



Minutes of the Caistor Town Council held at 6:45pm at the Caistor Town Hall on 12 March 2026

Present: Cllr J. Wright (Chair), Cllr S. Davey, Cllr R. Lyus, Cllr S. Hodson, Cllr A. Somerscales, Cllr J. Cox,
Cllr L. Milner, Cllr A. Clark, Cllr H. Priestley, Cllr.N.Clark, Cllr.P.Laverack,
In Attendance: Michelle Moss, County Cllr J. Bean,
Members of public present: 2

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and reasons given in accordance with Local Government Act 1972 s85(1) - Ref: 4892**
Apologies received from Cllr Morris for professional reasons and from Cllr Bowman. Apologies received from District Cllrs Bierley and Lawrence.
- 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: 4893**
None.
- 3. Public Session (10 minutes, during which the meeting is suspended) - Ref: 4894**
None.
- 4. Chairmans Report - Ref: 4895**
Cllr Wright noted that he had attended a meeting with Paul Burkinshaw, the Chief Exec for WLDC. Some of the key points discussed included: the NHS centre - Mr Burkinshaw advised he would find out what is planned for it and let us know; the Mill Lane plot currently owned by ASIS - he offered to share his contact at ASIS so that we could liaise directly with them; we asked about potential funding for projects such as the town hall damp and the restoration of the old fire station - he noted there were small pots of funding, but probably not of the size needed for the restoration and damp works.
- 5. To approve the draft minutes of 12th February 2026 - Ref: 4896**
RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the meeting of 12th February are approved as a true record.
3 abstained
- 6. Finance - Ref: 4897**
 - a) To approve the Accounting Statements and bank reconciliation for period ending 28th February 2026 - Ref: 4898**
The accounting statements and bank reconciliation had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. RESOLVED to approve the accounting statements and bank reconciliation as a true record.
All in favour
 - b) To approve the Schedule of Payments - Ref: 4899**
The schedule of payments had been circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting. RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments totalling £8794.69
All in favour
 - c) To consider how to allocate the CIL income received in 25/26 - Ref: 4900**
It was suggested that the CIL funds be put towards a notice board for the cemetery, but agreed to defer any decision at this time.
 - d) To consider retrospectively approving the cost for printing the events leaflet and business directory (JB) - Ref: 4901**
The Council considered an invoice for the printing of a Caistor events leaflet which acknowledged Caistor Town Council as the sponsor of the printing. Members noted that the printing had been commissioned without prior approval of the Council and that no official order had been issued in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. It was noted that the matter had not been brought to Council for approval prior to the work being commissioned and that the invoice exceeded the remaining provision within the Community Events budget. Members further noted that the quotation previously circulated had been from a different company than the

Signature:



company issuing the invoice and that the invoice was for £100 more than the quote.

RESOLVED That as the expenditure had not been authorised by the Council and no official order had been issued, the Council would not accept liability for the invoice in the sum of £650 from Brayford Press.

It was further RESOLVED that the Clerk write to the supplier advising that the Council did not commission the work and that the individual who placed the order did not have authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the Council.

2 against

7. Reports from External bodies (no decisions may be made unless specific agenda item requests a decision):- - Ref: 4902

a) Lincolnshire Police - Ref: 4903

The report had been shared in the meeting pack and was noted.

b) West Lindsey District Council. - Ref: 4904

The report had been shared in the meeting pack and was noted.

c) Lincolnshire County Council - Ref: 4905

Cllr bean noted that LCC had set the precept at 2.9% increase; county councillors allowance had been frozen despite the independent panel recommendation for a 13% increase; LCC are making savings by changing what they spend money on and making an additional £2m available for fixing pot holes, an additional £2m for drains and an additional £4.5m for fire service. It was noted the Vape shop has a court case pending; the hedge on A46 has been cut back and the footpath will soon be edged and cleared.

ci) To receive and update from Highways about Cornhill resurfacing - Ref: 4906

It was noted the resurfacing is complete and the process of legal adoption by Highways is underway. There is a small patch of tarmac which is defective, which LCC are working with the contractors to resolve; because of the defect, LCC will not request the £5000 contribution from CTC; the railings will be reinstated; the drain cover will be replaced for a pedestrian friendly one; the slope up to Cornhill has been cleaned of algae and Cllr Bean would like to get the other 2 slopes cleaned but noted that the issue is being made worse by water from blocked gutters of adjacent properties - Cllr Bean asked that the town council write to the property owners and ask them to arrange for the gutters to be cleared.

cii) To consider whether to schedule in another Councillor walkabout - Ref: 4907

It was agreed to go ahead with a walkabout and to suggest some dates so that Cllr Bean can organise a Highways representative to attend.

d) Town Hall - To received the town hall management meeting minutes from 9th February 2026 - Ref: 4908

The minutes had been circulated with the meeting pack. No further questions were raised.

e) Community Groups - Ref: 4909

No reports received.

f) CDCT - 2-4 Market Place - Ref: 4910

Very brief report received. Cllr Bowman was not present at the meeting and therefore no additional information was shared.

8. To receive reports from Committee's and working groups (no decisions may be made unless specific agenda item requests a decision) - Ref: 4911

a) Personnel and Finance Committee - Next Meeting 28th April 2026 - Ref: 4912

No meeting held.

b) Estates Committee - Next meeting 24th March 2026 - Ref: 4913

The Chair of estates report had been circulated prior to the meeting. No further questions were raised.

c) Health and Safety Working Group - To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2026 - Ref: 4914

The minutes were noted.

