



Minutes of the Caistor Town Council held at 6:45pm at the Caistor Town Hall on 12 June 2025

Present: Cllr S. Davey, Cllr J. Bowman, Cllr R. Lyus, Cllr S. Hodson, Cllr A. Somerscales, Cllr L. Milner,

Cllr A. Clark (Chair), Cllr P. Morris, Cllr H. Priestley, Cllr N. Clark,

In Attendance: Michelle Moss, District Cllr A. Lawrence, County Cllr J. Bean, Councillor Sean Matthews, Leader of Lincolnshire

Members of public present: 9

1. To resolve to accept apologies for absence and reasons given in accordance with Local Government Act 1972 s85(1) - Ref: 4039

Apologies received from Cllrs Wright, Cox and McKay. Apologies also received from District Cllr Bierley.

2. To receive declaration of interests and requests for dispensations and to consider granting dispensation(s) in accordance of section 22 of the Localism Act 2011 - Ref: 4040

Cllr Somerscales declared an interest in 7f.

3. Public Session (10 minutes, during which the meeting is suspended) - Ref: 4041

One member of the public raised an issue about parking on Mill Lane particularly when there are events on at South St Park and suggested there should be double yellow lines both sides of the road.

4. Chairmans Report - Ref: 4042

Cllr Wright had sent apologies for the meeting but it was noted that he had felt privileged to attend the 80th VE day event and light the beacon; he wished to thank the Lions for organising and hosting another successful beer festival; and wished to thank Michael Galligan, who has recently resigned from the council, for his hard work and dedication to the town during his 20+ years on the council.

5. To approve the draft minutes of 8th May 2025 - Ref: 4043

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2025 be approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chair.

1 abstained

6. Finance - Ref: 4044

a) To approve the Accounting Statements and bank reconciliation for period ending 31/05/2025 - Ref: 4045

The accounting statements, bank statements and bank reconciliation had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the 2 new accounts have been opened and £50k deposited in an instant access account with Unity Bank, and £65k deposited in a 40 day notice account with Charity Bank.

RESOLVED to approve the accounting statements and bank reconciliation as a true record.

All in favour

b) To approve the Schedule of Payments - Ref: 4046

The schedule of payments had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments totalling £15027.81.

All in favour

7. Reports from External bodies (no decisions may be made unless specific agenda item requests a decision):- - Ref: 4047

a) Lincolnshire Police - Ref: 4048

No report received.

b) West Lindsey District Council. - Ref: 4049

District Cllr Bierley's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. WLDC were thanked for the grant they provided to Caistor Goes.

c) Lincolnshire County Council - Ref: 4050

It was noted that County Cllr Bean is the newly elected county councillor for Caistor and surrounding area. Cllr

Signature:



Bean was present at the meeting and noted that he is in the role to support Caistor and the council. Councillors raised several issues: the footpaths, particularly the one parallel to the A46 is a trip hazard with crumbling tarmac; the number of accidents on Caistor Top is increasing, and LCC support was requested to help resolve.

d) Community Groups - Ref: 4051

The report from Caistor Cares had been circulated with the meeting pack. Reports from Caistor Cinema, Caistor Goes, Caistor GO2 we received after the pack was shared.

e) Town Hall Management Committee - Ref: 4052

It was noted that: the damp survey has been completed and the report should be received very soon; with regards to the shutters, CTC have been advised that we need a fire survey for the building to inform what type of shutters are appropriate - CTC are in the process of obtaining quotes for the FRA and will expediate this to try to meet CTH timelines.

f) Caistor in Bloom - Update and consider a response to residents complaints about lack of flowers - Ref: 4053

It was noted that there have been a lot of comments on social media about the lack of flowers in the town and the council is bearing the brunt of the residents negative comments. Cllr Somerscales (declared an interest as a CIB executive and commenting as a CIB representative) noted that: many of the boxes in the market place were rotten; CIB felt that there had been a lot of resistance to the flowers on social media over the last few years and some resistance within the council to providing a sizable grant to CIB; health issues/personal commitments, the resistance and state of the planters contributed to CIB deciding that they would not plant flowers this year (Cllr Somerscales also noted that he had only been informed of this a few weeks ago); that when the barriers in the Market Place come down CIB will reconsider but will need to purchase sustainable plastic boxes which would come at a considerable cost.

Councillors noted: The town council has wholeheartedly supported CIB; there is confusion amongst residents who mistakenly believe CIB is part of the council; CIB had previously advised the council that they would not be asking for a grant from the council this year as they were scaling back their operations to focus on the town centre and the entrances to the town; CIB never advised the council that there would no be no flowers and the council have not been given the time to make alternative arrangements for the flowers; CTC are taking the brunt of the residents negative comments and CIB has not helped to explain the actual situation; any consideration for future planting in the town should be with the full involvement of the council.

It was agreed that several members of the council would try to arrange a meeting with Michael Galligan and the 2 other CIB executives to discuss working in partnership to resolve the issue and make a plan to work together in future years.

RESOLVED by a majority vote, to put a short statement on Facebook to explain the council's position.

Majority vote

g) CDCT - 2-4 Market Place - Ref: 4054

The report from 2-4 Market Place group had been received after the pack was issued and had therefore not been shared in the public pack for the meeting.

It was noted: steady progress is being made; the roof over the granary is now weatherproof; rear windows are glazed; level floor installed; project timetable is being reviewed and additional funding being sought.

8. To receive reports from Committee's and working groups (no decisions may be made unless specific agenda item requests a decision) - Ref: 4055

a) Personnel and Finance Committee - Ref: 4056

No meeting held.

ai) To consider appointment for the vacancy on P&F committee - Ref: 4057

RESOLVED that Cllr Lyus be appointed to the Personnel and Finance Committee.

All in favour

b) Estates Committee - Ref: 4058

The Estates committee Chairs report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllrs asked for a copy of the allotment map.



Cllr Bowman asked if the new handyman could be asked to put the market signs out on a Friday.

c) Play area working group - Ref: 4059

It was noted that this project has not moved forward and agreed that the appointed working group may kick off the project without the town clerk support.

d) Health and Safety Working Group - Ref: 4060

The group are working through the list of recommendations from Worknest. The fire risk assessments are a priority - we have received 2 quotes and are waiting for the third.

9. To consider the Caistor Jubilee Orchard Yield Scheme (C.J.O.Y.S) Project Proposal - Ref: 4061

One of the project leads was present at the meeting and advised that the group would aim to plant new fruit trees, vegetables beds to grow food for the community and the food bank in Caistor. Several concerns were raised about historic vandalism. It was noted that the group would plan to erect stock fencing first. Councillors were generally supportive of the proposal but before anything is agreed a subset of the council should meet with the group to understand exactly what is being proposed and report back to the council at the next meeting. Cllrs A.Clark, Hodson, Milner and Bowman volunteered to meet with the project team (nothing to be agreed except by full council at a meeting).

Majority vote

10. To consider the continued use of the town hall by Co-Op employees for over 4 hours - Ref: 4062

It was noted that: Co-Op employees currently send the town clerk notice of their car registrations asking for them to be added to the list of those permitted to park in the town hall car park for more than 4 hours; the town council has no documented record of any historic agreement permitting Co-op employees to use the car park for more than 4 hours; many other residents and business employees also seem to park there for longer than the 4 hour limit; regular users of the hall often have to park along North St as there are no spaces in the town hall car park.

RESOLVED to write to all businesses identified and residents around the town hall to ask them to respect the 4 hour time limit and advise that if it continues to be abused we will have to look at enforcement of it.

1 abstained

11. Clerks Report & Parish Matters - Ref: 4063

a) To consider the Caistor Yarborough Academy request to use the cricket facilities 22nd May and 4th June (retrospective approval) - Ref: 4064

It was noted that the request was received whilst the clerk was on holiday and the dates have already passed.

b) To consider the Lincs Womens Cricket request to use the cricket pitch 31st August - Ref: 4065

RESOLVED to agree to the Lincs Womens Cricket request to use the cricket pitch providing agreement has been given by the Cricket Club.

All in favour

c) To consider and approve the Health and Safety policy and handbook - Ref: 4066

RESOLVED to approve both documents subject to the inclusion of a statement requiring records to be kept about servicing and maintenance.

All in favour

d) To review and approve the Member - Officer Protocol - Ref: 4067

RESOLVED to approve the policy.

All in favour

e) Review Tracking Report - Ref: 4068

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Cllr Bean agreed to follow up with Highways for an update on LCC adoption of Cornhill.

12. To note any planning decisions - None - Ref: 4069

None.



13. To review the planning applications received and agree a response - Ref: 4070

- a) WL/2025/00412 | Planning application for single and two storey extensions to rear, and detached multi car garage following demolition of existing outbuildings | HEDGEROWS CANADA LANE, CAISTOR (responded using delegated powers) - Ref: 4071**

It was noted that the application is to extend and reorganise internal layout of the bungalow. New two storey multi-car garage for classic car collection and holiday van.

RESOLVED to note no objections to the application.

All in favour

- b) WL/2025/00420 | Planning application for removal of roller shutter doors and installing replacement glazed doors | NETTLETON HOUSE, NETTLETON ROAD, CAISTOR - Ref: 4072**

It was noted that the only external change is to remove the existing garage doors and replace with timber doors to match the adjacent coach house.

RESOLVED to note no objections to the application.

All in favour

- c) WL/2025/00504 | Planning application for single storey front extension and erection of garden room | 7 SAXON WAY, CAISTOR - Ref: 4073**

It was noted that the existing outbuildings will be demolished and a garden room constructed along with a small single storey extension.

RESOLVED to note no objections to the application.

All in favour

- d) WL/2025/00452 | Planning application for a drop kerb | 26 NORTH KELSEY ROAD, CAISTOR - Ref: 4074**

RESOLVED to support the application.

All in favour

- e) WL/2025/00553 | Planning application for alterations and extensions to existing bungalow | 86 NORTH STREET, CAISTOR - Ref: 4075**

It was noted that the extension is proposed to the side and back, to remove a shed, incorporate the existing garage into the house and build a replacement garage.

RESOLVED to note no objections to the application.

All in favour

- f) PL/0024/24 | Development: for the phased extraction of sand and gravel with revised restoration to include 2no water bodies with surrounding acid grassland, marginal areas of rough long grass, water body embankments and surrounding new native woodlands, native sedges, rushes and reeds, including ancillary activities, associated infrastructure and new access from North Kelsey Road | Land**

Several residents were present at the meeting in connection with this application - the Chair gave them permission to speak.

Residents noted the site would negatively impact on wildlife living there; public footpaths would be disrupted; 'ancillary buildings' could mean anything; there are potential health issues associated with the proposals such as increased risk of asthma.

Councillors noted: there are in excess of 100 comments objecting to the plans; there will a significant number of vehicle movements associated with moving that amount of gravel and sand; putting in an access road will cause a lot of disruption; since original permission was granted, residential housing has been built next to the site and it is no longer suitable for the continued extraction.

RESOLVED to object to the application and submit comments reflecting the discussion.

All in favour

14. Date of next meeting - 10th July - Ref: 4077

Signature:



Noted.

15. To resolve to move into closed session and exclude members of the public and press for the remainder of the meeting - Ref: 4078

RESOLVED to move into closed sessions.

Residents and non-CTC cllrs left the meeting.

All in favour

16. To consider the response to the ICO about a FOI received in September - Ref: 4079

RESOLVED to send the full information requested in response to the FOI request.

Majority vote

17. To consider the implications and alternative arrangements relating to the staffing issue - Ref: 4080

It was noted that the Deputy Clerk had moved out of the area and agreed to accept his immediate resignation.

RESOLVED that the Clerk should calculate any monies owing by either party and resolve any discrepancy in the June payroll run.

RESOLVED not to fill the vacancy immediately and that it would be considered by P&F in 3-6 months.

All in favour

Meeting closed at 8:45pm

Signature: