

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
CASTLE EDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 16 JANUARY 2025**

Councillor M Wilmer (Chair)
Councillors D Gordon, L Taylor and J Welch

Also Present: 1 resident

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2024 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

There was none.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

a) DM/24/03225/FPA Erection of 8 no industrial storage units at Wellfield Depot, Castle Eden

Concern was expressed regarding the additional traffic on the junction arrangement at the A19 flyover.

RESOLVED that an objection be made in relation to the extra traffic that would be generated.

b) DM/24/03317/FPA Erection of external cricket nets at Castle Eden Cricket Club, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

c) DM/24/03398/LB Listed building consent for upgrade of main roof fabric including slates and installation of new membrane at The Castle, The Village, Castle Eden

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

9. **FINANCE**

Balance as per bank reconciliation as £38,774.16

Bank statements were viewed by the Chair

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO
Castle Eden Village Hall	Hire of the room	£200.00	000754
Clerk	Microsoft Renewal	£59.99	000755

10. **PRECEPT 2025/26**

The Clerk advised that the notification of the Tax Base and request for Precept for 2025/26 had now been received from Durham County Council. The Clerk circulated an estimate of income and expenditure for 2025/26. The Clerk advised that the LCTRS grant applicable to the Council was £4.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the 2025/26 budget be set at £10,004 comprising a Precept of £10,000 which equated to a Band D charge of £31.93.

11. **VILLAGE MATTERS**

a) Traffic Lights at A19 Interchange – an update was to be requested from Durham County Council regarding the progress with the configuration of the traffic lights. Traffic was getting worse and traffic was having to come into Castle Eden to avoid queueing on the A19.

b) Suspicious activity in the village – 2 men had been seen with torches looking into cars. Residents should be vigilant.

c) Hesleden Pit Site – the site had not re-opened after Xmas. Work on the drain had caused some issues on the walkway and there had been complaints to DCC. Northumbrian Water had caused the damage,