniversary of VE day over the 8th - 10th May. After discussion, this was not felt to be feasible due to the short notice.

43/15 Officer's Reports:

- a. Public Rights of Way. Councillor Wildsmith's report was read and will be circulated by the Clerk.
- b. Highways. Councillor Bye read his report. This had been circulated and will be appended to these minutes. There are concerns on all the lanes in the parish and, after further discussion and advice from the District Councillors present, it was agreed that Councillor Bye will draw up a proposal for a major package to deal with at least some of these issues in stages. He will submit this to CCC Highways.
- c. Village Hall. Councillor Mackie reported that a Round Britain Quiz night had been held on 27th February, when there was a good attendance, with a two-course supper and raffle. The evening was socially and financially successful. There is a Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on 25th April and the AGM is on Thursday 21st May.
- d. Broadband. Nothing to report.
- e. Western Dales Bus Service. Councillor Bye reported that he had attended the Board Meeting on 4th March at Barbon, and had been very impressed with the organisation of this committed group. New timetables have recently been issued, drivers receive regular training and good records are kept. The group is hoping to purchase a new bus in due course.
- f. Swimming Club. Councillor Humphris said that 12-13 people have now expressed an interest. Councillor Westwood said she will find out how the Sedbergh club operates and let the Chairman know. The availability of a lifeguard will need to be checked, but provisionally Wednesday seemed a good day for the majority of people with an interest, and volunteers should be encouraged to take ownership. It was agreed to ask Age UK if they would be willing to organise it as it is an adult over 50's club and progress things from there.

44/15 Signs for lanes in Casterton:

One road sign, at Laitha Lane, is now in place and reaction from the residents is awaited. The Clerk said there was no further news regarding possible funding from the Environmental Partnership Fund.

45.15 Street lighting:

This year, Council has replaced one streetlight, by the Pheasant Inn. An Application for some funding has been made to the Locally Important Projects Scheme (LIPS) and a reply is awaited. A full replacement scheme would cost £11,098.63 to change the remaining 5 poles and replace all the lanterns. It was agreed to also apply to the Casterton Community Trust for £1000 towards this project.

46/15 Village maintenance:

- a. Cost of electricity for lighting. Councillors Lancaster and Westwood agreed to ask SLDC regarding the cost of electricity and how this is charged to the parish and Councillor Humphris agreed to work out what the cost should be in future.

b. Dog fouling. Correspondence had been received from a resident, expressing dismay at the problem of dog fouling in the parish and offering financial assistance towards the provision of dog bins. The police have already erected laminated signs in the parish. It was agreed to bring resident's attention to this problem in the next newsletter and the Chairman agreed to contact Nick Pearson at SLDC to ascertain what the cost would be, for both the purchase of bins and the emptying of them and to enquire if Casterton School might be prepared to help with the cost of a bin.

c. Vehicle damage to verges. There has been damage caused by vehicles on both the Village Green and the verge opposite Holy Trinity Church. It was agreed to ask Bill Hastings and Graham Linley to inspect the damage to see if they could repair it and the Chairman agreed to ask if Casterton School's ground staff could help with the verge damaged opposite the church.

47/15 Standing Orders:

The revised Standing Orders, having been circulated and discussed, were adopted unanimously.

48/15 Financial Regulations:

Following the revision of the Council's Financial Regulations at the last meeting, these were adopted unanimously.

49/15 Risk Assessments:

The revised Risk Assessment, drawn up by the Clerk, having been circulated was agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman and clerk.

50/15 Reporting Parish Council Meetings:

It was resolved to write to the local 'Westmorland Gazette' correspondent, inviting him to attend any future meetings of the Parish Council. If he is unable to attend and quotes extracts from the minutes, the copy should be reported exactly as it appears in those minutes, so that reports written in the media accurately reflect the Council's position.

51/15 Appleby Fair:

A paper presented to the LAP by the Chairman of this Council and the Chairman of Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council had been circulated. The Casterton PC accepted this paper as had Kirkby Lonsdale TC. It is hoped to arrange a Respect meeting within the next two weeks.

52/15 Litter picking by the Loop Road:

Councillor Cotton (by email) reported he had been picking litter on the A683 the previous day from Casterton/Sedbergh School north to Hodge Bridge, resulting in 11 bags being collected. Councillors appreciated that the litter had been removed but urged Councillor Cotton as our CCC to continue to make representation, on our behalf, to the relevant authorities as this is an ongoing problem of the A683 and the A65 and members of the Public should not be litter picking on either of these roads

The Chairman agreed to co-ordinate litter picking at the Loop Road with residents on 24th March at 5pm.

53/15 Underley Estates:

Underley Estate is planning a programme of upgrading their woodland and had provided detailed plans and projections. It was agreed the Chairman would invite Marcus Wright to address a future meeting of the Council.

54/15 Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting - Monday 20th April 2015:

This meeting will be held at 7pm, and will be followed by the AGM of Casterton Community Trust. The Clerk will invite village organisations to take part, including Casterton School.

55/15 Clerk's Report:

- a. The Clerk reported on the new Transparency Regulations, which come into force on 1st April 2015. The immediate effect of these will be that some financial transactions and agenda papers, among others matters, will need to be freely available on the Council's website. Further regulations are expected to come into force in 2017.
- b. Receipt of Pre-Election Guidance from CALC was noted.

56/15 Financial business:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

John Bye	£21.65	Printer cartridge
HMRC	£235.80	PAYE
K M Price	£83.50	Holiday pay update

b. It was resolved to pay the following account on 1st April 2015:

Casterton PCC	£81.00	Donation - Church clock maintenance
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c. The cash and budget statements were noted.

57/15 Planning:

The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:

SL/2014/1191 Hole House, Bents Lane, Casterton. Single storey extensions. Granted.

SL/2014/1188 Wandales Barn, Wandales Lane, High Casterton. Discharge of Condition 6 attached to Planning Permission SL/2011/0171 Refused.

58/15 Future agenda items:

- a. Tripartite Meetings - to discuss the future of these meetings.
- b. Ash Dieback - to consider the current situation and action required.

59/15 Date of next meeting:

***Wednesday 20th May 2015 at Casterton Village Hall at 7.30pm
(This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting)
The meeting closed at 4.05pm.***

Signed:

Dated: