



Castlethorpe Parish Council

A Meeting of Castlethorpe Parish Councillors to be held online on Monday 10th January at 7.30 pm

AGENDA

Dear Parishioners,

A Meeting of Castlethorpe Parish Councillors will be held on the above date & time by video conference when the business set out below will be considered.

Residents may ask questions in an Open Forum which will precede the Council Meeting:

- by giving them to the Clerk or any Councillor by noon on the day of the meeting
- by joining the Open Forum by following the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82373529525?pwd=OFpISjB6N3A2MHJic0YwR2p0Zm0zZz09>

It will be necessary to enter the Passcode: 115596

- By posting questions as comments on the Facebook broadcast of the proceedings Please note that only questions posted during the Open Forum can be considered.

Alternatively, residents may phone in on 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240, 0203 901 7895, 0208 080 6591, 0208 080 6592, 0330 088 5830 or 0131 460 1196 and enter the meeting ID 860 7108 2508 and the passcode 115596

Residents will be asked to leave the video conference at the end of the Open Forum and can continue to view the meeting on Facebook or YouTube (see below).

Proceedings may be viewed on the Castlethorpe Facebook page and on the YouTube Channel 'Castlethorpe Parish Council' both as a live stream and as a recording which will be retained for at least a month.

Steve Bradbury

Clerk to the Parish Council

Phone: 01908 337928 or email: clerk@castlethorpe-pc.gov.uk

- 1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST by Councillors in any of the agenda items below**
- 3 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
 - 3.1. To agree the minutes of the previous General Meeting of the 6th December and Extraordinary Meeting of the 13th December 2021 as a true record.
- 4 TO RECEIVE REPORTS (to be circulated prior to meeting)**
 - 4.1. Clerks Report & Review of Actions
 - 4.2. FILE NOTE – Community Speedwatch programme & Speed Indication Device (SID) strategy for continued usage (Cllr Ayles)
 - 4.3. Update on Maltings 2 development
 - 4.4. Report on Rural Gigabit Scheme
 - 4.5. Update on arrangements for celebrating Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Cllr Forgham)
- 5 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS (previously viewed on line by Cllrs)**
 - 5.1 **21/03346/FUL** Proposed siting of 25 static holiday caravans (to remain on pitch all year round) in lieu of 40 touring caravans on the eastern section of Cosgrove Park
At: Cosgrove Park Main Street Cosgrove
- 6 TO RECEIVE REPORT BACK ON PREVIOUS PLANNING APPLICATION**
 - 6.1. **21/02217/DISCON** - Approval of details required by condition 2 (External Materials), 3 (Pumping station and boundary), 4 (Hard and soft landscaping), 5 (Boundary Treatment) & 6 (Ground levels, earthworks and excavations) of permission ref 19/02444/REM. Land To The East of Maltings Field Castlethorpe – **status 'registered' MKC Senior Architect recommends conditions should not be discharged as yet**
21/02213/DISCON Approval of details required by conditions 4 (Levels), 6 (Ground assessment), 7 (Foul and surface water drainage scheme) & 8 (Estate Road Details) of permission ref. 17/01536/OUT – **status 'registered' – Network Rail request to submit 'Asset Protection Enquiry', Highways, Flood Authority recommends conditions should not be discharged as yet**

- 6.2. **21/02767/FUL** - Loft conversion with two front dormers and three rear roof lights - 21 Lodge Farm Court **status 'awaiting decision' – no updates this month**
- 6.3. **21/02533/OUTEIS** (1) Full application for the change of use of 68.65ha of agricultural land to a linear park and a new access road to the Linford Lakes Study Centre (2) Outline application (matter of access to be considered, with matters of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping reserved) Linford Lakes Nature Reserve Wolverton Road Great Linford – **status registered**. Highways recommend refusal
- 6.4. **21/03205/FUL** New dwelling including new access and amenity space, new access and drive to existing dwelling 1 Wolverton Road – **status registered – no significant updates this month**
- 6.5. **21/03263/DISCON** Approval of details required by condition 5 (Implementation of WSI for Archaeological Mitigation) of permission ref. 17/01536/OUT- Land To The East of Maltings Field Castlethorpe – **Decision: Condition not discharged**
- 7 TO CONSIDER OUTSTANDING MATTERS AND TO ADVISE CLERK ACCORDINGLY (all supporting documentation to be circulated prior to meeting)**
- 7.1. To consider & agree to a public excluded part 2 of the meeting to discuss matters in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as defined in paragraphs 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act
- 7.2. To consider whether to purchase additional heritage streetlights from MKC beyond the 66 already ordered & approved (Cllr Ayles)
- 7.3. To consider outcome of ballot of local residents and agree whether to make a request to install Electric Vehicle charger at Station Road (Cllr Ayles)
- 7.4. To consider the state of drains in South Street and North Street (Cllr Markham)
- 8 TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS (circulated prior to meeting)**
- 8.1. To agree the RFO payments schedule.
- 8.2. To agree in principle budget and precept for 2022/23 to be confirmed at 'face 2 face' Extraordinary meeting before month end
- 9 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (circulated prior to meeting)**
- 9.1. Cllr Ian McCord, Ward Cllr for Deanshanger, has copied to parish councils his response to West Northants CC on their Strategic Plan Options Consultation
- 9.2. A parishioner has sent an email to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk suggesting that legal advice should be sought to question MKC's position that they are unable to prevent all of the Stonewater development being given over to 'affordable housing'.
- 10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for noting, or for inclusion on a future agenda)**
- 10.1. It is noted that there have been no volunteers to take over editing of Castlethorpe News
- 11 TO AGREE DATE AND ATTENDANCE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS**
- 11.1. Next meeting will be held at 7.30 on Monday February 7th either physically in the Village Hall as a formal parish council meeting or if Covid conditions are still not favourable as a meeting of Parish Councillors by videoconference.
- 11.2. An Extraordinary Meeting will be held at 7.30 on Monday 17th January at the Village Hall to agree formally the 2022/23 budget/precept
- 11.3. It is proposed to hold the Annual Village Meeting on 11th April, one week after the parish council meeting for that month

PART 2

- 12 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST by Councillors in any of the agenda items below**
- 13 TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS (details to be circulated prior to meeting)**
- 13.1. To consider quote for relaying the drain from the Village Hall rear toilet to the mains drainage separating out the joint flow with Castle House outbuilding (Cllr Forgham)
- 13.2. To agree to proceed with the exercise to purchase new front and rear entrance doors at a maximum price as stipulated in the single quote obtained thus far - (at least) 2 further quotes will be required so this price will be considered as maximum cost (Cllr Forgham)

Appendix A – Schedule of Reports & File Notes

1. Clerk's Report (item 4.1)

To be circulated prior to meeting

2. Replacement SID Options (item 4.2)

Castlethorpe Parish Council currently operates a Speed Indicator Device (SID) which is manufactured by a German company called Datacollect. We download the results and I send a summary of them both to Dave Hinds, who recharges and moves the SID, and Sergeant Guillaume Ouellette. Sergeant Ouellette is able to do enforcement, subject to resources.

However the SID is coming to the end of its life and currently only operates for 4 to 5 days before the battery expires compared to 8 days when new. A new battery has not improved matters and we are now considering replacement alternatives.

1. Solar powered SID. Datacollect sells a new model of SID with a solar power option and downloads data through the same software that we use at present. I would therefore be able to send Sergeant Ouellette the same data as present.

The advantage of the SID is (a) that it doesn't need to be attended (b) that it runs 24x7 (c) that it provides data that the police can use to prioritise their enforcement actions.

The disadvantage is that it doesn't record registration numbers so no follow-up action can be undertaken with speeding vehicle owners.

2. Sentinel speed camera. An alternative is the Sentinel speed camera which is in use in some Buckinghamshire parishes and approved by TVP. It consists of a video camera on a tripod which is mounted and attended by volunteers for a session typically of 1 to 2 hours. It will record short video clips (~10 secs) on an SD card of vehicles exceeding a preset threshold such as the speed limit plus 10% plus 2mph. The data can be downloaded and viewed on a PC.

The way Haddenham Parish Council (which uses Sentinel) works is that volunteers watch the video clips and write down a summary of make, model, colour, registration number, location, date, time and speed. The summary is sent to their local police office. The police then issue a warning letter to the vehicle owner. It is important to note that only police officers can issue a FPN or report a driver for prosecution so equipment such as Sentinel, operated by volunteers, can only be used for warning letters and not prosecutions.

The advantage of Sentinel is that it identifies individual offending vehicles which will then get a warning letter in the same way that the earlier Community Speed Watch did. This can be followed by police visits to repeat offenders and targeted enforcement in high speed locations.

The disadvantage is that the Sentinel has to be attended mainly to avoid theft/vandalism of the equipment. One might observe that our previous volunteers are now considerably older with all over 70 and one over 90! We would have to get new volunteers. Community Speed Watch triangles have to be erected on either side and the volunteers need to wear hi-vis jackets. As a result, Haddenham says relatively few vehicles are identified speeding but the police argue that this is more about teaching speed awareness than catching speeding vehicles. Experience with Community Speed Watch in the past, where only a handful of vehicles were identified over a period of several years, was that this was extremely frustrating for the volunteers albeit a nice afternoon out. Haddenham also said that they hadn't actually noticed a particular decrease in speeding despite the warning letters.

The third factor that needs to be taken into account is that the new PCC, Matthew Barber, has launched a Community Speed Watch initiative. I'm not quite clear what this involves though it appears as if he is encouraging volunteer 'observers' to use a shared service, 'Community Speedwatch Online'. I guess that 'observing' means a return to the old style of community speed watch with volunteers operating borrowed radar equipment and recording details which they can then send on to the police. Of course, Sentinel would also fit in this category. Warning letters, police visits to repeat offenders (presumably subject to resources) and enforcement then follow.

Conclusions

On balance, I am inclined to recommend that we go for a direct replacement for the SID. The data informs police prioritisation of enforcement even though in practice this means coming to Hanslope Rd as often as resources permit.

I think the presence of CSW triangles and hi viz jackets skews vehicle speeds well below the norm which would be a good result if it were not so short-lived. An example from Stoke Goldington during a dual CSW and coincidental police enforcement at the other end of the village showed that speeds returned to 'normal' (ie exceeding the limit) immediately the CSW team removed the triangles and themselves.

I am also very dubious that the police have the resources to do follow up visits to repeat offenders and enforcement prioritisation would be no different to at present. On the other hand, a SID provides hard data on vehicle speeds which justifies (or not) ongoing enforcement.

Datacollect has given an indicative quote of £3000 each including a solar array. The Haversham SIDs cost £7500 each (!). The Sentinel is £3300 plus VAT, delivery, triangles and jackets. We can use the quote as a basis for an application to the MKC Community Infrastructure Fund if it runs next year. The actual procurement will need to be done competitively.

Steve has been in a video call with the new MKC Road Safety Officer Keith Wheeler. He is intending to recall the existing SIDs and refurbish or replace them. However, he has suggested lending them out for a month at a time to parishes which is stupid so we have to engage further with him.

The good news is that there is a separate grant fund for SIDs so we may not have to wait for the CIF scheme (the 2021/2 scheme has still not been awarded!) but, in my opinion, we should make a capital provision for a new SID or two (given a solar array is more difficult to move) in our budget for 2022/3.

Philip Ayles

Chairman, Castlethorpe Parish Council
Mobile: 07595 715374