

Minutes of Castor Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 4th March, 2021 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

397 PRESENT: Cllr Richard Anker, Cllr. William Baxter, Cllr. Neil Boyce (Chairman), Cllr. Steve Davies, Cllr. Jane Greene, Cllr. Fiona Rowlands, Cllr. David Shaw, Cllr. Becky Stewart & Cllr. Dennis Surgeon; Officers present: John Haste, clerk; two Members of the public were also in attendance.

398 APOLOGIES – none, all councillors present

399 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr. Fiona Rowlands declared a Non-pecuniary interest in the items on the agenda related to the "Woodlands" development. Cllr Anker declared an interest in matters dealing with his former lease of the Paddock and his new lease of the Coppice on the Allotment site.

400 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – We unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4th February, 2021 -. It was agreed that they be duly signed by the chairman when next we physically meet together.

Proposed Cllr. Jane Greene and seconded Cllr Fiona Rowlands.

401 Matters arising from the previous minutes. – None

402 Public Forum – There no matters raised by those members of the public present

403 PLANNING and associated matters

- a) **Joint Community Action Plan (JCAP)** – John Hodder reported that there was nothing to add at this time to either this item, or the next, dealing with the Neighbourhood planning review
- b) **Neighbourhood Planning (NP)** – we noted that there was no change to the position as recorded in the minutes of the previous meeting
- c) **Status report** - We noted the current status report, of Planning applications received in the current year, and that two planning applications had been permitted since that previously reported and a further four matters were on our agenda for this meeting
- d) **Planning applications** –
 - i. **21/00130/DISCHG** – Woodlands – application to discharge condition C18 relating to kitchen ventilation and extraction. We noted the significant distance from the kitchen to the nearest residences and agreed that we have no observations to make on the application.
 - ii. **21/00158/HHFUL** – Ferry Hill House, Peterborough Road - Proposed Orangery rear extension, front open canopy and carport extension - We considered the detailed plans available to us on the planning authority website and observed that the proposed works represented a modest extension and were not visible from the public highway. We concluded we have no observations to make on this application
 - iii. **21/00187/CTR** - Various tree works within Glington and Castor Conservation areas, Castle End Road-Maxey, Helpston Road- Ailsworth, Maffit Road-Ailsworth, Peterborough Road-Ailsworth, Peterborough Road-Castor, Rectory Lane-Etton, Riverside-Deeping Gate. In the case of our parish, tree works on The Green-Castor to remove branches overhanging the highway. Although we supported the works in our parish, we noted that the application had been determined two days before our meeting.

- iv. **21/00231/CTR** - Village Manor 48 Peterborough Road - T1, T2, T3 London plane 1.5m crown reduction, 2m building clearance; T4 Ash. 1.5m crown reduction, 2m building clearance T5 beech x3 in group to remove, T6 maple remove, T7 maple remove, T8 Horse chestnut, bleeding canker, G1 scrubland area, remove all trees with a with diameter smaller than 1000mm leaving pine trees and cherry. We had sight of details to this application on the Planning authority website. We have no objections to make on the specific trees in the application and noted the intention to fell 3 trees. We would expect the applicant to be required to replace felled trees with a like number of new trees

- e) **Woodlands update** - Cllr. Shaw reported that he had been informed of the possibility of further revisions to planned works on the proposed care home. We agreed a letter be sent to Country Court Care seeking clarification and advising the applicant that if revised plans were forthcoming they and the planning authority should allow sufficient time for residents of the parish to be properly consulted. Likewise Nene Park Trust were allegedly at an advanced stage in bringing forward the plans for a pavilion and should also allow sufficient time to allow a similar wide consultation and therefore copied in to the letter to Country Court Care. A meeting has been requested by Huw Graham Head of Sales and Marketing at Country Court Care to discuss opening plans at the new care home in July. Cllr. Shaw, Cllr. Surgeon and Cllr. Rowlands to meet via zoom.

