

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held at 6.00pm at the Caistor Town Hall on 14 May 2026

Present: Cllr J. Wright (Chair),

In Attendance: Cllr S. Davey, Cllr S. Hodson, Cllr A. Somerscales, Cllr J. Cox, Michelle Moss (Town Clerk), Cllr A. Clark,
Cllr P. Morris, Cllr H. Priestley, District Cllr O. Bierley, Cllr.N.Clark,

Members of public present: 6

1 **Welcome from the Chairman - Ref: 1**

Cllr Wright, the current Chair of Caistor town council, opened the meeting and welcomed fellow councillors and members of the public.

2 **Approval of minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 08/05/2025 - Ref: 2**

The minutes of the annual town meeting held on 8th May 2025 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

3. **To receive the Chairmans report and the annual town report for the year to 31/03/2026 - Ref: 3**

It has been a great pleasure and honour to serve Caistor Town Council once again as Chairman and Mayor over the past 12 months.

I would like to thank all my fellow councillors for the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout the year. They give their time freely as elected members, and their commitment and support have made my role as Chair and Mayor both pleasant and rewarding. Particular thanks to Cllr Angela Clark who has done a fine job as Deputy Mayor this year and supported me, and the council, well on all occasions.

My thanks also go to our Town Clerk, Michelle Moss, and our Estates Operative, Mike Crookes, for their great work in guiding and supporting the Council in carrying out its duties for the benefit of Caistor.

Caistor is extremely fortunate to have an army of volunteers who foster community spirit and provide support for a wide range of causes within the town and surrounding areas. Caistor would not be what it is today without the many community groups, led by volunteers, who work tirelessly to make it a better place to live, visit, and thrive. On behalf of the Town Council, I extend sincere thanks to each and every one of you.

Throughout the year I have represented Caistor Town Council at a variety of civic functions and events. I am proud and humbled to serve in this role and believe the future for Caistor is positive and bright.

Councillor Jon Wright
Chairman and Mayor of Caistor Town Council

4. **To receive any Caistor Town Council committee and working group reports for the year to 31/03/2026 - Ref: 4**

Annual report: Estates Committee May 2026.

The current members of the Estates committee are Stephen Hodson, Stewart Davey, Angela Clark, Neil Clark, Alan Somerscales and Jonathan Cox . I would like to thank all the current members of the committee and our clerk Michelle Moss for the hard work and effort they have given to this committee over the past 12 months. During that period we have held 7 full meetings, members have actively participated in councillor walk rounds (2), actioning issues around the town and sourcing contractors. Following Kims retirement in Dec 2024, Mike Crookes has taken on the new handyman role with a more direct & proactive approach to dealing with maintenance issues around the town

During the 2025-26 period there has been a lot of progress in key areas around the town here are some highlights from the monthly reports I provide for the full council meetings:

In May the rotten fencing at the cricket ground was replaced and an extensive survey of the Town Hall was

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undertaken to assess the condition of the property and various damp issues.
The old firestation has been cleared, structurally surveyed and a detailed report with recommendations received.

The memorials at the church yard, congregational chapel and Kelsey rd cemetery have been formally inspected & recorded, repairs carried out at the cemetery and repairs proposed at the church yard and congregation chapel. The cemetery was surveyed using GPR to clarify the locations of unmarked burials and map sections of the cemetery currently without burials.

Cornhill was re-surfaced in February this year which is a huge improvement. It has been re-marked with a new parking layout and is due to be adopted by LCC.

Replacement of the litter bins in the town centre with larger capacity ones, working in partnership with WLDC. A comprehensive Health and safety review and update covering all council operations is currently under-way. Over the past 12 months numerous repairs & maintenance visits have been made to the play equipment and play areas, some by contractors and others by our council handman. Huge improvements have been made in managing and keeping records of the play areas, cemetery, allotment and other council assets.

The council and estates committee have had a very busy and productive year, thank you all for being part of this.

Health & Safety Working Group Report

It has been a little over a year since we CTC had its first visit from Worknest to assist us with our compliance on all matters to do with Health & Safety!

Since then, the working group was set up to address all the actions within the Health & Safety Report.

The Councillors on the working group along with our Clerk Michelle have been tasked with numerous items within the report.

CTC have just in the last Month had a second visit from Worknest and I am pleased to announce that as a council we are currently 87% compliant as to where we were a year ago & were congratulated by Worknest on the work that had been done to date!

As Chair of the group I would like to thank all involved for all their input and hard work over the past year!!

The group will continue to work through the last 13% to make sure we are as compliant as reasonably possible by the next inspection!!

But of course, it will be a continuous effort to keep things UpToDate on an annual basis in our ever changing world

Cllr Stewart Davey.

No report received from Chair of Personnel and Finance.

5. To receive any reports from community groups - Ref: 5

Lincolnshire Cares report to Caistor Town Council

Lincolnshire Cares continues to operate well in Caistor and North and South Kelsey, achieving its objectives as a registered charity.

It held a very successful Christmas party in December 2025 free for just over 80 guests. An excellent tea was served and entertainment was provided by the Earthbound Misfits which was very well received with audience participation by attendees. Helen Flunder also lead some singing. All attendees were very grateful for the event.

The coffee mornings are well attended in Caistor with around 18 attendees at Drakes Court every Monday and with around 9/10 attending on Fridays at South Kelsey

Village Hall.

9 members are befriended in their own homes or by telephone. 100 over 60s are members of the charity. There is no charge for any of the services offered and the charity runs on donations.

The charity is very grateful to assistance from Systematic, which continues to assist Lincolnshire Cares by way of printed materials and website support. It donated the leaflet drops which took place in 2025 and this ensured that all in the appropriate LN7 area received information about the activities of Lincolnshire Cares with invitations to new members to join the coffee mornings and the distribution list and also asked for new volunteers. Two new volunteers have recently stepped forward but more would be appreciated especially to help with befriending.

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Lincolnshire Co-op selected Lincolnshire Cares as one of its Community Champions and we have just heard that as a result of sales in Caistor Co-op that the charity will be given £736. This will fund the summer Afternoon Tea planned for 14th June. The charity is very grateful for the amazing help that 28 volunteers offer in a variety of ways and without which it would be unable to operate.

Julia Whittaker
Chair of Trustees
31.3.26

6. To invite members of the public to raise any matters - Ref: 6

One member of public raised an issue about the size of some of the bins around the town and asked if the council could look into larger bins. It was noted that it is West Lindsey District Council who are responsible for the bins, but that the resident may let the town clerk know which bins are of concern and the clerk will liaise with WLDC to try to address this.

Meeting closed at 06:13pm