

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2014**

Present:

Councillor Mrs M Wilmer (Chair)
Councillors D Martin, B Robertson, Mrs V Robertson and B Turnbull

Also Present:

PCSO Goodwin and A Holland, County Councillors R Crute and Mrs L Pounder, Mrs A Moon and Mr M Colborn

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor B Nutter.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Goodwin explained that there had been 24 incidents since the last meeting, 1 of which was theft of BT cables. There had been a number of calls from farmers regarding a member of the public trying to sell a chainsaw. Observations had been requested through Farm Watch.

The current PACT priority was suspicious activity in Castle Eden Dene and surrounding farmlands. Late night joint patrols would be carried out with Natural England.

Crime remained static and was down 21% in the section.

U turns on Burdon Walk and careless driving had been reported and he was currently investigating.

Councillor Crute advised that he had visited the resident that was experiencing the problems in Burdon Walk. There was CCTV footage of cars doing u turns and driving back out of the estate. He had suggested that this was reported to the Police and highways department at DCC.

Councillor Turnbull referred to speeding through the village and queried the policy for dealing with offenders. PCSO Goodwin explained that the Road Policing Unit (RPU) had been in the village over the past month but no report had been received to date. The policy for prosecution was the speed limit plus 10% plus 2.

Councillor Turnbull referred to the Crematorium proposal and comments received regarding the exit suggested that the splay would be acceptable up to 42mph. Generally, vehicles would travel much faster than 42mph. PSCO Goodwin explained that enforcement would be taken through the RPU and community speedwatch.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

4. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **20 FEBRUARY 2014**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendments:

- Councillors R Crute and L Pounder being added to also present.
- Delete Councillor Mrs Robertson and replace with The Chair in the fifth paragraph of the Police report. The planning enforcement referred to the businesses being ran from The Castle.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

AED Funding Update (Minute No 11(ii) refers)

Councillor Martin explained that he had spoken to the residents who owns East Durham Physio and he was considering purchasing a unit for £500. He had asked if the Parish Council could consider contributing or maybe purchasing something together. Councillor Robertson explained that the unit cost £750 and he would obtain details and contact him.

Councillor Pounder explained that they were looking to fund AEDs from their Member Budget in the areas they represented. Councillor Robertson advised that he would provide the County Councillors with contact details. He could also provide the training free of charge.

Tree Management on War Memorial Site (Minute No 11(iv) refers)

Members explained that the trees on the War Memorial Site had not been cut back. The Clerk explained that she would contact the Highways Action Line (HAL) and report this again.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report.

7. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Crute explained that a meeting had been held with Peter Herbert, Planning Officer from Durham County Council with members of the Parish Council and the residents group. The Planning Officer had accepted that every point put to him was a material planning consideration. He advised that the County Councillors were to submit a second letter of objection reinforcing the relevance of the saved policies of the previous District of Easington. The Traffic Prohibition Order on the old A19 was a very important issue and he felt that it would not be easy to have it removed. Councillor Robertson commented that this should be lifted prior to any development commencing, if the application was approved.

Councillor Turnbull queried if DCC had a duty of care over the SSSI as the levels of nitrous oxide were too high at present. Councillor Crute explained that Planning Officers would not have a problem if there was a minimal rise. It was suggested that once the date for consideration of the application be received, residents be encouraged to attend the County Planning Committee.

Councillor Crute referred to the last meeting and the suggestion that he be approached to contribute towards the works to the war memorial. Councillor Robertson explained that the total works would be approximately £20,000 and the War Memorial Association would only fund 75%. The final quote was expected this week and the application would be submitted by the end of March. Councillor Crute explained that the neighbourhood budget process would commence in April and this could be considered once the estimation of costs was known.

Councillor Turnbull referred to the community speedwatch and the issue around allowing residents to check speed through the village. Maxine Stubbs had advised that this was not a Police policy even though the Police and Crime Commissioner had indicated this would be allowable. Councillor Crute advised he would contact the Police to establish if any progress could be made.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

8. PARISH COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

One candidate had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. He addressed the meeting with his reasons for applying to be a Councillor. The candidate was duly proposed and seconded and a vote took place.

RESOLVED that Mr Colborn be co-opted to the Parish Council.

9. PLANNING PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

- (i) DM/14/00345/NMA Non-material amendment to planning approval PL/5/2013/0185 Two storey side extensions and general refurbishment:- increase in ridge height of north elevation by 0.3m at 4 Parklands Drive Castle Eden for Mr Johnson

The Clerk explained that this item had been removed from the DCC's website. Concern was expressed that the Parish Council was not being consulted even when it was not a material planning consideration. It was suggested that an explanation be sought on ongoing developments and the reasons why the Parish Council was not consulted.

- (ii) DM/14/00426/FPA Hay storage building at Nesbitt Hall Farm Castle Eden

The Clerk advised that the application was part of Nesbitt Parish.

RESOLVED that an explanation be sought on ongoing developments and the reasons why the Parish Council was not consulted.

10. FINANCE REPORT

Balance at Bank as at 20 February 2014	£10,941.91
<u>Expenditure</u>	
B Robertson – Land Registry Charges	£34.00
Clerk – Stipend and Additional Hours	£1846.27
HMRC	<u>£461.57</u>
	£8,600.07

11. VILLAGE MATTERS

- (i) **ACE Report**
Mrs Moon gave an update on progress.

Mr Colborn queried who was responsible for Castle Eden Dene as there was a lot of flooding and sewerage. It was suggested that The Clerk write to Natural England and bring the flooding to their attention.

- (ii) **Parish Newsletter**
A draft of the newsletter was circulated and agreed.

- (iii) **War Memorial**
The title number had been received for the land that the War Memorial stood on. The third quote would be received by the end of the week and the funding application submitted.