404 **LAND & ALLOTMENTS:**

- a) **Tree Condition report** – we noted the very detailed and excellent report produced for us by John Wilcockson and agreed that we should seek quotations from N J Pacey, Willow tree services and one other, to carry out all the work recommended in the report. We also noted that in one instance a loose branch was reported and we delegated to Cllrs Baxter and Davies the authority to check on the reported loose branch and arrange for its immediate removal on safety grounds.
- b) **Ailsworth Water Meter** – The chairman reported that, to resolve the uncertainty surrounding meter readings and the sums due from Ailsworth Parish Council (APC), he removed the sub meter , dried it out and reported a revised reading lower than the previous reading on which an erroneous invoice had been sent to APC. We agreed that a revised invoice be sent to APC and also asked that the submeter be replaced by APC with an above ground meter for future reference. The chairman of APC agreed that this was a reasonable request and put it before APC for their agreement and also payment of a revised invoice. Our chairman also undertook to seek quotes for the replacement of the manhole cover housing the water meters.
- c) **Proposed Pavilion** at the Cricket Ground – whilst we were aware of the proposal by the Castor & Ailsworth Cricket Club (C&ACC), we were told that there was no finalised proposal. We therefore deferred any further consideration of the matter until such time as we received a firm and formal request from the C&ACC to request our permission for a specific and detailed proposal
- d) **Tweentowns Drainage**- The chairman reported that he and Cllr Baxter had consulted a drainage company and read out the detail of their recommendations for drainage pipes across the site involving some 280metres of pipework at an estimated cost of £3000. We agreed to seek an alternative quote to ensure Value for money and Cllr Baxter would investigate alternative specialists able to carry out the work.

In Tweentowns, there is a need to replace a kissing gate and a vehicular access gate and requested the clerk to write to Lee Moore at the city council to request a Cambridge gate and to ask A1 fencing to provide a quote for replacing the vehicular access gate

- e) **Thorolds Paddock** – Cllr Anker had formally confirmed his cessation of the lease in 2019 and we instructed the clerk to invite Mrs Elissa Hill and Mr Nelson to provide a sealed bid tender to take on a lease of this paddock.
- f) **Coppice Plot** - adjacent to the allotment – We formally approved the letting of this land to Cllr. Richard Anker at a rent of £25, equal to a full allotment plot, negotiated by the chairman and instructed the clerk to note the arrangement on the official land terrier

405 **HIGHWAYS**

- a) **Highways issues** We noted that there had been no further progress on issues since last reported to the parish council. We asked that the remaining matters be raised again in writing to Peter Tebb and Charlotte Palmer, copied to the ward councillor and proposed councillor

- b) **Speed Indicator Device** – Cllr. Anker reported that he awaited further response from the city council as highway authority on this matter and the parking issues following this on our agenda
- c) **Parking Issues** awaited a response from the highway authority to our request for invoking a verge parking restriction order
- d) **Observations from Councillors** – No other highways matters were raised

406 COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a) **JOINT PARISH LIAISON GROUP (JPLG)** – John Hodder reported that Ailsworth Parish council had received a letter from the Rector (Next item on our agenda) and had asked for that to be added to the JPLG agenda for discussion between the parishes.
- b) **Future Burial provision in Castor & Ailsworth** – We noted the letter from the Rector urging the two parishes to work together with the parochial church council to secure the future burial provision for our residents. We agreed to this being added to the JPLG agenda for further discussion.
- c) **Langdyke Trust Wildlife recovery project** – Cllr. Rowlands reported on the progress to date and noted that the bat/bird boxes would be set up by 15th March and the Coppice prepared for chickens. The team are awaiting a report by Sarah Lambert which will aid preparations for the way forward on the project. The chairman in conjunction with the chairman of another parish will be meeting with City Council councillors about the wildlife recovery project with the objective of securing City Council support and influencing the verge cutting and maintenance contracts.
- d) **Village Tribune** – Councillor Rowlands had submitted an article for inclusion in the next edition and would check with the editorial team to establish printing dates and circulation arrangements within the village.
- e) **Under9’s Football tournament** – We had before us a request to consider offering “in principle support” for a possible tournament event to take place in Woodlands in July. For our part we consider this to be a good idea given the isolation caused by the Covid restrictions and supported the organiser, and in turn urging that the support be gained from Woodlands Management and Nene Park Trust.

407 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

- a) **Rural / market Town group** - we noted the request to join the group and are not convinced of the benefits of doing so, however we agreed to a trial membership, at no cost, to September and Cllr. Davies undertook to monitor the benefits of doing so and reporting back to the parish council for decision on proper membership.

408 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE – None received by the clerk, or chairman.

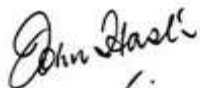
409 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –

Agenda for the next joint meeting with Ailsworth parish council.

Other matters held in abeyance for the time being:

Playground & Community Allotment - Official opening of the play area and community allotment to be considered after Covid-19 restrictions ceased to be in place. Former VE day celebrations on hold possibly to be replaced by celebrations in 2021 or even 2022 for the Queens anniversary

410 There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.32pm



Clerk & RFO 7th February, 2021

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 4TH MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm.		
APPROVED BY CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL		
Signature of Chairman of approving meeting:		4TH MARCH, 2021

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