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9. Clerks Report & Parish Matters - Ref: 4915

a) Review Tracking Report - Ref: 4916

The tracking report had been included in the meeting pack. It was noted that the radiators are scheduled to be fitted at the sports and social club next week; the PAT testing for office and estates equipment has now been completed; the CCTV has been upgraded at the sports ground but the PIR's have not yet been installed, we have been invoiced for the agreed £500 but not yet received the SLA; wetpour surfaces final quotes have been received and a supplier decision will be made at the next estates meeting; new picnic benches for the parks, memorial repairs at the churchyards are also on next estates committee agenda.

b) To confirm the date and consider the agenda for of the annual town meeting - Ref: 4917

RESOLVED to schedule the annual town meeting for the 2nd Thursday in May starting at 6pm, the agenda to consist of updates from committees and working groups and any community reports.

All in favour

c) To consider the updated IT and Acceptable Use Policy (replaces the social medial policy and Internet Usage Policy) - Ref: 4918

RESOLVED to approve the policy and review again in 3 years.

All in favour

d) To consider the revised email Guidelines policy - Ref: 4919

RESOLVED to approve the policy and review again in 3 years.

e) To consider what action to take regarding the Kelsawy Field 'Den' (raised by resident at Feb CTC meeting) - Ref: 4920

It was noted that the tree had had branches removed, the sofas have recently been burnt and the litter still needs clearing up. Councillors noted that the area has been used as a meeting place/den for many years and that we should try to engage with the users there. It was agreed that the area needs clearing up and that Cllrs Hodson and Somerscales would progress this.

f) To consider the licence renewal and conditions for Lattitude International for the street food market at South St Park - Renewal request not yet made. - Ref: 4921

It was agreed that the food markets are good events for Caistor and that the licence should be renewed on the same terms as last year.

g) To consider Caistor Running Group request to use South St Park for the start/finish for the Sting 12th July 2026 - Ref: 4922

The running group application had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that whilst the event will run from 8am until 12:30pm, the music and announcer will not start until 9:30am.

RESOLVED to support the event and authorise use of South St Park on the basis of the request submitted.

All in favour

h) To consider request for volunteers, flowers and budget to improve milenium garden at South St Park - Ref: 4923

It was noted that: Cllr Hodson has recently cleared, rotavated and levelled the garden ready for planting; the 3 options are to grass it, to plant it with perennials or to create a wild flower meadow. RESOLVED to plant a wildflower meadow, to pre-approve £500 budget for it and that Cllr Hodson would purchase the wildflower seeds and then be reimbursed.

All in favour

10. Correspondence Received - Ref: 4924

a) To consider the issues relating to parking at the sports ground car park and the request from a resident to permit Nettleton Motors to park in the sports ground car park - Ref: 4925

After discussion, councillors RESOLVED that permission would not be granted for Nettleton Motors to park a vehicle in the sports ground car park.

All in favour

11. To note any planning decisions - Ref: 4926

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- a) **Granted - WL/2026/00165 | Non-material amendment to planning permission WL/2025/00573 granted 23 July 2025 - change to roofing material | MIDDLEGATE LODGE HORNCastle ROAD CAISTOR - Ref: 4927**

Noted.

12. To review the planning applications received and agree a response - Ref: 4928

- a) **WL/2026/00142 | Replace existing open wire conductors with Aerial Bunched Conductor and install pole mounted transformer | LAND AT WHITEGATE HILL, CAISTOR - Ref: 4929**

No comments or objections raised.

- b) **WL/2026/00177 | Replacement boundary gates and first floor outbuilding window | 1 THE OLD VICARAGE, CHURCH STREET, CAISTOR - Ref: 4930**

No comments or objections raised.

- c) **WL/2026/00178 | Listed building consent for replacement boundary gates and first floor outbuilding window | THE OLD VICARAGE, 1 CHURCH STREET, CAISTOR - Ref: 4931**

No comments or objections raised.

- d) **WL/2026/00180 | Planning application for the Installation of a 49.9MW capacity solar farm with supporting infrastructure | AIRFIELD FARM, NORTH KELSEY ROAD, CAISTOR - Ref: 4932**

Following discussion, councillors RESOLVED to object to the application and submit a formal objection on the following grounds:

The development would result in the loss of agricultural land currently in use for grazing and livestock. Once agricultural status is removed it is unlikely the land would be restored to agricultural use.

Concerns regarding potential pollution, leakage or leaching from the site, particularly due to the proximity of the solar farm management area to a nearby beck/stream, which could result in contamination of the watercourse.

Concerns that cleaning chemicals may be used on solar panels during the operational life of the development, despite the application stating that water only will be used.

Although battery storage is not included in the current application, Members expressed concern that a subsequent application may be submitted for battery storage facilities, which carry potential fire risks and associated safety concerns.

Lack of clarity within the application documents regarding the precise layout and infrastructure arrangements across the site.

The land is classified as Grade 3b agricultural land and is currently actively farmed.

Members noted that proposals are being considered to extend the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to include the Caistor area and considered that determination of this application should be deferred until the outcome of the AONB proposals is known.

2 against

13. Date of next meeting - 9th April 2026 - Ref: 4933

Noted.

Meeting closed at 8:15pm

Signature: