

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 3rd January 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, CCllr B Laughton and T Grimes (Clerk)

1) To consider any apologies for absence

RW gave her apologies for absence due to ill health, which were accepted.
DCllr SM sent her apologies.

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 December 2016

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

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

No members of the public were present but RW had asked whether the clerk had heard anything about the dyke being cleared as it was getting worse. The clerk noted that DCllr SM had offered to look into this but had since been unable to attend meetings. CCllr BL offered to raise this when speaking to DCllr SM.

5) To note any matters arising from the minutes of 6th December 2016

There were no matters arising.

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

CCllr BL informed council that Chesterfield has raised a legal challenge to the Sheffield Region, which would have included Bassetlaw. The challenge was successful due to insufficient consultation.

NF asked CCllr BL whether the recent appearance of a 'For Sale' sign at Cromwell Service Station had any implication for the planning application at the site. Although not aware of the sale, CCllr BL reported that anyone can apply for planning permission on any land; they need not be the owner.

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

None

8) To consider whether there are specific questions required in the Housing Needs Survey

Unfortunately the pack had not been passed to all councillors so this was deferred to the next meeting.

9) To consider whether to register for the VETs scheme

The Village Emergency Telephone scheme involves getting 10 volunteers to agree to respond to emergency calls from villagers. For an annual fee of approximately £100,

waived in the first year, the volunteers' numbers are registered in the system and a single number is provided for residents to call. In an emergency, residents call the central number and it automatically dials the 10 volunteers who then accept or reject the call. As soon as one volunteer accepts the call and offers to help, the system stops ringing the remaining numbers.

It was felt it may be difficult to get sufficient volunteers, so a newsletter article gauging support would be necessary before taking any decision to register.

10) To consider any planning matters

a) Notifications received

None

b) Planning applications to discuss

i) 16/01926/FUL – extension, 9 Old North Road

It was felt that this would have a positive visual impact and that the neighbouring property already had the same style extension so there was no reason to object.

RESOLVED: To support the application.

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

c) Any other planning business

None

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

a) Notts ALC – Defendant's Carer's Allowance

The clerk reported that the allowance was to cover child care or care for defendant adults, to enable attendance at any council meeting or associated activity such as training and that it would be paid from the precept. Councillor BL reported that although available it is not claimed at district or county levels. There was discussion about care costs deterring people from becoming councillors but it was felt that in reality this had not affected Carlton. It was also noted that to cover the cost of approximately £40 per meeting for one councillor, would require an increase in precept greater than referendum principles permit (although not yet imposed). It was therefore felt that although the principle was good, in reality, the full cost could be crippling, whilst limiting claims to part costs could be discriminatory.

RESOLVED: To respond as per the final comment above.

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

b) Notts ALC – Referendum Principles

The clerk reported that these had not been applied at Parish level for 2017/18; the response was put in the pack for councillors to read.

c) Robert Jenrick - Referendum Principles

The letter confirmed the above and was also put in the pack.

d) N&S CVS – Dementia Befriending Service

The information was put in the pack for councillors to pass on to interested parties.

12) To discuss and respond to the following consultations

a) Community Safety Team Rural Crime Consultation

It was agreed that the document in question lacked specific strategies for reducing rural crime, but that this would require more police for which funding wasn't available. It was therefore agreed no response would be submitted.

13) To consider and approve any financial matters

a) To approve payments for:

- Clerk's Wages £178.05

RESOLVED: To make the payment.

(proposed by LH, seconded by NF, carried unanimously, MM did not vote)

The clerk noted that there had been no response from the bank so, in the absence of RW, it was not possible to sign the cheque. It was agreed this could be done when RW was in better health and that she would be asked to contact the bank to see whether NF had been added as a signatory to the account.

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 determine the Village hall fee (on account)

This was deferred until after the precept had been agreed, but was then agreed to be 2 hours, ie £6.

iii) To set the precept for 2017/18

The clerk circulated an updated 2016/17 budget statement showing a suggested budget for 2017/18 and a resulting precept of £2866, the same as 2016/17, reducing the council tax of a band D property by £0.67.

It was felt that with the threat of referendum principles being imposed in the near future, there should perhaps be a greater reserve to cover costs such as those arising in recent years with turbine applications and the change of clerk or an election. A 5% increase in precept would result in an increase of £0.94 on band D council tax.

RESOLVED: To raise the precept by 5%, ie to request £3009.

(proposed by LH, seconded by FJ, carried by majority)

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

JC noted that number 13 Old North Road had started work to gravel the grass verge and that this had been reported to Highways and to Newark & Sherwood Homes who removed the matting.

LH noted that the luminous 'eyes' dog fouling posters which keep being removed have been reported as 'spooking' horses so it may be riders laying them down.

15) To note the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be 7th February 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm