

**CASTLEMORTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting of Castlemorton Parish Council held on**  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at the Parish Hall, commencing at 7.30p.m.**

**Present:** Cllrs.: Angus Golightly (Chairman), Don Lupton, Mary Watts, David Smallwood, Barbara Wilks, Anne Cotterell, Jerry Fryman and Ben Wiggins.

**In Attendance:** Mrs Christina Leake (Clerk). CCllr. Tom Wells\* and DCllr. Roger Cousins\*\*

**Members of the Public:** PC Alan Naulls

**01/13. Apologies**

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor Bradshaw following recent family bereavement.

**02/13. Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensations**

- i) ***Register of Interests:*** Clerk in receipt of 3 updated registers from Cllrs Golightly, Watts and Wilkes.
- ii) ***Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Disclosable Interests regarding items on the agenda:*** All Cllrs. except Cllr. Fryman declared a DPI in item 08/13. Cllrs Watts, Cotterell, Lupton and Golightly declared an ODI in item 14/13. Cllrs. Smallwood, Lupton and Wilkes declared an ODI in item 11/13.
- iii) **Applications for Dispensation:**
  - 1) It was **RESOLVED** to grant a dispensation up until the next ordinary election to all Parish Councillors IN ATTENDANCE who live within the parish to enable them to participate in discussion AND vote accordingly on any matter concerning the setting of the council's budget and annual precept.
  - 2) It was **RESOLVED** to grant a dispensation up until the next ordinary election to Parish Councillors Watts, Cotterell, Lupton and Golightly to enable them to participate in discussion AND vote accordingly on any matter concerning the Parish Hall Trust.
  - 3) It was **RESOLVED** to grant a dispensation up until the next ordinary election to Parish Councillors Lupton, Smallwood and Wilkes to enable them to participate in discussion AND vote accordingly on any matter concerning Worcestershire Wildlife Trust.

**03/13. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012 were a true record of that meeting.

**04/13. Progress Reports**

1. **My Parish Website (WCC):** Cllr. Fryman - kindly uploaded a selection of local photos to the home page.
2. **Highways:** Recent report previously circulated and confirmation of letter sent to Mr Brienza. Cllr Smallwood reported he was due to attend site meeting with Mr Brienza at Hollybush to consider any possible remedial action reference the excess water/stone flowing across the road. By notification in the parish magazine it was agreed to encourage parishioners to raise highway issues directly with Cllr Smallwood to avoid unnecessary report repetition and extra investigative expense on the part of highways. It was agreed that the Parish's own salt bins would be refilled as and when necessary by Cllr. Golightly with 20kg bags presently costing £5.40. The yellow bins are managed by WCC.

3. **4C's Meeting:** Report following November meeting can be viewed at:  
<http://www.malvern hills.org.uk/Content/20121205%204Cs%20Report.pdf>
4. **Welland Neighbourhood plan** – awaiting the outcome of SWDP before progressing.

### **05/13 Code of Conduct and Standing Orders**

Ref: minute 77/12 4. The clerk reported, the standing orders were now consistent with the code of conduct and had been circulated to all Cllrs. One clerical amendment was agreed with reference the monitoring officer, confirmation that the Monitoring Officer is the Monitoring Officer for MHDC.

Cllr Smallwood addressed the issue of “leaving the room” following a declaration of interest unless a dispensation has been granted. He asked if the parish council would consider a resolution for Cllrs to have the opportunity to remain in the public area.

*\*CCllr Wells arrived at this point having attended an earlier meeting elsewhere.*

Discussion ensued with particular attention to the possibility of such attendance influencing the decision of the meeting (although spouses and relations may already be in the public area) and consideration as to how this would be viewed by other unrelated persons in the public area.

It was **RESOLVED** to **amend** the wording in the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders to:

A councillor with a disclosable declared interest **must leave the meeting and may move to the public gallery or leave the room.**

Clerk to amend Code of Conduct and Standing Orders

### **06/13 County and District Councillor Reports.**

CCllr Tom Wells reported on his efforts to examine bus provision in our local area following removal of County Council service from Birtsmorton, to Tewkesbury on Wednesday and Ledbury on Tuesday. The criteria is based on local transport for public need and is affordable. CCllr. Wells was able to report on the proposals for a service 2 days a week to Tewkesbury from 26<sup>th</sup> February using a 16 seater mini bus and volunteer drivers. Passengers would book the service the day before and then, unless prebooked, can arrange return journeys with the driver. The ‘skeleton’ route covers Malvern, Upton, Rye Cross and Tewkesbury, linking into present ½ hourly 363 service to Worcester and would cost £1/journey with WCC support funding. Hopefully once details confirmed the arrangements will be advertised as much as possible.

CCllr Wells also took the opportunity of explaining the dilemma that presently faced county councillors with consideration of determining amount of council tax. He had also received an email from a parishioner about the large number of cars parking at the bottom of Hollybed Street and the excess water at the junction of this road with the B4208 following heavy rainfall. Cllrs reported that this was the only area the residents opposite could park off the busy B4208 and the water could be resolved by major ditching work which was not in the remit of the Lengthsman.

It was agreed that the Chairman would raise the matter with Bob Hughes, Assistant Engineer, South Worcestershire Land Drainage Partnership, with the request that he enforce the landowners to clear their parts of the ditch.

The VAS (vehicle activated sign) was presently in the village along Church Road. Statistically it provides the total number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit, not total using the road.

*\*\*DCllr Cousins arrived at this point having attended an earlier meeting elsewhere.*

DCllr. Roger Cousins reported on waste management. Recycling wheelie bins will be phased into the area from the spring, 2 sizes available and to include glass.

From his meeting with Malvern Hills Conservators he reported on progress with the Mill Pond dam which subject to vote will proceed with metal piling and oak sleepers costing in the region of £90,000.

*DCllr. Cousins left the meeting and room.*

### **07/13. Finance Report**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following income and payments be noted since last meeting and further payments determined:

	£	£	Description

Balance 7 <sup>th</sup> November		<b>£10674.75</b>	
<b>Income</b>			
HM Revenue & Customs	409.82		VAT Refund
<b>Add</b>		409.82	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Chq. No 724 Clerk Salary	143.71		Oct/Nov/Dec (SCP 17)
Chq. No 720 HMR&C	35.60		Income tax
Less Expenditure		179.31	
<b>Balance</b>			
<b>Balance at close of meeting</b>		<b>£10905.26</b>	

### **08/13 Budget and Precept Financial Year 2013/2014**

A draft budget previously circulated was discussed in detail and was agreed that it represented a fair budget for the coming financial year with a note indicating the capital expenditure anticipated using up to 50% of present reserves on the proposed car park (Ref Minute 33/12). It was **RESOLVED** that the precept for the financial year 2013/14 be kept the same level of £4000 the Parish Council having previously sought and received generous grants for development work.

### **09/13. Planning**

Report of planning applications **received/decided** since last meeting was noted.

12/01403/HOU	The Paddocks New Road WR13 6BY	Breakfast Room and portico to provide lateral bracing to existing dwelling	MHDC Approved
12/01437/HOU	The High Ground New Road WR13 6BU	Erection of stable block	MHDC Approved
12/01558/FUL	Land adj. Grove Farm, Druggers End, Castlemorton WR13 6JD	Repositioning & enlargement of hay/field store consented under 12/00070/FUL. Retrospective consent for hardstanding construction with associated earth bund. Change of use from agricultural to mixed use agricultural with equine.	PC recommend Approval

### **10/13. Castlemorton Blogsite**

A request had been received from a parishioner about advertising a bed and breakfast establishment on the blogsite. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Fryman would create a Community Listing Service on the blogsite and such requests could be accommodated in this area subject to verification by the parish council. This would be advertised in the parish magazine.

### **11/13. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust**

Cllr Lupton advised the Parish Council that Worcestershire Wildlife Trust were interested in purchasing Hollybed Farm as a nature reserve and that a meeting to inform local residents had been arranged at the Parish Hall on 14 February. It was agreed that Hollybed Farm would be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

### **12/13. Police Commissioner (Bill Longmore)**

Police & Crime Plan - Cllrs agreed that they could not comment on such a lengthy draft document that had only just been published on the website. Individuals were welcome to record their own personal responses if desired.

*CCllr. Wells left the room.*

**13/13. Correspondence**

A list of the correspondence received, was advised by the clerk to councillors and hardcopies were available for Councillors to view.

**Rural Community Broadband Fund** -Particular mention was made of email from Elspeth Fry (Leader Project Manager) regarding the recent Expression of Interest submitted on behalf of the parish, with 2 others, to DEFRA for the Rural Community Broadband Fund. In total there are 5 communities who have submitted an EOI and to date it has been agreed to progress the bids under one overarching bid written by WCC. Attendance was requested at the next meeting at County Hall on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Clerk to find out more about this bid from Welland Parish Council for the benefit of Cllr Fryman who will consider attending.

**14/13. Parish Hall Trust**

- The planning application for car park and new gate, now received MHDC approval with thanks to PCllr. Lupton and DCllr. Cousins for their persistence in this matter.
- Cllr Watts reported on maintenance to gents' toilet floor and replacement of guttering on west end. Still awaiting response to recent boiler service and follow up report, Cllr Lupton to action.
- Figures published relating to the electricity generated by the PVs, exceeded predictions and lowered CO2 profile.

**15/13. Lengthsman**

A list of works has been prepared and the Lengthsman will be contacted .

**16/13. Next Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in the Parish Hall.**

**Future date for Parish Council meetings as follows:**

**Thursday 2nd May 2013 (Annual Meetings) *Date Change***

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.40 pm.

Signed ..... Date.....