

**Minutes of a meeting of Casterton Parish Council held at Casterton Village Hall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm.**

Present were Councillors Chris Benson (Chairman), Martin Coombs and Lisa Lodge, District Councillor Kevin Lancaster, six members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stephen Evans.

*(The Chairman asked for a moment of silence to remember the victims of the present war in the Ukraine).*

**22/19 Public participation:**

a. It had been noted (minute 22/7d) that the Council intended to cancel the standing order for 'Casterton Neighbours'. The Council was assured that the scheme is still operating; it was set up in 2018 (a directive from SLDC, to form a Resilience Plan, which was then set up, approved by SLDC and became the responsibility of the Parish Council) and the parish was notified of this by way of a flyer being delivered. The annual subscription pays for a dedicated telephone line, managed by Community Heartbeat Trust and anyone contacting this number may receive help from those who are still very active in the scheme - it was widely used during lockdown. The phone number is 015242-20219 and it has been in use since 2018.

After discussion, it was agreed that this will be an agenda item for the next meeting and the group operating the scheme are invited to report to that meeting, including a request for any help with funding they might require, and for the minutes of any meeting they hold to be circulated to Councillors prior to the next meeting.

b. The Council was asked for advice to assist in sending money to the Ukraine, in view of the conflict there. Councillor Lancaster responded with details of facilities in Sedbergh and other collection points in the area.

c. A question was asked regarding minute 21/56 (meeting of 14th October 2021), referring to the possible use of the CIL money for installing measure to combat speeding through the village. It was pointed out that a report given to the Council in 2015, following a survey carried out, had concluded that there was not a speeding problem and there traffic calming measures were not to be introduced (this would be mentioned further during the 'CANS' report later in the meeting)

d. It was pointed out that there occasional 'glips' on the website; Councillor Coombs said he was aware of this.

e. (by email). It was questioned (Agenda item 8a) if reimbursement for refreshments at an open meeting was an appropriate use of the Precept. The Clerk had responded, pointing out that the provision of refreshments at a public meeting is permitted, but not at a Council meeting.

f. (by email). The Council was urged not to allow unnecessary signage in the village - with reference to North Heads Lane (Agenda item 11).

**22/20 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

## **22/21 Declarations of Interest:**

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

## **22/22 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## **22/23 Reports:**

- a. District Councillor: Councillor Lancaster updated the Council on the Local Government Re-organisation currently taking place. The Sedbergh and Kirkby Lonsdale Ward will consist of two members, with a much increased number of parishes. Parish Councils are likely to have more work and responsibilities devolved to them.
- b. Village Hall: Councillor Coombs said there had been no meeting of the committee since the last Council meeting.
- c. Neighbourhood Watch: Although Neighbourhood Watch signs can be seen around the village, there is, apparently, no official scheme operating any longer. The Clerk had been in touch with Sgt. Suzanne Scott-O'Neill who has notified the PCSOs in the area, so if anyone wishes to set up an official scheme, they can point them in the right direction.

## **22/24 CANS (Councils Against Noise and Speed):**

Councillor Lancaster said that a meeting is being set up to consider the issues of noise and speed, relating to motorcycles, in Sedbergh and Garsdale and he will ensure Councillor Evans (Casterton's representative) is invited to attend. There is strong support from all three neighbouring Police forces and Hamish Wilson, the founder of the group, is to be thanked for getting all relevant parties together.

## **22/25 Finance:**

- a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*  
  
Casterton Village Hall £80.00 Meeting during 2021/22  
Lisa Lodge £34.97 Reimbursement for refreshments at  
open meeting.
- b. The cash and budget statements were noted.
- c. The Clerk notified the Council that the CIL monies being held would need to be used during 2022. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting as there are strong feelings that speeding on the A683 is still an issue, despite the previous survey.

## **22/26 Planning:**

*It was resolved to make no objection to this proposal:*

Shared Rural Network Pre-Application Telecommunications Installation: CTIL\_305385 BARBON LOW FELL.

**22/27 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022:**

Councillor Lodge reported on the very well supported meeting held recently. The Chairman had made all the arrangements for the beacon and has formally registered it. Transport is not available to the beacon but may be for other events, to enable as many as possible to take part in the various activities that are planned. A '1950's band is planned to perform on the Friday evening, an historical tour of the church is planned, and there will be a street party on the playing field on the Sunday. A grant application is being submitted and it is anticipated that £500 will cover everything.

A crab apple tree is to be planted on the Village Green and the decaying cherry tree will be removed.

**22/28 North Heads Lane:**

There is a desire on the part of some of the residents to change the signage (not the lights) at both ends of the lane to try and prevent lorries getting stuck in the pinch point above Brantfield. There have been numerous occasions when lorries have been stuck; one of the most recent damaging adjacent properties' boundary walls. Councillor Lancaster said he would support any action taken to try and alleviate the situation. Councillor Cotton has been included in the correspondence and this will be considered further when a formal request is made to CCC Highways.

**22/29 'Protect our verges':**

Councillor Lodge said there had been no feedback on this issue, so it was deferred until a future meeting. The Clerk will ask CCC for details of the 'cutting plan' for this parish.

**22/30 Recycling:**

This was deferred to a future meeting..

**22/31 Permissive path from Casterton to Kirkby Lonsdale:**

This was deferred until the next meeting.

**22/32 Website:**

Councillor Coombs said that the website is being well used and some training had been given to the Clerk to enable him to upload agenda and minutes. A question was asked as to whether advertising would be considered on the website or not.

**22/33 Casterton Twinning** - there was nothing to report.

**22/34 Date of the next meeting:**

***Thursday 21st April 2022 at 7.30pm at Casterton Village Hall  
(This was subsequently changed to 14th April)***

*The meeting closed at 8.35pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*