

Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council
held at Casterton Village Hall on Monday 23rd November 2015 at 2pm.

Present were Councillors Enid Hastings (Chairman), John Bye, Ken Humphris, Jean Lobley and Claire Wildsmith, District Councillors Kevin Lancaster and Mel Mackie, four members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from County and District Councillor Nick Cotton.

142/15 Public participation:

- a. The attention of the Council was drawn to the damage to the road surface on Laitha Lane, caused by flooding last week. Noted.
- b. It was stated that Laitha Lane is an unclassified road and the Council was asked how consent had been granted for a nameplate to be erected. Noted.
- c. A resident suggested that Laitha Lane may be unsafe at present, and the Council was asked if it accepted liability for its use. Councillor Wildsmith replied that she has already reported the matter to Guy Timperley at CCC who has said that repairs will be effected as and when finance becomes available in 2016-17. It was pointed out that the Parish Council does not own the lane.

143/15 Requests for Dispensations: None.

144/15 Declarations of interest:

Councillor Hastings declared a personal interest in planning application SL/2015/0840 and 0843 Bees Nest Farm, and took no part in the discussion or recommendation.

145/15 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2015, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

146/15 County and District matters:

Councillor Mackie reported as follows:

- a. There have been further problems in the collection of garden waste by SLDC.
- b. Lawrence Conway of SLDC has been asked to provide information to Parish Councils affected by the forthcoming extension to the Yorkshire Dales National Park boundaries.

Councillor Lancaster reported as follows:

- a. The new arrangements for bin collection have been most unsatisfactory.
- b. Water testing by SLDC is still an issue for many residents who are on a private water supply.
- c. An Electoral Review is forthcoming, with the possibility that 'three-member Wards' will be introduced throughout the District.

147/15 Police Report:

The Clerk read the Police report. There had been no logs of note in the Casterton area. In the surrounding area a vehicle was stopped on the A65, two persons were arrested and their vehicle uplifted for drugs offences.

Some advice was given regarding driving in the winter weather and protecting valuables around Christmas time.

148/15 Chairman and Councillor's announcements:

- a. The Chairman reported on a meeting last week with the Head Teacher and Bursar at the school to discuss various issues of common interest to the Council and the School. These included inviting a representative from the school to join the working party for the next Parish Plan, the installation of new lights, speeding vehicles - especially motor cycles on the A683, the establishment of the swimming club, and progress on the conversion of buildings on the school site. It was agreed the developer and the Bursar would attend a Council meeting early next year to update the Council on progress.
- b. Councillor Humphris reported that he had attended a meeting last week regarding the extension to the boundaries of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and an officer would visit Parish Councils who will be affected by this change. It is likely that, although planning matters will become a National Park issue, it is not known whether this will be implemented.
- c. Councillor Humphris reported that he had attended a talk by the Ambulance Service on the provision and use of community defibrillators and it was agreed to look into the possibility of providing one in this parish.

149/15 Officer's Reports:

- a. **Public Rights of Way.** Councillor Wildsmith reported on Bridleway 509019/509020 – Laitha Lane. As reported at the September meeting, CCC has agreed to fund the replacement of the broken ladder stile at the end of Footpath 509020 where it joins the bridleway with a kissing gate. The Clerk and a representative from CCC had contacted the landowner with this information, and had received a negative reply. The Council expressed concern that a ‘ladder stile’ is more difficult to access and because the wooden steps are often slippery, may present an increased risk for walkers – old and young – than the recommended ‘kissing-gate’. It was agreed that the matter at present is best left in the hands of the CCC. The recent heavy rain has damaged the surface of the bridleway in the area of this stile. Photographs have been sent to the Countryside Access Team and the Council has been informed that repairs will be carried out in the spring of 2016 if finances are available. The Clerk agreed to contact Paul Graham and Guy Timperley at CCC
- b. **Highways.** Councillor Bye reported that markings have appeared on various roads in the parish and enquiries have revealed that these indicate the forthcoming repairs and surface dressing due in 2016. Peter Hoskings has been contacted to establish why the lanes in High Casterton have not been included in these plans.

- c. **Village Hall.** Councillor Lobley reported that there had been a talk on 29th October entitled 'Facts and Phantoms of Upper Eden', by Susan Garnett. On 4th December, there is to be a 'Festive Food and Entertainment' evening and admission is by ticket only.
- d. **Broadband:** No report.
- e. **Western Dales Bus service:** No report, as there had not been a meeting recently.

150/15 Lakes and Dales Loop - a 190 mile ride around Cumbria:

This matter had been raised at the last meeting (minute 122/15c refers). Councillor Nick Cotton had clarified the situation somewhat and had sent the Clerk a link to follow up. It was agreed to respond to this, saying the Council is concerned at the lack of consultation, to establish who has authorised the signs and where and what quality the permanent signs would take.

151/15 Parish Plan:

There is to be an ACT training event on 19th January in Ambleside and Councillors and others involved in the Parish Plan may attend. A provisional date of 27th January was fixed for a meeting in Casterton to discuss the Parish Plan following the training and there is now a working group of Councillors and residents.

152/15 Freedom of Information:

The revised 'Freedom of Information' sheet had been circulated to all Councillors and it was resolved to adopt this. It will now be placed on the website.

153/15 Village maintenance:

Councillor Bye agreed to ask CCC to come and sweep the leaves from the lanes around the parish. The Chairman agreed to contact Bill Hartley regarding the drainage problems on Chapel house Lane.

154/15 Street lights:

The trimming of hedges (minute 134/15 refers) is taking place at present. The Chairman will follow up the licence for the street lighting work, which has been paid for and the agreement has been signed and witnessed as requested by CCC.

155/15 Clerk's Report:

- a. SLDC Parish Remuneration Panel Report - noted.
- b. Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of South Lakeland. Councillors and residents are encouraged to respond to this survey online and a poster will be placed on the notice board giving details.

156/15 Finance:

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

Ken Humphris	£36.00	Reimbursement for website domain renewal
RBL Poppy Appeal	£25.00	Remembrance wreath

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

157/15 Planning:

The following application was considered:

SL/2015/0840 and 0843 Bees Nest Farm, Casterton. Conversion of barn and outbuilding to form two dwellings with associated cartilage. No objection, but the Council would prefer to see a stone or render finish.

158/15 Future agenda items:

- a. Updating any regular documents - the Clerk will provide details.
- b. Defibrillator

159/15 2016 Council Meetings:

The dates provisionally agreed at last month's meeting (minute 140/15 refers) were confirmed.

160/15 Date of next meeting:

***Monday 4th January 2016 at 2pm at Casterton Village Hall.
(This will be the Precept Meeting)***

The meeting closed at 3pm.

Signed:

Dated: