

## Amended MINUTES (adopted|)

### CARLTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

#### MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011 held at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

1. Present: Mrs R Whate (Chair) Mr T. Cooper (Vice-Chair), Mr P Jackson, Mrs F Jerome, Mr N Walton, Mrs M Eley, Mrs S. Beresford (Clerk) and 7 members of the Public including the developer.

Apologies for Absence: Mrs J Clark.

#### 2. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Each Parish Councillor asked in turn declined any declaration of interest in items on the agenda.

##### 1) Planning

- a) Installation of 1 wind turbine, with a maximum height of 74m, a new access track, hardstanding, a small substation, associated infrastructure. Field Reference 8199. Ossington Road, Carlton-on-Trent.

The Chair, Mrs Whate explained that she had spoken to the planning officer, Clare Walker that afternoon and the planning officer said that she has requested a blimp to be erected. At the current time she was waiting to hear from the developer and the agent to see if this would be a consideration. This blimp would give residents a clearer indication of the height of the wind turbine. Mrs Whate was also told that it might be some time before a District Council decision was made on this application as it was likely to go to planning committee in June.

Therefore the Parish Council foremost need to make a decision if they wish to wait to see if a blimp would be erected or go ahead and make a decision tonight based on the information they currently hold.

Mrs Whate, Chair opened the meeting up to members of the public. Initially the blimp was explained as a large balloon indicating the visual height of the turbine. According to the developer present, the blimp would be unlikely to make much difference. A lengthy debate then followed regarding the accuracy of the photomontages. A second debate centred on the turbine connection to the grid system. The developer stated that there were 2-3 options however; these have not yet been explored fully. Questions were asked of the developer regarding the size of the turbine and if this differed from the plans put in front, would the turbine be of a similar design (i.e. gearless). The developer said this would be the case. The data from the barometer has been low according to the developer, however, average in respect of other data. Wind has been 20% lower across the country this year. This followed a heated debate regarding the political aspects of wind farming. Following this debate the Chair closed the meeting to members of the public.

The Parish Council then asked questions regarding this application as a sole turbine and whether this would then set a precedent for more turbine applications.

The majority general consensus within the village appears to be that the community could tolerate one turbine but a multiple application would cause concern. There was further concern expressed by Mr Cooper regarding the planning officer's request for a blimp. He proposed that the application decision be postponed until after which the blimp decision was reached. The developer responded with the categorical refusal to erect a blimp as he stated that the decision would be his and his alone. The developer was of the belief that all the blimp would

serve to do is allow residents to see if they could view the turbine from their own back gardens. Members of the PC state that the information received appears that the site of this application should not affect health of individuals in the village. The turbine will still have a detrimental visual impact on the surrounding area. There are also noise impacts; however this will largely affect Hill Top Farm. There is also a possibility that TV reception may be affected however, if this is the case the developer has agreed to cover the costs of rectifying this issue. Mrs Whate then read out the benefits listed in the planning document, the local economic benefits, educational benefits and diversification aspects. The turbine will also produce over 1.9 million Kw/h of energy with no omissions.

The Parish Councillors were then asked to carry out a vote regarding the application.

The Parish Council were asked to vote for or against the existing proposal. 4 for the proposal, 2 against, therefore the proposal supported.

b) Dry lining of walls to one first floor room and other alterations to form an ensuite bathroom- Carlton-Hall, Carlton-on-Trent

All present viewed the application and voted unanimously to support the proposal.

2) Financial Matters

a) Payment of Village Hall Fees

£10.00 proposed by P Jackson and seconded by Margaret Eley.

### Any Other Business

Nigel Walton- As this is the last meeting that Nigel will attend as a Parish Councillor, the Chair wholeheartedly thanked Mr Walton for all his service to the village, both on this occasion - 4 years and prior to this a 12 year stint. Mr Walton thanked the Clerk and other members of the PC. He asked that we place on the agenda the repairs to Spittle Bridge, particularly the Trief kerb system.

Moving bench on Ferry Lane- Mr Walton asked permission to move the position of the bench on Ferry Lane and turn it round so that people could sit and look out to the River. This was wholeheartedly supported.

Mr P Jackson- this was also Philips last meeting as an oversight in getting the application to Kelham Hall prevented him from becoming re-elected. Mr Jackson was willing to be co-opted when the process begins.

Grassthorpe Crossing- Mr Jackson explained that he had met Tim Slater from Network Rail regarding the Grassthorpe crossing which will become closed from 18.00pm until 7.00am all year round. The footpath will still be open and from the months of July-September provision will be made for vehicles involved in Harvest to access the crossing. There will also be a number to ring.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.00pm.