

# CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes of Castor Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7.30pm utilising the ZOOM application software to hold a virtual meeting as permitted by regulations made under s78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020  
namely

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

260. **PRESENT:** Cllr. William Baxter, Cllr. Neil Boyce (Chairman), Cllr. Steve Davies, Cllr. Jane Greene, Cllr. Fiona Rowlands, Cllr. David Shaw, Cllr. Dennis Surgeon; Officers present: John Haste, clerk; no Members of the public in attendance.
261. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr, Richard Anker and Becky Stewart.
262. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None declared.
263. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – We unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, and they were duly signed by the chairman.
264. **OPEN FORUM** –
- Although this meeting had been properly advertised and arrangements made to admit members of the public there were no members of the public present
265. **PLANNING and associated matters**
- a) **Status report** - We noted the current status of Planning applications received in the current year as circulated with the agenda papers. We noted that since our last meeting three planning applications had been permitted in respect of 59, Peterborough Road; Woodlands (Change of use); and 23 Peterborough Road all of which had been considered at earlier meetings of the parish council
  - b) 20/00287/HHFUL 45 Peterborough Road – proposed single storey extension. We noted the neighbour’s comments and concluded that we would be guided by the conservation officer on this matter. Otherwise we had no objections to the proposed extension.
  - c) 20/00424/CTR 14a Allotment Lane – proposed Tree works – We noted that this matter had already been decided by the tree officer and did not require any further consideration to the detail of the application.
  - d) 20/00361/LBC Hanover House, 17 Church Hill – Replacement of two second floor dormer windows. We noted the poor condition of the present windows and agreed to be guided by the conservation officer in this instance
  - e) **Woodlands update** –
    - i) Cllr. Shaw provided a further update and we were advised that construction work was due to start on the Monday following our meeting.

- ii) The tennis club are hoping to provide 6 courts with possible lighting and maybe a clubhouse. The club is in negotiations with NPT and we can expect a planning application in due course. We will await a planning application and reserve comments to be based on the merits of that application when made.
- f) Enhancement of Castor street scene – The vice chairman had been in touch with Helen Daly regarding putting a team together but no further progress had been made due to the current Covid-19 restrictions. We agreed to place this on a future agenda.
- g) Joint Community Action Plan (JCAP) – No further report due to current restrictions
- h) Neighbourhood Planning (NP) – No further report due to current restrictions

266. **LAND & ALLOTMENTS:**

- a) **Cricket Ground** - we considered a request for permission to construct an all-weather pitch on the current cricket ground. The pitch would be provided by the C&A cricket club in conjunction with the City cricket club which catered for youths. Councillor Davies reported on discussions held with the club and whilst we had no strong objections there were practical issues of ownership, insurance and lease conditions including reinstatement option if the lease were to be terminated for any reason. We asked the clerk to suggest additional terms to be included in the lease, those terms to be considered at a future meeting of the parish council.

We also asked the clerk to write to the club asking that they consider the additional traffic caused by the ground being used by two clubs and asking them to respond to a suggestion that they pay for, and install 5MPH, signs on the unadopted part of the access road and also provide marshals prior to, and at the conclusion of, any match fixture.

267. **GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

- a) **Annual Governance Statement** - we considered in detail the relevant page of the 2019/20 annual return and the guidance notes for completion, both of which had been circulated with the agenda and publicised on our website. We unanimously **RESOLVED** to provide affirmative answers to each point save that of Trust funds or petty cash, neither of which are relevant to this parish council.

Proposed Cllr. Neil Boyce seconded Cllr. William Baxter

- b) Covid-19 voluntary support group Grant – We noted the sterling work provided by the impromptu voluntary support group providing assistance to the isolated and most vulnerable members of our community. We noted that the group are also supported by Ailsworth Parish council and unanimously agreed to provide a grant of £1000 to the group

268. **HIGHWAYS** – We noted that the signage for 20mph restrictions had still not materialised and the Stocks Hill road markings had not been removed. We asked the clerk to write to Highways, copy to ward councillors, asking when these matters would receive attention.

269. **COMMUNITY MATTERS –**

- a) **Community Allotment**  
Cllr. Mrs Greene provided an update and progress was limited, again because of the Covid-19 restrictions. We agreed to the suggestion to plant the donated potatoes in the two raised beds for the benefit of the lunch club and to plant wildflower seeds where the raised beds had not yet been allocated

- b) **Village notice boards** – In the absence of Cllr. Becky Stewart, we agreed this matter be carried forward to a future meeting.
- c) Standing Stones Robin Hood & Little John – we noted with gratitude the voluntary work of Cllr. William Baxter and our chairman in moving 7 tons of topsoil and planting with wildflower seeds and were of the opinion that a suitable notice needed to be placed at the site. Cllr. Baxter undertook to draft suitable wording to be considered at our next meeting

270. **OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:**

- There were no matters not covered elsewhere on the agenda

271. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –**

- Deferred arrangement for commemorating 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day
- Play ground & Community Allotment - Official opening
- Cadman’s Barn footpath

272. We thanked the clerk for setting up the arrangements for our meeting on ZOOM

273. **The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.47 pm**



Clerk & RFO 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE at 7.30pm. SUBJECT TO BEING CONFIRMED</b>		
<b>APPROVED BY CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Signature of Chairman of approving meeting:</b>		<b>4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020</b>

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