

## CAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10 February 2016 in Dean Hole School commencing 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillors:

B. Robins (Chair)  
C. Jagger  
A. Baugh  
S. Michael  
C. Harvey

**In attendance:**

C. Millward (Clerk)  
Members of the public (3)  
B. Laughton (until 8.05 pm)  
S. Saddington (until 8.05 pm)

	<b>DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>CPC/19/16</b>	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Apologies were received and accepted from councillor Routledge (work commitment) and councillor Boffey (health).	
<b>CPC/20/16</b>	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> Councillor Michael declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as landowner with regard to item 10 b (Playing field lease).  There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
<b>CPC/21/16</b>	<b>Dispensations:</b> None required.	
<b>CPC/22/16</b>	<b>10 Minutes Public Speaking Time:</b> The chair reported that he had received an anonymous letter notifying the council that the gate to the footpath entrance opposite the Slips was being locked at night. Councillors noted that the proprietor of the land accessed through the gate was taking this step because the gate was being left open at night with the consequent safety risk should horses escape into the road.  Councillors discussed the position, recognising the regrettable conflict between the landowners' right of way obligations and road safety risks but emphasising landowners' overriding obligation to allow unlimited access to rights of way. They agreed that the chair will include a note in the parish magazine asking everyone to ensure that gates to rights of way are always closed.  Councillors noted concerns regarding damage to a grass verge but agreed that this was an inevitable consequence of vehicles passing one another. They hope that the problem will resolve once the ground hardens again in spring.	<b>Chair</b>
<b>CPC/23/16</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
<b>CPC/24/16</b>	<b>Matters arising:</b> <i>CPC/4/16 (10 Minutes public speaking)</i> – Councillors discussed the on-going absence of a bottle bank in the village. The clerk will contact NSDC for details of any bottle bank	

	<p>service it may provide.</p> <p>There were no other matters arising.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>CPC/25/16</b>	<p><b>Reports from district and county councillors:</b> Councillor Laughton</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated councillors on the likely precept decisions by NCC</li> <li>Reported on potential staff reductions at the Minster school</li> <li>Referred to a concern expressed by a resident to Mr Jenrick MP regarding the withdrawal of free post-16 school transport</li> <li>Reported on significant long term works being undertaken by Severn Trent in Newark and the likelihood of travel disruption</li> </ol> <p>Councillors Saddington reported that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSDC will be increasing the precept by 1.9%</li> <li>Main Street, Bathley will be closed to vehicular traffic from 29 February to 21 March 2016.</li> </ol> <p>Councillors Laughton and Saddington left the meeting at 8.05 pm.</p>	
<b>CPC/26/16</b>	<p><b>Reports from Councillors:</b> Councillor Baugh reported on his meeting with Mr Mike Keeling of NSDC regarding road safety by Corner Bungalow on Mill Lane. It had been made clear that road safety improvement works would not be funded. Mr Keeling had, however, put in a 2017-18 funding bid for advance warning signs. Mr Keeling doubted that the application would be successful because there had been no change in circumstances at the site. Mr Keeling had also contacted the NCC road safety team to see if there was any support the team could offer to the school.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that the chair will include a note in the September/October issue of the parish magazine reminding those walking children to school of the importance of being visible in the dark and in dusky light.</p>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>CPC/27/16</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Financial position as at 31 January 2016:</b> Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 January 2016 (incorporating the 2015-16 budget figures).</li> <li><b>Accounts for payment:</b> The council unanimously approved three payments totalling £558.23.</li> <li><b>Wine evening donation:</b> Councillors <b>agreed</b> that the donation should be used towards the playground.</li> </ol>	
<b>CPC/28/16</b>	<p><b>Playground</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Monthly property managers' inspection report:</b> Councillor Buagh confirmed that the monthly inspection had taken place. The zip wire repairs had been completed. There were no issues since the last report.</li> <li><b>Playing field lease -</b> The clerk confirmed that the lease had been completed. Councillors <b>authorised</b> the clerk to instruct Larken &amp; Co to register the lease. Councillor Michael did not participate.</li> <li><b>Playing field trees:</b> Councillor Baugh had no issues to report.</li> <li><b>Toddler play equipment project:</b> The WREN decision is awaited all supporting documents and information having been provided.</li> </ol>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>CPC/29/16</b>	<p><b>Planning matters:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Applications:</b> None</li> <li><b>To note planning decisions by NSDC:</b> None.</li> </ol>	
<b>CPC/30/16</b>	<p><b>Provision of community defibrillator:</b> Councillor Harvey reported that the use of the church porch would require a number of consents</p>	

	<p>at various diocesan levels and that connection to the electricity supply was unlikely to be practicable in any event.</p> <p>Councillors discussed alternative central and accessible locations for a heated cabinet and defibrillator. They <b>agreed</b> that the Plough or Cauntton Beck would also be suitable. The clerk will make a formal request to both for consent to a defibrillator being fitted on an external wall and connected to the electricity supply, subject to the council reimbursing the cost of the minimal electricity which will be consumed. Councillors also asked her to ask BT whether a defibrillator might be installed in the phone box.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>CPC/31/16</b>	<p><b>Land at Hockerton crossroads:</b> Councillor Baugh confirmed that the land continues to support a variety of wildlife.</p> <p>The chair confirmed his understanding that he council is the registered owner of possessory title to the land. The clerk will make enquiries of Larken &amp; Co as to when the council will be eligible to apply for freehold title to the land.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>CPC/32/16</b>	<p><b>Village environment and appearance:</b> Councillors noted the contents of councillor Routledge's report. They thanked the resident who had donated £10 towards the competition entry.</p>	
<b>CPC/33/16</b>	<p><b>Increase dog bin capacity:</b> Councillors discussed the information received from NSDC regarding the emptying service. They <b>agreed</b> that the village ideally needed two more bins and considered how their acquisition should be funded. The clerk will establish the capacity of the existing bin by the phone box. If it is 35 litres, she will place an order for one new bin now. If it is 25 litres she will defer until the start of the new financial year so that a request for a grant may be made to councillor Laughton.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>CPC/34/16</b>	<p><b>Service faults:</b> Nothing additional to those discussed above.</p>	
<b>CPC/35/16</b>	<p><b>Correspondence:</b> Item b – Severn Trent – Invitation to attend Annual Parish Meeting – Councillors noted that a representative will attend the Annual Parish Meeting 2016 to discuss the sewerage provision in the village.</p> <p>Item d - NSDC – Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations – Councillors <b>agreed</b> that they would not organise a celebration event on this occasion.</p> <p>All other items of correspondence noted.</p>	
<b>CPC/36/16</b>	<p><b>10 Minutes public speaking time:</b> Replacement trees for the playground were discussed. The clerk will include the matter as an agenda item for the September 2016 meeting, the start of the planting window.</p> <p>The safety of a new step on the school's premises which accesses the playing field land was discussed. Councillor Harvey was already planning to raise the issue as a governor.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>CH</b></p>
<b>CPC/37/16</b>	<p><b>Agenda items for next meeting:</b> None other than set out above. Remove first public speaking to allow 10 minutes for Mr Dring of NCC's superfast broadband presentation.</p>	
<b>CPC/38/16</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Wednesday 9 March 2016 at 7.30 pm</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm