

# CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009 in Castor village hall, 8pm

Present: Councillors: John Taylor (Chair), Richard Anker, William Baxter, Tracey Blackmore, Brain Goode, Jayne Mann, Andy Martin, Andy Smith, plus Simon Machen, Head of Planning Services, Peterborough City Council and the clerk

ACTION /  
NOTES

#### 09/109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

John Howard due to business commitments – apology accepted.

#### 09/110. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009 AS PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED.

**RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and the chairman initialled and signed the minutes

#### 09/111. RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none

#### 09/112. REQUESTS FOR REARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA ORDER

There were none

#### 09/113. HEAD OF PLANNING AT PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL (PCC) – SIMON MACHEN

Mr Machen had recently (within the previous fortnight) taken over as head of planning services at the PCC. A lengthy presentation and ensuing discussion took place, which gave the Council chance to air some of its concerns as well as learning about the strategy for the development of planning services. Notes to that meeting are separate to these minutes

**09/114. PLANNING.** Due to the timing of the clerk's holiday and the post, no planning applications were on the agenda but one had arrived for consultation. It was agreed that a further meeting would be convened to discuss planning applications plus any received in the interim

Clerk

#### 09/115. PAYMENT

1. **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments

Date	Cheque	Description	Payee	Nett	VAT	Gross £
30 Oct 09	S/O	Salary	S Rodger	398.83		398.83
7 Oct 09	000727	Grant for St Kyneburgha Beaver Colony	St Kyneburgha Beavers	250.00	0	250.00
7 Oct 09	000728	Oak posts	Milton Estates	120.00	18.00	138.00
7 Oct 09	000729	Stone for farmers cross	R G Cross	1102.00	165.30	1267.30
			TOTAL	1870.83	183.30	£2,054.13

b) **Accounts to date** - were circulated in advance of the meeting & allotments receipts were noted

c) **2010/11 Budget** - Agreed to consider for the following meeting

#### 09/116. Matters arising from previous meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009 not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda:

1. **Cross Keys** – The clerk had written to the housing association as instructed but no reply received – carry forward

Chairman's Initials

2. **Decommissioned BT phone box** – At the last meeting, the Council had resolved to adopt the decommissioned phone box, but during the application process, further matters for consideration emerged because the council would have to take over responsibility for electricity supply to the box. After much discussion, it was agreed to consult the wider community to gauge the level of support to keep the phone box in view of the commitment and potential ongoing costs

**09/117. Official announcements, notices or reports:**

1. The Chairman checked that everyone had received a copy of the report on the meeting with NPT<sup>1</sup> and explained that the matter of Woodlands sports ground appeared to be no further forward
2. The Clerk advised that a communication had been received from HMRC regarding the lateness of statutory forms. The council agreed that she could communicate on behalf of the council to try to avert a fine
3.
  - a. Parish Council Liaison meeting – There had not been a meeting since the last PC meeting
  - b. Rural Working Group – There had not been a meeting since the last PC meeting
  - c. Nene Park Trust – NPT had advised that they would be cutting and laying the hedge bordering Ferryfield
  - d. Village Hall – There had not been a meeting since the last PC meeting

**09/118. Allotments.** The hedge on the footpath needs to be cut back – the clerk was instructed to investigate options. There was one spare allotment which Cllr Andy Smith would offer to the next person on the waiting list

*Clerk*

*Cllr Andy Smith*

**09/119. Farmers Cross.** The sign for the cross was shown to the council

**09/120. Neighbourhood Councils.** The minutes of the inaugural meeting had been distributed in advance. One of the more pertinent issues was the figure of 450 housing units to be distributed across the rural villages in the emerging LDF. This would be to 2026 and 100 of them already had planning permission

**09/121. Speeding & Speedwatch.** The Council was disappointed at the response to the speeding consultation in the village as very few people had expressed a view. The matter of speeding is being taken seriously by the local police and solutions are being investigated

**09/122. Quality Status.** It was agreed to discuss this matter in detail at the next meeting to establish whether there are any areas of weakness. The clerk would supply any further information regarding Parish Councils being given more responsibility under 'devolved powers' going forward

*Clerk*

**09/123. Archivist.** No potential candidate had been identified

**09/124. Correspondence:** A letter had been received from the Methodist Chapel in Ailsworth request a non-specified grant. The clerk had written asking for more information to enable the Council to determine its decision, but so far the details had not been received. The clerk was instructed to request them again

*Clerk*

**09/125. Future agenda items:** Budget & precept, village hall, Parish liaison, Rural working group, Neighbourhood Council, Quality Status, speeding, Cross Keys, Archivist, Play area repairs

**The chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.32pm**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

APPROVED BY CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL		
<b>Signature of Chairman of approving meeting:</b>		<b>Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009</b>

<sup>1</sup> NPT = Nene Park Trust