

CASTLE CAMPS PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES

FOR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15TH JANUARY 2026 AT 7.30PM IN CASTLE CAMPS VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Sue Herbert (Vice Chairman), Dan Hoddinott, Clive Germany & Terry Chapman.

In attendance: Melanie Laing (Parish Clerk) Henry Batchelor (District Councillor) & 2 Parishioners

The meeting started at 7.30pm

1. Apologies and reasons for absence. Cllr Biggs & Cllr Smith sent apologies for family commitments, Cllr Kent & Basham, ill health and Cllr Harper work commitments. All Apologies accepted

2. Approve minutes of meeting Council meeting 13th November 26, proposed Cllr Herbert, seconded Cllr Hoddinott. Minutes were agreed by all and signed

3. Declarations of interest. None

4. District and County Council items of interest.

In addition to monthly reports received

Henry Batchelor

Local plan – A public meeting was held in Abington about Grange Farm 6k + housing development proposal and was inundated with concerned residents, 140 attended with 80 people being turned away due to lack of space. A second public meeting will be held. HB will send through dates, Concerns remain over lack of sewage plant facilities and water supply. A new reservoir is looking to be built near Chatteris to serve this area

Local elections – District council elections will go ahead in May

Kingsway Solar – English Heritage are being consulted at present and commented that panels are too close to heritage assets – W.Colville church and the roman road. A public consultation is soon to be held

5. Parishioners Question Time. Question raised about the 'lake' not having any fencing or safety signs. Clerk to contact Oliver Ayto, Public Rights of Way Officer. Councillor asked about concern over continued service of the village buses and getting sixth form students to and from Cambridge. HB to speak to Local Authority and Stevensons re Timings. Councillors asked HB about planning permission needed for Car Park extension. HB to enquire with planning office

6. Planning

6.1 Parish Council - none

6.2 District Council

Reference	Address	Proposal	Status
25/00208/CLUED	East View Haverhill Road	Certificate of lawfulness under S191 for an existing change of use to garden land.	Certificate granted 19/11/26
24/00258/CONDA	Brownings Farm Camps End	Submission of details required by conditions 3(a) (Phase 1 desk study), 5 (surface water drainage scheme) and 6 (energy statement) of planning permission 24/00258/FUL	Split decision

6.3 Planning queries and updates

PC letter to Planning – **ACTION Clerk** add Landscape View garden being used. Include list of objections along with planning and enforcement application numbers. Send to Steve Kelly, Head of Planning and copy to MP

7. Matters Arising – For information only

7.1 Road safety activity – Speedwatch – **ACTION Clerk** to forward Police contact to Cllr Hoddinott. MVAS – **ACTION Cllr Hoddinott** to gain access to data CS/DH

7.2 PC website change to .gov – Chris Herbert can't convert current website to .gov website. All agreed to create a simple separate.org website with email addresses SH

7.3 Community memorial bench gathering has raised £960. Councillors chose a bench style with arms at each end and one in the middle. The oak was originally planted in memorial of Tom Haylock in 1956 – a plaque or plinth will mark this. The oak is in conservation area. Cllrs agreed bench is to be contained in a boarder half way round the tree filled

with bark and finished with edging. Other memorial plaques to have an area within boarder. **ACTION Cllr Hoddinott** to discuss secure fixings with Andy Prentice and talk to the Prentice family about engraving of bench. DH

7.4 Highways visit update – no action has been carried out yet since recent visit. Road closures have been notified to Clerk but the reason for work is not clear. Flooding on Nosterfield bends is now prolonged more than previously since the adjacent ditch has been dug out. Ditch isn't deep enough and levels are incorrect so water isn't flowing away and flooding a bigger area and for longer time. **ACTION Clerk** to report on Highways website.

7.5 Village Maintenance checks – Cllr Chapman has completed his checks of Camps End. Cllr Germany has completed checks of Village. **ACTION Cllr Biggs** needs to complete checks on Recreation Ground TC/CG/JB

8. Matters for the council to discuss / vote on

- 8.1 Precept of £23,550 was proposed by Cllr Herbert, seconded by Cllr Chapman. All present agreed Clerk
 8.2 Extending Village Hall Car Park – HB to enquire re planning permission JB/CS
 8.3 Freedom of Information request on Footpath 16. Cllr Chapman and Clerk have identified all information relevant **ACTION Clerk** to pass all info to requester Clerk/TC
 8.4 Remembrance Service overview document – carried over to next meeting LK
 8.5 Letter of complaint to Planning. **ACTION Clerk** to work with Cllr Kent LK
 8.6 LHI application closing date 16 Jan. It was agreed to apply for the next opening and work on speed cushions and road narrowing along with the 20mph project. **ACTION Cllr Hoddinott & Herbert** to find out next application date DH/SH
 8.7 National Covid 19 day of reflection 8th Mar – It was decided by all not to take part Clerk
 8.8 Oak Tree on Green pruning. **ACTION Clerk** to contact RJG for full quote Clerk/CG

9. Public Rights of Way RH

- 9.1 Collect info on unmarked paths – contact landowners, put in new posts / direction markers. **ACTION Cllr Harper** meeting Oliver Ayto, Public Rights of Way Officer

10. Recreation Ground

- 10.1 Seating area update - None CS
 10.2 Multisport weeding & cleaning – **ACTION Clerk** waiting for second quote then circulate Clerk
 10.3 Address play area inspection report items – **ACTION Cllr Hoddinott & Herbert** to meet on site next week to check through Caledonia repair proposal for work still under guarantee DH/SH
 10.4 Roundabout surface repair. **ACTION Clerk** to get second quote. Cllr Hoddinott to look at PC carrying out repair

11. Finance

The Clerk

- 11.1 Receipts - none
 11.2 Payments since last meeting

Date	Payee	Item	Amount
24/11	Country Gardens	Grass maintenance Aug, Sept & Oct	1192.80
24/11	Community Heartbeat	Annual support for 2 x Defibs	396.00
24/11	Red Side Up	Camps Review printing - Nov	238.00
24/11	CC Village Hall	Hall hire Nov	20.00
24/11	M Laing	Clerk wages Oct	On request
24/11	Shiney's	2 x bus stop clean May & Oct	40.00
24/11	Chapel Community	Grant towards graveyard Maintenance	200.00
30/11	Unity Bank	Service charge	6.00
15/12	M Laing	Clerk wages – Nov	On request
15/12	Country Gardens	Grass maintenance 2716 Ditch clearing	1032.00
16/12	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath and donation	30.00
31/12	Unity Bank	Service charge	6.00

11.3 Payments to be agreed

Payee	Item	Amount
M Laing	Clerk wages Dec	On request
CC Village Hall	Hall hire Jan	20.00

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Herbert, seconded by Cllr Germany. All agreed

11.4 Account balances as of 31/12/25

Maintenance	£15,671
Online account	£16,113

Sinking Fund & Grants
Saver account #2

£27,202
£199

12.Clerks Items

13. Matters for next Agenda

Annual Parish Meeting – set date with Village Hall as previous years and advertise in May Camps Review
Clearing scrub around edge of Rec. Cllr Herbert to put date in C. Review for end of March
Next meeting to be planning and finance

14. Date of Next Meeting: Planning – 12 Feb / Full Council – 12 Mar

Meeting finished at 9.30pm. Melanie Laing