

CASTLEMORTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of Castlemorton Parish Council held on
Thursday 8 January 2015 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs: Angus Golightly (chair), Beverley Bradshaw, Jerry Fryman, Ben Wiggins, Don Lupton , Barbara Wilkes, Anne Cotterell, Mary Watts and David Smallwood

In Attendance: CClr. Tom Wells* and DClr Roger Cousins** and Mrs C Leake (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 0

01 /2015. Apologies None

02/2015. Declarations of interest

1. *Register of Interests.* None
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature.* None
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)* None

03/2015. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the meeting of 6 November 2014 were a true record of the meeting.

04/2015 Matters Arising

None

05/2015. Highways

Cllr Smallwood outlined recent report and present highway repairs under way at east end of Church Road.

In chairman's presence contractor attended parish boundary site (Castlemorton/Birtsmorton) in December and jetted the necessary pipework under the B4208. However this highlighted that the underlying problem is still to be rectified following work of years gone by. Chairman to discuss proposed ditch clearance with the new lengthsman.

Parish Culverts are being recorded with the aim to assist in routine inspections and vegetation clearance by the lengthsman.

The lengthsman has commenced with vegetation clearance up Hollybed Street, off the B4208 and the culvert at (Chandlers Cross) New Road and at St Gregorys are next on the list to be cleared. This is all part of the effort to improve drainage in the parish.

Concern was expressed on the recent closure of the A438 reference repair work to M50 motorway bridge. The essential work has been reportedly and temporarily stopped due to the presence of bats.

To avoid the lengthy diversion local residents are travelling along the Longdon Marsh road, this a single track highway and now becoming increasingly damaged in places.

06/2015. Finance Report

Income and Payments

It was **RESOLVED** that the following income be noted & payments agreed:

| | £ | £ | Description |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------|
| Balance: 8 November 2014 | | 13,347.30 | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Add income pre meeting | | | |
| Grant from Hall Trust | 3,425.00 | | |
| VAT Refund | 5,172.03 | | |
| Vat Refund | 193.56 | | |
| DCllr Ward Donation | 150.00 | | |
| Sub Total/Total | 9,940.59 | 22,287.89 | |
| Less Expenditure pre-meeting | | | |
| Fibreweb | 11,327.10 | | Mesh |
| D Lupton | 65.56 | | Water Pipe |
| | 11,392.66 | 10,895.23 | |
| Actual Bank Balance - | | | |
| Add Income at meeting | 0.00 | | |
| Less Expenditure at meeting | | | |
| D Lupton Parish Hall | 109.98 | | Gates |
| Ellis Dawe | 109.34 | | Gate Fixings |
| Clerk | 232.51 | | Oct/Nov/Dec |
| | 451.83 | | |
| Balance at close of meeting | | 10,443.40 | |
| 6 January 2014 | | | |

Community Space Project

- Account was discussed (account to date as attached) which indicated a further committed spend of nearly £3500 to include lighting, hedging and re-siting of water trough. £2000 is available from agreed reserves. The Parish Hall Trust (PHT) have provided the Parish Council with funds to support it in managing this project and indicated further monies will be available.
- In summary to date: Income - £35,863.77. Expenditure - £33,855.20
- Cllrs. acknowledged project manager, Cllr Lupton's commitment to the project and the very generous support from local organisations and individuals.

*CCllr. Wells and **DCllr. Cousins arrived.

07/15 Budget and Precept Financial Year 2015/2016

A draft budget previously circulated was discussed in conjunction with calculation & explanatory guidance from MHDC with regard computation.

Matters discussed:

- An increased amount for clerk salary. Through choice present clerk not claiming all hours work. This would be rectified immediately to avoid unrealistic budgeting especially with recent new pay scales.
 - An agreed sum for potential section 137 grants.
 - Unspecified works to include a sum for resources for minor highway repairs (£100).
- Overall the budget indicates an overspend of £471.

So with consideration to this budget, increasing areas of fixed costs, reserves reduced and no increase in the parish precept for the last 14 years, it was proposed that the Parish Council increase the precept. The first proposal for an increase of £250 was not supported.

The second proposal that the Parish Council seek a precept of £4500 for 2015/16 an increase of £500 was seconded and with a majority vote RESOLVED.

08/2015. Parish Hall Trust

Update on the **Community Space Project**.

- Confirmation of hedge planting day. Sunday 15th February. Proposals for lighting – 2 bollards within parking area and 3 bulk head fittings at the back of the hall. Agreed to pursue quotations, purchase the items and re engage the electrician previously used in this project. Water trough to be moved in Spring.
- Insurers to be advised of extra fencing and gates on the land.
- Roof leak in ladies toilets to be investigated when weather allows.

Wayleave: Agreement signed and returned.

Fund Raising Event : Who Do You Think You Are – Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 7.30pm.

09/2015 District and County Councillor Reports

DCllr. Cousins reported on

- Potential Hub operational reorganisation with consideration to working with a private group as with revenue services now with CIVICA. The present shared facility with Worcester City, Malvern Hills and Worcestershire County Council presently not financially efficiently as greater use now of on line service.
- Community Engagement with update on District Council website – Community Resource Guide.

CCllr. Wells reported on

- Potential County Council (CC) Tax rise of 2% (a figure TBC) as the CC continue to deliberate over many financial decisions. Most recent is the reduction in mobile library services to some parishes. Castlemorton will continue to have access to the service. Looking to offload services to either voluntary or private sectors the latter at a unit price less than that presently paid. The provision of these services will then change. WCC is becoming a commissioner rather than direct provider. Interesting times ahead.
- Investigation also continues in potential shared services.

10/2015. Planning

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

| | | | |
|--------------|--|---|-----|
| 14/01391/CPU | Ladywick Hollybed Street Castlemorton WR13 6DB (Mr & Mrs A Ball) | Two storey front extension | N/A |
| 14/01739/FUL | Eight Oaks Castlemorton WR13 6BU (Mr A Bunn) | Proposed manage and stables/agricultural building | |

Reference 14/01739/Ful. Cllrs deferred decision until plans had been viewed.

11/2015 Correspondence

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

12/2015 Lengthsman.

The clerk confirmed that following the loss of the previous Lengthsman a new appointment had been made after local interest had been shown. Various works already tackled.

13/2015 Meetings

Report received from the recent 4C's November meeting

14/2015. Next Meetings

RESOLVED that the next meeting will be Thursday 5th March 2015
and the next provisional meeting 20th May 2015 (Election year)

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed Date.....

