

CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Wednesday 6th January 2010 in Castor village hall, 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: John Taylor (Chair from item 150b), Richard Anker, William Baxter, Tracey Blackmore (Chair to item 150a), Brain Goode, John Howard, Jayne Mann, Andy Martin, Andy Smith, plus the clerk and three members of the public

**ACTION /
NOTES**

At the time of that the meeting should have commenced, some members were not present. It was agreed to start the meeting as they would be expected to arrive at 8pm – the meeting time had been brought forward to 7.30. Two members of the public were in attendance for item 150a. One member of the public was absent at the start of the meeting, but made the point, when the meeting was closed in order for him to speak, that the gritting lorries during the recent bad spell of weather seemed not to working efficiently.

09/146. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None received.

09/147. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 2ND DECEMBER 2009 AS PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED.

RESOLVED to adopt the minutes and the chairman initialled and signed the minutes with the insertion of 'Parking at 52 Peterborough Road was discussed with the homeowner' under item 09/145 AOB / future items

09/148. RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none, although 3 members were absent for this item

09/149. REQUESTS FOR REARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA ORDER

It was requested that item c of agenda item 5 be brought forward – these minutes reflect the reordering

09/150. PLANNING:

a) **Update on Clay Lane development** – A briefing meeting had taken place in December between 3 members of the council (Cllrs John Taylor, Tracey Blackmore and Richard Anker) with representatives of The Remarkable Group, the PR company representing the developer proposing to build on the land, the architect and the technical director of Stamford Homes, the developer. The purpose was to present the initial ideas for the development which could be fed back to the Parish Council for further comment. It was felt that the development was well planned, with thought given to minimising the visual impact from other parts of the village. The houses were spaced on large plots, creating large gardens and space between the houses and allowing for plenty of off-street parking. It was felt that because of the narrowness of the roads in the development, parking would be an important consideration. With regard to the affordable housing units, the feeling was that as the plans stood currently, there may not be adequate parking provision. The point was made that garage spaces must be for car parking only.

A major area of concern continues to be the wider impact on the village, in particular the effects on the southern part of Clay Lane and The Green, as well as the traffic entering from and exiting onto Peterborough Road.

A further discussion regarding the proposed exhibition to present the ideas to the village took place during which it was agreed that at least one member of the Parish Council would be 'on duty' at all times in order to note all comments and learn the 'feeling abroad' in the village. The exhibition will be on January 29th in the Cedar Centre, time to be advised.

Cllrs Brian Goode, William Baxter and John Taylor arrived during these discussions between

Chairman's Initials

7.53 and 7.55pm

b) **To consider and comment upon planning application(s) received:** 09/01371/FUL- Replace flat roof with pitched and garage conversion, 10 Manor Farm Lane, Castor, It was agreed to comment that a dropped curb was necessary to ensure the entrance to the drive is wide enough for 2 cars, but the council had no objections in principle

c) **To consider and comment upon planning application(s) received:** 09/01373/FUL - First floor extension with garage conversion and additional window at ground level, 10 Manor Farm Lane, Castor, It was agreed to comment that a dropped curb was necessary to ensure the entrance to the drive is wide enough for 2 cars, but the council had no objections in principle

09/151. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments

Date	Cheque	Description	Payee	Nett	VAT	Gross £
31/12/09	S/O	Salary	S Rodger	398.83	0	398.83
6 Jan 10	000741	Office expenses	S Rodger	13.88	0	13.88
6 Jan 10	000742	Cutting hedge in allotment lane	Ian Sheldon	142.00	0	142.00
	733 + 738	Cancelled cheques	TOTAL	554.71		£ 554.71

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

09/152. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING ON 4TH NOVEMBER 2009 NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

ON THE AGENDA:

- a) **Cross Keys** – The clerk had followed up on her letter to the housing association, but had not been able to establish whether any progress had been made or whether any of the letters had been received or actioned. To continue chasing
- b) **Play area** – Peterborough City Council would check the play area again to investigate the horizontal platform on the climbing/slide units. The clerk was instructed to ask them to provide a new bench outside of the play area.
- c) **Archivist** – Rev'd William Burke is going to discuss this with the archivist that helps with the Church records.

Clerk

09/153. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES OR REPORTS:

- a) **Chairman** – A letter had been received from Nene Park Trust detailing a hedge laying programme and exhibition – the details to be circulated.
- b) **Councillor representatives** –
- **Allotments** – Cllr Andy Smith undertook to look at the leaking tap which had been reported by the city council
 - **Police liaison / speeding** It was noted that officers with speed cameras had been in the village that day. Cllr Richard Anker undertook to speak with PC McCullum to see whether it would be possible to carry out same in less icy conditions when people would be driving 'normally' and in more vulnerable parts of the village where speeding was more of a problem. A report had been received from the police and a copy given to each councillor
 - **Village Hall** The resolution of the legal position regarding the trusteeship of the building has been put out to tender to local legal firms. The roof had been leaking in the snow and had been fixed.
 - **HCA¹ Signs** The siting of the signs had been surveyed against the maps and PCC² are pressurising HCA to reduce these from approximately 120 to about 30-40.
 - **Neighbourhood Council:** There was a meeting on 3rd December at which the issue of the name was discussed in some detail. Adrian Chapman, head of neighbourhood services,

Cllr A Smith

Cllr R Anker

volunteered to come along to a Parish Council meeting to try to explain the initiative again.

09/154.QUALITY STATUS / PARISH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS The Clerk had ascertained what would be involved in broad terms with the merger of two parish councils, but it was generally felt that perhaps this was too over specified and that more of a 'working together' than a merger was what had been previously envisaged. The clerk is to investigate some of the finer points of a merger and look at alternatives A discussion ensued about the forthcoming elections and the Clerk was instructed to establish the facts and report back

Clerk

09/155.CORRESPONDENCE.

Planning permissions granted: St Kyneburghas Church removal of trees. Village sign cottage conversion of annex and Castor House, garden works

09/156.AOB/Future agenda items:

- Planning had arrived the day before for 6 Silvester Road and would be held until the following meeting
- The possibility of a height barrier at the entrance to the old A47 parking area had been discussed informally with various people and would be pursued between now and the next meeting for discussion in council.
- Snow & ice grit/salt would be discussed as well in view of the prospect of more adverse weather
- One councillor recounted an accident that had happened the morning before where his son had been knocked from his motorbike and the car which had caused the problem had not stopped.

(The meeting was closed and reopened during this item in order that a member of the public was able to make a point about gritting lorries)

The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.19pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 3RD FEBRUARY 2010

APPROVED BY CASTOR PARISH COUNCIL	
Signature of Chairman of approving meeting:	Date: 3rd February 2010

¹ HCA – Homes and Communities Agency

² PCC – Peterborough City Council