

CARLTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of
Carlton-on-Trent Parish Council held
in the Village Hall, Main Street, Carlton on Trent on

Tuesday 4th July 2017 at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr N Fletcher (Chair), Cllr M Martin (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Clark, Cllr M Eley, Cllr L Hopkins, Cllr F Jerome, Cllr R Whate, CCllr B Laughton, DCllr S Michael and T Grimes (Clerk)

1) To consider any apologies for absence

None

2) To receive any declarations of interest in items on the agenda

MM declared an interest in the clerk's wages.

3) To accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday 6th June 2017

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the chair.

4) 10 minute open forum to receive questions and comments from members of the public

There were no members of the public present but several matters were raised by councillors;

- The bungalows on Church Lane only have one door. In light of the Grenfell Tower fire, concern was raised that only one exit may require someone to climb out of a window and this wouldn't be possible for some residents. CCllr BL said that NSDC were carrying out a safety audit of all their properties and that he would raise this concern.
- It was noted that there had been a visible decrease in the number of trees in the village. Questions were raised about the difference between requests for tree removal and planning applications that required tree removal. CCllr BL said that trees should not be removed without permission in a conservation area and anyone doing so should be reported as there are fines for such actions.
- A question was asked about cutting of grass verges. CCllr BL reported that all verges are fully cut on a three year cycle to keep saplings and ragwort at bay, in the interim, junctions and areas of poor visibility are cut right back every cut and the rest are only narrow cut.
- Following a van fire near the A1 South bound exit slip road the pavement was damaged. The question was raised as to whether this is repaired at council expense or the van owner's expense. CCllr BL suggested the damage be reported and said repair costs would depend on the level of damage and may be reclaimed.
- It was noted that the resurfacing at the cross roads and the A1 slip road junction were done efficiently and to a high standard. CCllr BL said he would feed this back to Highways.

5) To note any matters arising from the minutes of 6th June 2017

a) Cement Cover near Walkers

The clerk reported that having walked around the area she had been unable to find the cover to take a photograph and was therefore unable to inform Sutton PC of where it was or what the problem was.

b) Youths by the Beck

No-one was able to identify the youths and it was noted that whilst some cycled from Sutton there were others dropped off in cars. It was therefore felt that without names Sutton would be unable to help so the landowner would need to put signs up about littering, fires and damming the Beck.

c) Document Archiving

The clerk had not received any response from NSDC as to whether there were parish council records archived there. RW had spoken to a past councillor who could not recall records being archived but suggested asking Jill Hall, a previous clerk. RW offered to contact her.

d) Transparency Code Application

The clerk reported that the claim had been successful and a cheque was on the way.

e) Narrowing of the Pavements

The clerk read out a response from Robert Jennick's secretary asking that the areas of concern be identified. It was agreed that the stretch from the end of the Church to the stables was where the pavement had been cleared and then BT left soil which had since seeded.

f) Updated policies

The updated policies were signed by the chair.

6) To receive updates on any District & County Councillor matters

DCllr SM reported that N&S DC new offices had been finished on time and on budget and services would move in on 1st September. The July 20th Safer Neighbourhoods Group meeting would be at Kelham Hall.

CCllr BL commended the village on the recent fete.

He also reported that

- County Council were looking into the process used for pothole repairs to see whether there could be any improvements in quality. There has been a noticeable drop in claims against the council since the current system was introduced so it was hoped some of the savings from claims could be diverted to repairs.
- The Local Improvement Scheme is being revamped and will include items like noticeboards.
- He is pressing for the Sutton on Trent speed limit of 40 to be extended over the railway bridge, a weight restriction be imposed on the Grassthorpe road and the Cromwell speed limit be reduced to 30mph.
- N&S DC had a £890,000 underspend which was being reviewed as some savings had been so severe that they were impacting upon service provision.
- The contracts with Inspire, Via and Veolia were all being reviewed.

7) To receive the Health & Safety Report

MM reported that all the council's assets were in good order and the grit bins were full. The bin on Church Lane had been repaired and the benches could do with a coat of wood stain for which he had the necessary paint.

8) To consider a change of bank following HSBC's introduction of charges

The clerk informed the council of new bank charges from September. Having compared the likely annual cost with other local high street banks HSBC came out the best. However, the clerk informed council that Unity Trust, an online bank specifically for councils, was cheaper. It came out very well in a survey by Notts ALC, being easy to switch and having a facility for two councillors to approve payments online before they are made.

RESOLVED: to switch to Unity Trust Bank.

(proposed by FJ, seconded by MM, carried unanimously)

9) To receive feedback from councillors on any meetings/training attended

There have not been any meetings but NF asked whether there were any matters that council wanted taking to the Safer Neighbourhoods Group meeting. It was noted that there were still issues on the A1 North bound exit at Cromwell.

10) To consider any planning matters

a) Notifications received

None received.

b) Planning applications to discuss

i) 17/00959/FUL – Park Farm double garage

It transpired that the wrong plans and drawings had been uploaded to the DC website; the proposal was for two extensions not a double garage. FJ produced a copy of the plans for the council to use.

RESOLVED: To support the application.
(proposed MM, seconded RW, carried unanimously)

c) Any other planning business

N&S DC have sent out information reminding councils that planning responses should only be based upon material considerations. The clerk put the information in the pack for councillors to read.

11) To discuss and respond to the following consultations

a) NALC – Trade union pay claim

It was felt this would have limited impact at Carlton but could have greater impact where councils had several employees on the lower pay scales.

RESOLVED: To respond as follows; in principal we would like to see the 1% cap removed.
(proposed by NF, seconded by MM, carried unanimously)

12) To consider and approve any financial matters

a) To approve payments for:

• **Clerk's Wages £162.44**

The clerk informed council that having voted at the last meeting to make 12 equal payments, this only needed to be noted each month.

b) Any other financial matters

i) To note the bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation and statements were checked and signed by the chair.

ii) To set the village hall fee

The fee was agreed to be 2 hours tonight, making 12 hours on account to date.

13) To raise any other business which may need to be included on the agenda of the next meeting

The clerk put the latest edition of Clerks and Councils Direct in the pack for councillors to read.

The clerk noted that Unity had asked for Carlton to submit information as they had done in the past. Councillors were asked to consider this for the next meeting.

14) To note the date of the next meeting

This will be Tuesday 5th September at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9pm