

GREAT CASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in Casterton Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 9th.March 2022

In Attendance:

Councillors Mark Bush (MB) in the Chair, John Sylvester (JS), Alasdair Ryder (AR), Jo Milnes (JM), Steve Barker (SB) and Derek Patience, Parish Clerk. Also present were County Councillor David Wilby (DW), P.C.Laurie Appleby and one member of the public, Marian Pitt

21.061 Apologies for Absence:

None

21.062 Declarations of Interest

None

21.063 Minutes of Meetings held on 19th.January 2022

Accepted as a true record, proposed JM seconded JS, all in favour.

21.064 Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the agenda

1. Village Entrance Chicanes. Acknowledgement of the application has been received, but nothing further yet. DW promised to make enquiries of Highways Dept.

21.065 Police Matters

LA reported that crime in the village is low, there being 3 crimes since January – a break-in at OK Diner, a digger theft, and a bike theft. The speed van has been doing 2 hours a month in the village, and had noticed a big drop in convictions recently. The Clerk pointed out that this was probably due to the SIDs being repaired. The Chairman gave him notice of the Jubilee events, JM gave details. LA said that we were the first to inform him of such events, he will be on duty that weekend, and will endeavour to attend. He advised that RCC should be approached for the proposed closure of Pickworth Road, Clerk will email LA with full details of the weekend events.

SB had heard a number of complaints from his customers regarding parking at school times in Pickworth Road and enquired about the possibility of double yellow lines being installed adjacent to the Primary School. LA replied that this was a decision for RCC Highways, who were generally averse to double yellow lines, and in addition were not in a position to enforce them. Hambleton were the only village in Rutland to have double yellow lines in place, and they had put forward an exceptional case to RCC. LA will pass on the details of the person responsible for the application to the Clerk.

21.067 Financial Update

a. Current Position: The Clerk had circulated an up-to-date account showing the current position, with expenditure at £5,7813.44 from income totalling £11,493.53, balance £21,403.97. The ring-fenced CIL money reserve is £11,828.18, the election costs reserve £500, leaving a working balance of £9,075.79. After known expenditure the end of year balance is likely to be in the vicinity of £8,000, an acceptable level compared with the annual expenditure of some £6,500.

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b. Cheque Authorisations: i) £100.00 donation to St. John's Ambulance, who have been booked for the Jubilee events. The Chairman advised that there would be a fee payable in addition, which could be mitigated in the light of this donation. ii) £369.60 to J.N.Morris & Son for the Jubilee Beacon, of which the VAT (£61.60) would be recoverable. These were authorized on the proposal of AR, seconded JM.

21.068 Planning

a. Barkers: Development continues with the developers expecting to complete soon, with plots 4 & 5 now nearly finished. A retrospective application has been submitted for the installation of gabion fittings to allow garden developments in plots 1,2 & 3 – Clerk to submit support to Planning Dept.

Nothing further on the separate application submitted for the development of the garage site has been noted, for six flats along Main Street to the Water Lane junction. SB believes the application has been withdrawn – it no longer appears on the website.

b. Bowls Green Proposals: The planning application has been approved, with the footpath and play area confirmed. Tom Helliwell has written to us confirming that the developers would be installing the play area and kitting it out, and that on completion would gift the area to the Parish Council.

There will be delays while the land is sold on to the developers before work can commence.

c. Rutland Local Plan: DW reported no further developments on this since the last meeting – an all-party working party has started work on the way forward, but he has no further update as yet.

d. Mallard Pass Solar Farm: The scoping report from the developers (a preliminary assessment of potential size and scope of available research) has been published, a lengthy and technical document which will need full scrutiny by qualified individuals. Our MP, Alicia Kearns, remains fully engaged with this proposal. It is clear that there are many hoops to step through, and it will be some time before the outcome becomes known.

e. Quarry Farm/North Stamford: There is a proposal in progress for 650 houses on this site, which is in Rutland, and the development “gifted” to SKDC to enable them to complete their requirements for the North Stamford development proposals. DW reported on the current impasse between SKDC and RCC over this proposal.

f. Ketton/Tinwell Local Plan: The Chairman had responded to the email pointing out that the footpath alongside the River Guash between Water Lane and the graveyard, which lies within the parish of Tinwell, was a well-used amenity which we would like to see protected from any development.

g. Crown Inn application for an Orangery to the rear of the building. SAB reported that there had been resistance from the planners, who did not think the car park was large enough. He reported that in response to this he had acquired 20m of the field behind to allow for expansion of the car park.

21,069 Highways

a. Water Lane Widening: No further developments. We need to keep an eye on this as the planning process proceeds on the garage site, particularly if the Mallard Pass Solar Farm gets the go-ahead, as pressure on the crossroads in the village are bound to increase.

b. Entrance Gates at chicanes. An application for enhancement of the village

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entrances at both chicanes on OGNR has been submitted, and acknowledged. An engineer will have to do a viability assessment, and will be in touch in due course. This has yet to happen, and DW will enquire of Highways as to progress.

21.070 Community Update re Covid-19

MB reported that the figures within Rutland were still high.

21.071 Queen's Jubilee June 2022

JM had nothing to add to her report under minute 21.065 above, and plans were well advanced.

21.072 Any Other Business

None

21.073 Date of Next Meetings:

Parish Council on Wednesday 20th. April in Church Hall, 7.00pm

Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 25th.May 2022 at the Church Hall, 7.00pm

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00 pm