

GREAT CASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in Casterton Church Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 21st.September 2022

In Attendance:

Councillors Mark Bush (MB) in the Chair, John Sylvester (JS), Steve Barker (SB), Alasdair Ryder (AR), Jo Milnes (JM) and Derek Patience, Parish Clerk. Also present were County Councillor David Wilby (DW) and three members of the public, David Clarke, Marion Pitt and Pat Elliott

22.025 Apologies for Absence:

County Councillor Rick Wilson, PC Ben Orton

22.026 Declarations of Interest

None

22.027 Minutes of Meeting held on 6th.July 2022

Accepted as a true record, proposed AR seconded SB, all in favour.

22.028 Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the agenda

None

22.029 Police Matters

No report in absence of police representative. The monthly Beat Report showed just one item relating to Great Casterton: a man hanging over the side of a bridge on the A1 arrested, causing public nuisance.

The Chairman read out an email from PC Laurie Appleton our police beat officer for many years, who has been appointed to the Recruitment Team with Leicestershire Police. He has worked in Rutland for most of his career and has loved every minute.

22.030 Financial Update

1. Current Position: The Clerk had circulated an up-to-date account showing the current position, with expenditure at £8,422.54 from income totalling £6,004.60, balance £18,365.94 comprising CIL Reserve £6,569.68, Election Reserve £750.00 and General Reserve £11,046.26.

2. CIL Account: A copy of the up-to-date position on this account had been circulated prior to the meeting. The first tranche of £1,182.82, due to be used by April 2024, has now been fully expended. Of the second tranche of £5,322.68, due by October 2024, some £4,075.68 has already been spent. The final tranche of £5,322.68 is due to be used by April 2025.

3. Cheque Authorisations: i) £20 donation to CPRE. ii). £496.09 – Clerk's net salary. iii) £124.00 – HMRC – PAYE iv). £80.00 to Plough Env. Services – Grass cutting for June. These were approved on the proposal of SB, seconded AR.

22.031 Planning

a. Barkers: Development is now nearly finished, with all but one properties now occupied. Last property has been advertised for sale. No further news on second phase –

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initial application now withdrawn. SB understands that a new application will be submitted in the near future.

b. Bowls Green Proposals: No further developments as yet. We are told that there will be delays while the land is sold on to the developers before work can commence. AR reported that Planning have now agreed to footpath access from both Pickworth Road and Old Great North Road.

c. Rutland Local Plan: DW reported that the final date for responses to the new Local Plan has been extended by two weeks to 30 September. These will need to be studied, and final decisions are unlikely before the Spring.

There followed a discussion on the effects of current and predicted electricity charges will have on our annual streetlighting charge. The Clerk has written to Highways for an indication on what this years charge will be, and asking for advice on the best ways we can attempt to keep the charge down.

d. Mallard Pass Solar Farm: Initial surveys are now taking place, which are normal and do not suggest that the proposals have yet been agreed. DW suggested that it will be some time before any further developments transpire

e. Quarry Farm/North Stamford/ A1 link: DW reported that initial surveys are now being undertaken – the Clerk understands that archaeological remains have been found, which could delay proceedings. DW said that both RCC and SKDC have yet to indicate whether they support the proposals, and much needs to be done regarding schools, medical centres etc. before any planning applications can be submitted.

21,032 Highways

- a. Water Lane Widening: No further developments.
- b. Entrance Gates at chicanes. The Clerk had heard from Heather Caldicott of the HTWTG that our proposals had been scheduled for 2024/2025. Councillors were not happy with this and the Clerk was requested to approach her to ascertain whether we could agree plans for the gates and arrange for our own contractors to complete the works.
- c. SIDs: The HTWG has scheduled replacements for our SIDs for next year 2023-24.

22.033 Community Update re Covid-19

MB reported that the figures within Rutland were falling slightly. DW recommended continued vigilance in view of the recent increase in national figures. It was generally agreed that arrangements for this Autumn's Covid booster and Flu vaccinations were chaotic at present.

22.034 Memorial Plaque/Queen's Green Canopy

It was agreed that an additional plaque should be attached to the beacon commemorating the reign of the late Queen. Members were asked to give thought to the wording and email suggestions to the Chairman. Estimated cost is £70, which can be charged to the CIL account.

The Chairman reminded councillors that earlier this year the Lord Lieutenant had written regarding the Queen's Green Canopy suggesting a drive on tree planting for the Platinum Jubilee, and we had deferred a decision to the Autumn. Following Her Majesty's

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recent death, further options have become available through the Woodland Trust. The Vicar has asked if we can plant a couple of trees in the cemetery, which proposal was approved. The Chairman will pursue through the Woodland Trust. The Parish Council is entitled to one tree free of charge – further trees will cost £10.50. DW emphasized the need for the trees to be cared for and for protection from animals would be needed.

22.036 Any Other Business

1. River Maintenance: Pat Elliott asked who was responsible for keeping the Guash clear, as it has become very cluttered behind the houses in the village. JM said that Anglian Water were responsible for the river itself, and that landowners were responsible for the trees on the bank on their land. AR said that most residents were diligent in keeping their frontages to the river clear, and that maybe more concerted effort was needed to get all residents to do their bit. The bank on the further side of the river, which falls within Tinwell parish, is on Cecil Trust land and needs much clearance work.

2. Overgrown footpath: David Clarke reported that the footpath between College Close and High Crescent had become overgrown with brambles, which he had taken upon himself to clear. He was concerned that no-one seemed to take responsibility to keep the footpath clear – the Clerk said that it should be reported to FixMyStreet on future, and RCC will take it on.

22.037 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 2nd. November 2022 at the Church Hall 7.00pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.50 pm