

# CARLTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

Cllr T Cooper (Chair), Cllr N Fletcher (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Clark, Cllr M Eley, Cllr F Jerome, Cllr M Martin, Cllr R Whate, C Cllr B Laughton and T Grimes (Clerk)

**1. To consider any apologies for absence**

D Cllr C Rose sent apologies for being unable to attend.

C Cllr B Laughton apologised for his late arrival.

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

Murray Martin declared an interest in the payment of the Clerk's wages.

**3. To accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

JC proposed that the minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and ME seconded the motion. The minutes were signed by TC.

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

No members of the public attended the meeting however several matters had been raised with individual councillors prior to the meeting:

- TC was made aware of a dangerous inspection cover adjacent to the footpath by the South bound bus stop on Great North Road. The concrete cover has eroded leaving the reinforcement rods exposed and a hole large enough for someone's foot to go through. The whole thing is so fragile that standing anywhere on the concrete could cause the cover to fall in due to the extent of the rust on the reinforcing rods. It was felt that the council should know who the cover belonged to and JC offered to contact Mike Keeling to report the problem.
- The state of the footpath was also an issue but the member of public had already reported this.
- The footpath from the Church to the Dower House had been reported for being increasingly muddy. This was believed to be due to the stables being rented out, resulting in more cars parking next to the field. It was felt that nothing could be done about this and it would improve as the weather improved.
- ME noted that there had been a mobile food seller parked dangerously by the Cromwell slip road from the A1. JC offered to mention this to Mike Keeling.
- MM noted that there had been 4 road closures in a week on the Carlton on Trent to Tuxford stretch of the A1 due to accidents and wondered whether anyone knew where and why they happened in case there was a link. No-one knew any more details.
- It was noted that the new litter bin at the bus stop was being used and that someone had been and litter picked the lay bye.

**5. To note any matters arising from the minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**(a) Pot Holes at the Crossroads (TG)**

The clerk reported that these have been filled.

**(b) Interactive speed sign (MM)**

MM reported the fact that the sign had been turned to face the wrong way to NCC and was told it was in hand and should be connected and working in the near future.

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

Cllr Laughton reported the following:

- After a very close budget debate, the county had agreed that there would be a 1.9% increase in council tax.
- The Highways maintenance contract had been outsourced to Cormac – a firm from Cornwall.
- There had been a meeting at Cromwell and as a result there will be new signage on the A1 and a traffic order preventing parking on one side of the road. BP have offered £250,000 to put a new road into the garage but this had not progressed due to the landowner not agreeing to sell the land. MM commented that Cafe Amore had looked closed the last few days and BL felt that this may provide an alternative if it were available.
- BL is now the council representative on the Police Crime Commission board and noted that there would be a reduction in PCSO's.
- ME asked about the weight limit signs and BL reported that the relocation order had not gone in yet.
- BL also informed the council that Sutton Youth Club were at risk of closure due to lack of a secretary/treasurer. They have plenty of volunteer youth workers and equipment and are well attended so it would be a shame to have to close. BL requested that the council ask Carlton residents if anyone can help. They meet every Monday in term time but a secretary/treasurer need not commit to this as long as they can attend some staff meetings and manage the finances, it will be enough to keep the club open.

**7. To review Council Policy and amend as appropriate**

**(a) Risk Assessment Policy (NF)**

NF suggested that there needed to be a councillor to shadow the clerk and that once this role were filled the policy could be reviewed in light of the actual practices of the clerk as general policies were not appropriate. NF agreed to become the shadow and would meet with the clerk before the next meeting so that a revised policy could be produced.

**8. To set a date for a Litter pick**

21<sup>st</sup> March at 10am was set as the date for the litter pick. RW offered to obtain the equipment and FJ offered to put up posters.

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

There haven't been any meetings or training sessions.

**10. To consider any planning matters**

**(a) Notifications received**

The clerk reported that 14/02229/FUL Solar Panel Installation Hill Farm decision is still pending.

**(b) Planning applications to discuss**

None

**(c) Any other planning business**

None

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

**(a) Martifer Community Fund Contract**

The clerk circulated a draft contract prior to the meeting but reported that there was no news as to the split with Sutton on Trent. Following discussion, it was felt that an email should be sent asking for more than 50% due to Carlton suffering more visual impact and more disruption from construction traffic. FJ agreed to word an email and circulate for approval prior to sending. The clerk had asked Zoe Walton whether she would be willing to comment on the contract but had not heard anything in response. FJ offered to speak to a contact with a legal background who she thought may advise. Cllr Laughton advised that when the plan materialised, it was important to have someone like Christine Rose to speak on behalf of the council and to urge N&S DC to make payment of the community fund a condition of planning.

**12. To discuss and respond to the following consultations**

**(a) Network Rail Crossing Closure Consultation**

Following discussions it was agreed that a response be sent confirming support for the proposed bridge but highlighting concerns over the safety of the A1 slip road and the issue of gritting if the majority of the slip road became the responsibility of NCC instead of A-one+. NF offered to word a response and circulate before sending.

**(b) N&SDC Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan Document Preferred Strategy**

It was felt no comment was necessary.

**13. To consider and approve any financial matters**

**(a) To approve payments for:**

- Village Hall fees £3
- Clerk's Wages £119.38

**RESOLVED: That these payments be made**

(proposed TC, seconded JC, carried unanimously, MM did not vote)

- Dog Bin Emptying £109.20  
Councillors questioned the rising cost of emptying the dog bins and the clerk read the letter accompanying the invoice, stating that they were emptied weekly. It was suggested that this be changed to fortnightly through the Winter and that the invoice would be amended so should not be approved.

**(b) Any other outstanding financial matters**

- Bank reconciliation  
NF signed the bank statements and reconciliation with an amendment – under payments £60.91 should read NALC fees not VAT.

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

The clerk gave out the Declarations of Interest which would need to be completed by councillors for the next meeting, if re-elected.

It was suggested that there were no litter bins at the south end of the village and perhaps this should be addressed.

**15. To note the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm on 12<sup>th</sup> May following the Parish Meeting at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

Approved: