

CARLTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st January 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: T Cooper (Chair), N Fletcher (Vice-Chair), R Whate, K Smith, F Jerome, M Eley, B Laughton, C Rose, T Grimes (Clerk) and 1 member of the public

1. To consider any apologies for absence

Cllr Laughton apologised for having to leave at 7.45pm to attend another meeting and Cllr Rose apologised for arriving at 8.30pm having been to another meeting.

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

None

3. To accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday 19th November 2013

Minutes were accepted as a true account of the meeting.

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

No comments/queries were raised.

5. To note any matters arising from the Minutes of 19th November 2013 which are not elsewhere on the agenda

- (a) Village Sign (TG)

Jan Pauley has confirmed that the signs are in production and should be installed by the end of the month.

- (b) Re-siting of weight limit signs

Cllr Laughton informed the council that Mike Keeling had acknowledged that there was a mistake in the siting of the weight limit signs and has passed the matter to the Highways department and Andy Charlton. Any corrective action is out of MK's hands and cannot be guaranteed but the matter is being pursued.

- (c) Dog Bin signs (TG)

NSDC have confirmed that they do not encourage the use of ordinary litter bins as dog bins and consequently any signs put on litter bins would be removed. It was decided that the signs councillors had put round the village were proving effective and that these should be replaced as required and the matter closed.

- (d) Plaque for the churchyard (RW)

The plaque has been mounted on a piece of wood and fixed in place courtesy of Mr Dean Fairhurst. The council expressed their gratitude to Mr Fairhurst for his community spirit.

- (e) Cromwell Halt lorries (RW)

RW has identified the dangerous parking spots to send to Mike Keeling. TC has an appropriate map for the purpose.

- (f) Phonebox Paint (TC)

TC has contacted Sutton on Trent Parish Council who will provide the paint for the phonebox.

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

- (a) A1 Noise

Cyril Day has sent a letter which TC put in the pack for councillors to digest. Cllr Rose suggested contacting Patrick Mercer and the Guardian about the issues. RW questioned whether the recently publicised EU Air Quality guidelines could be used to help in any way having just resulted in a speed limit on the M1 around Sheffield.

- (b) A1 Slip-road Damage

Jo Horton had been in touch with Cllr Laughton to say that she had requested the resurfacing of the A1 for 2015/16 but that the work could not be guaranteed. Data had been collected regarding traffic speed at the junction and she had put in for an interactive sign however the speed limit could not be extended further down the slip road as lorries would not have sufficient distance to pick up speed to join the A1 safely.

- (c) Any other matters

The Pears hearing is in progress and due to finish on Thursday 23rd January. There had been a good turnout by the public, several of whom had spoken about the negative impact the smell was having on local businesses and house sales.

- (d) Cllr Laughton gave feedback from the Safer Neighbourhoods meeting – saying there had been no crime in Carlton on Trent but that there had been a change in the way the speed enforcement team worked and now would be a good time to get them out to monitor the crossroads area.

7. To review Council Policy and amend as appropriate

- (a) Mission Statement
- (b) Standing Orders
- (c) Code of Conduct
- (d) Complaints Procedure
- (e) Equal Opportunities Policy
- (f) Health & Safety Policy
- (g) Disciplinary & Grievance Procedures
- (h) Publication Scheme

It was decided that the mission statement was still appropriate and should remain unchanged. However, it was felt that it would take too long to review the remaining policies so these would be reviewed one by one on a rolling programme, beginning with the Publication scheme. FJ offered to draft a scheme based on the NALC advice ready for review at the next meeting.

8. To consider EU Air Quality Guidelines as a means of addressing A1 issues

This was covered in the District and County Councillor review above.

9. To draft a response to the RCAN Good Neighbourhood Scheme survey

A print out of the survey was circulated but everyone had different answers so it was agreed that all councillors should be given a copy to fill in and answers would be combined at the next meeting for submission.

10. To receive feedback from councillors on any meetings/training attended

- (a) Wind Energy Consultation Briefing (JC)

JC was not at the meeting but Cllr Rose explained that the district had been split into areas and each area had then been assessed for turbine capacity. Carlton on Trent was part of the Trent Valley area and had been identified as suitable for moderate turbine development.

11. To draft a response to the Wind Energy Consultation

Cllr Rose urged the council to feedback to NSDC but it was felt that this would only be possible having seen all the landscape studies and the proposed development levels for this area. It was agreed that a meeting should be called for this purpose on February 18th.

12. To consider any planning matters

- (a) Decisions made (awaiting The Stables decision, the Wind Turbine appeal decision)

The Stables have been granted planning permission but the Turbine appeal is still outstanding.

- (b) Planning applications to discuss (13/01742/FUL Wind Turbine at Weston)

The application was considered and Councillors felt that the visual impact would affect Carlton on Trent and that they should therefore object to the proposal. The views of Weston PC should be sought so that they could be supported if Weston also objected. The motion was carried by 5 votes to 1.

- (c) Any other planning business (the conservatory on the Wharf)

NSDC have reported that desktop enquiries had led them to believe the conservatory on the wharf to be within permitted development and therefore not requiring planning permission, however they were going to carry out a site survey to confirm this and would report their findings in due course.

13. To discuss and note any further actions required from correspondence received since the last meeting

- (a) European Commission Review of VAT Legislation

It was felt this would have little impact upon Carlton but it was put in the pack for councillors to read.

- (b) BBC Flog It!

A poster was passed to NF for display on the village hall notice board.

- (c) NSDC Adoption of Supplementary Planning Document

The information was noted and put in the pack for councillors to read,

14. To consider and approve any financial matters

- (a) To approve payments for:

- Village Hall fees

A payment of £6 was proposed by TC and seconded by RW.

- (b) Any other outstanding financial matters

- HMRC RTI of PAYE

A letter had been received from HMRC saying they would be in touch but as yet the PC are still not reporting Clerk's wages payments in real time online.

- Precept setting

An updated budget sheet was circulated and after some discussion it was decided by a unanimous vote that the precept should be set at £2730. This represented a £230 increase in the precept request but was actually the same amount of money as that received last year due to a £230 payment for council tax relief from NSDC which had been withdrawn this year. The budget predicted a slightly higher spend would be likely, but it was felt that there was enough in the bank to cover any shortfall.

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

None

16. To set the date of the next meeting

An extraordinary meeting is to be held on 18th February to draft a response to the NSDC Wind Energy Consultation. The next regular council meeting will be held on 18th March.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm