



**PRESENT:** Cllr. Neil Boyce (Chairman), Cllr. William Baxter, Cllr. Steve Davies, Cllr. Gary Elliott, Cllr. David Shaw, Cllr. Fiona Rowlands, Cllr. Terry Young and the Clerk John Haste. Three members of the public were also in attendance.

### **Minutes of Castor Parish Council Meeting**

Held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.15pm in the Cedar Centre

- 987 APOLOGIES** – Cllr. Richard Anker and Cllr. Dennis Surgeon both sent apologies prior to the meeting.
- 988 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None.
- 989 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** – We unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 -. These were duly signed by the chairman.  
**Proposed Cllr. William Baxter and seconded Cllr. Gary Elliott.**
- 990 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.** – none.
- 991 PUBLIC FORUM** – None
- 992 PLANNING AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**
- a) **Peterborough Local Plan (LP)**
- i. Cllr Shaw had previously circulated his notes of the briefing meeting held for parish councils, on 11<sup>th</sup> September.
  - ii. Cllr. Shaw reported that we now know that the draft plan should be available on 18<sup>th</sup> February in advance of a cabinet meeting later in the month after which the 6 week consultation should take place
- b) **Joint Community Action Plan (JCAP)** – We agreed the revised JCAP, as amended following the joint meeting with Ailsworth Parish councillors.
- c) **Castor Neighbourhood Planning (CNP)** – Cllr. Shaw reported that this is now with Peterborough City Council and we are waiting for a response which we expect to consider at our next meeting.
- d) **Status report** – The clerk had circulated with the agenda an up-to-date record of Planning applications. The Clerk provided a brief summary of the changes since the previous parish council meeting. The report was formally noted.
- e) **Planning applications** –
- i **24/01151/HHFUL** – 6 Splash Lane – Front & Rear single storey extensions – We have no objections.
  - ii **24/01153/CTR** - 7 Church Hill – Fell various trees and other tree works – We have no objections.
  - iii **24/01102/HHFUL & 24/01103/LBC** 23 Peterborough Road alterations to ground floor of existing 1970s extension. – We support the application and recommend approval subject to the materials used match the existing extension.

f) **Woodlands – Standing Item** – No further information available to this meeting.

#### 993 LAND & ALLOTMENTS:

- i. **Thorolds Paddock** – We noted that despite advertising no new prospective tenant had been forthcoming. We agreed to readvertise seeking sealed bids for the tenancy
- ii. **Allotments** – The Clerk reported that one plot is now vacant after invoices for the year had been sent out and a tenant had notified his wish to relinquish the plot. This to be advertised on Facebook and the tenant asked to clear the allotment.
- iii. **Ferryfields** – we considered a possibility of leasing the site and agreed to reject any further consideration at this time. The Clerk was asked to make tentative enquiries of possible contractors.
- iv. **Ferryfields access road (R21)** – The Chairman agreed to discuss future maintenance with city council officers
- v. **Councillor observations** on parish council owned land –
  - i **Children’s playground gate** – The Chairman reported that he had strimmed and re-seeded the play park.
  - ii **CCTV cameras** - we noted the installation in the bus shelter

#### 994 HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

##### Councillors Observations –

- a. **Allotment lane retractable post** – the Chairman reported the acquisition of a replacement post in the hands of city Council contractor for installation.
- b. **Allotment lane - Orphaned Wall** – City Council Officers had advised the Chairman that the work would be undertaken.
- c. **Allotment Lane – Hedge & overhanging trees** – WE noted the tenders of Ben Emery, Nj Pacey and Willowtree services and **RESOLVED** to accept that of Willowtree services.  
**Proposed Cllr. Neil Boyce Seconded Cllr. William Baxter**
- d. **Cow Lane fallen Tree and rotted Bye way Sign** – We noted these were on a public right of way (PRoW), owned by Homes England and agreed to refer pictures of these issues to Lee Moore the PRoW officer at the City Council
- e. Councillor Observations – We noted the deteriorated white lines within the parish and asked the Clerk to arrange a village walkabout with the Head of Highways at Peterborough City council.

#### 995 COMMUNITY MATTERS:

- a) **Antisocial Behaviour**
  - i. **Graffiti** – We Noted the reduction in instances since the installation of CCTV at the bus shelter and agreed to monitor the situation.
  - ii. **Bus Shelter** – We asked the Clerk to identify the supplier of the notice board so that we could replace the damaged Perspex or door.
- b) **Joint Parish Liaison Group (JPLG) Joint Parish Liaison Group (JPLG)** – We agreed the draft summary of the meeting held on 19th September 2024, and agreed to seek confirmation that the next meeting will not Clash with the parish council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

c) Castor & Ailsworth Cricket Club –

- i. We **RESOLVED**, as Freehold landlords, to approve the installation, by the club, of Solar Panel on the pavilion roof.

**Proposed Cllr. Neil Boyce Seconded Cllr. David Shaw**

- ii. We agreed to support the club’s proposal for a new gate to be installed in Port Lane

d) **Langdyke Trust Nature Recovery Project –**

- i. Cllr Fiona Rowlands reported on the CAPALC conference and the award to Castor Parish Council for the nature recovery work carried out within the parish.
- ii. Cllr. Boyce (as Ward councillor) offered £1000 from the Community Leadership Fund towards the cost of creating a pond.
- iii. PECT, as tenants had advised that they would trim the trees in Tweentowns to clear them of the overhead lines

e) **Gold ring –** We noted that this is now on display in the church display case as “on loan” from the parish council. We asked the Clerk to ensure that it is added to the Asset register.

**996 GOVERNANCE MATTERS: -**

- a) **Annual Return and the external auditor’s certificate** - The Clerk reported the auditors report and the challenge to the report. Whilst accepting the clerks challenge the auditors stated they are unable to make a correction to the report once issued and it is for the parish council to refer to the correction in submitting the next annual report for 2024/25. We expressed our dissatisfaction with the response from PKF Littlejohn.

- b) **Assets of Community Value (AoCV)** –Cllr Shaw undertook to seek further information from councillors and provide the Clerk with a further submission in respect of The Royal Oak public house.

- c) **Tender opening** - dealt with under minute reference 994c above.

- d) The Clerk reported responses for replacement of the gate to the play area and we **RESOLVED** to accept the quote from Webwood.

**Proposed Cllr. Neil Boyce Seconded Cllr. David Shaw**

- e) Cllr. Shaw – reported on an email from a resident regarding tree pruning at the school within the conservation area and questioned the apparent absence of the relevant notification. Cllr Elliott agreed to discuss the matter with the school.

**997 TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- i None other than matter covered above

**998 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS -**

- i Assets of Community Value – other site(s)

**999 Date of Next meeting–** scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.15pm in the Cedar Centre.

Meeting Closed at 9.15pm

Clerk & RFO 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024

<b>APPROVED BY CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Signature of Chairman of approving meeting:</b>		<b>7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024</b>

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