

## **CARLTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009 commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Lt Col G E Vere-Laurie (Chairman), Mrs R Whate (Vice-Chair), Mrs J Clark, Mr T Cooper, Mrs L Wells-Pope, Mr B Laughton (County Councillor), Mrs S Beresford (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr C. Hemstock, Mrs C Rose (District Councillor)
2. **Declaration of interest on items on the agenda.**  
No declarations made.
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th November 2008.**  
The minutes, having been circulated and read were declared to be a true record with the exception of an incorrect list of those present. Mr E Holland was NOT present, amendment made by the Chair. Approved by Mrs R Whate and seconded by Mr T Cooper.
4. **Matters arising from the Minutes.**

a) **Highways issues, potholes, pavements and general repairs.**

The white lines need to be repainted around the lorry park (information received from Mrs C Rose) in order to ensure that if the drivers park in the inappropriate place we can ask the Police to request removal. The Clerk will write to Jo Horton at Highways North to ask for this action to be taken. There has also been an incident whereby a vehicle has driven into the bridge adjacent to the lay-by near the Beck- this will be reported. The issue of the Cromwell halt cafe is still ongoing and although the location is within Cromwell parish, it still impacts on Carlton-on-Trent. The Clerk will write to the County Council to ask if there is a legal position with Lorries parking overnight. All those present agreed that if the Lorries park within the white lines then it is not a problem and unlikely to cause an accident. The reason that the Lorries use the facility is because it is in the region of their 4.5 hour driving limit (per tachograph) from the major Ports. It is also most convenient and saves them the £15.00 fee which is charged by the Lorry Park in Newark. Apparently there was a collision in the vicinity 2-3 months ago. The Clerk will make further enquiries. Proposed by G Vere-Laurie and seconded by L Wells-Pope.

b) **Flood Resilience and Drainage issues.**

The Resilience store is now the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee. Mr Cooper informed those present that the village information meeting planned for 29<sup>th</sup> November has had to be rescheduled. The Flood Wardens have a key to the store and the spare key is in the village hall. As part of this planned village meeting the Flood Wardens will address issues such as key ownership, contact numbers and resilience plans to inform all residents of the village.

c) Parish Council website

The Clerk stated that this was still an ongoing project and hopefully soon a draft website would be available to view. The application made by the Village Hall for funding was not approved. The issues discussed at the meeting included an application to WREN for funding. The second idea was to utilise the laptop facilities from the Youth Club for viewing on-line planning applications.

d) Postcode Irregularities

This item to be discussed at the next meeting due to the absence of Mrs Rose at this meeting The Post Office has been approached but Mrs Rose has realised that this is a much bigger issue than previously recognised. The Clerk informed those present that the new Electoral Roll showed some postcodes and not others. This will be investigated with the involvement of the Electoral Regulations Officer at NDSC.

e) Adoption of the BT Telephone Kiosk

This is also an ongoing issue, we are a little further on with the proceedings and the Clerk has been in contact with the Electricity Company and signed an agreement with Eon. Further information should be available at the next meeting. It has been a lengthy and complicated process with key stakeholders in the process appearing to dismiss their involvement.

Those present discussed the use of the telephone box for parish Council news and/or a notice board inside the kiosk.

The Clerk had received a response from NSDC in respect of Insurance for the Kiosk and had the following response.

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I can confirm that the current policy **will** provide liability cover for the Parish Council for incidents occurring out of the kiosk, e.g. the injuries as stated. The insurers ask that regular checks are carried out to ensure the kiosk is in a safe condition (as often, damages may not be spotted or reported until a while after the incident), and that any potentially harmful damages such as broken panes are repaired promptly.

However, the policy will not provide cover for repairs to the kiosk itself following any damage, e.g. vandalism. “

f) Traffic and Speeding Issues

Those present were informed that Peter Thom from Highways visited Mrs Clark and monitored the traffic for ½ hour over the Christmas Holiday period and during this observation stated that no HGVS travelled along the road.

All present agreed that this was a most usual event and the timing of the observation was also inappropriate. Pater Thom also visited the cafe area and found that the owner had no concerns. His advice was to suggest an Unsuitable for HGVS sign. All agreed that this was not the most successful meeting. Councillor Bruce Laughton has passed this matter onto Patrick Mercer, MP. Those present suggested that we also write to Patrick Mercer and state that we are not content with the recent traffic assessment and do not feel that ½ hours observation constitutes a full traffic assessment. Those present were invited to undertake a log of HGV activity themselves. A discussion took place whereby it was agreed that many of the Lorries are still heading to nearby businesses.

The second issue of speeding is a Police matter. Those present discussed asking to go on the waiting list for the Interactive speed sign.

The Clerk will formally request this.

Mr B Laughton stated that he had recently met with Mike Keeling over both Cromwell and Carlton-on-Trent issues and he is looking at a long term solution to these issues. It is important that both villages work together as the problems are so similar. Bruce stated that Mike Keeling is trying to instigate a Traffic regulation limit to affect a 7.5 tonne weight limit for both villages. The problem that would arise is that there is an objection from anyone; this would cause the traffic regulation order to fail.

A meeting has been arranged with Mike Keeling and Bruce Laughton at the BP Garage on 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 10.30am. Mrs Wells-Pope and Mrs J Clark will attend to represent Carlton-on-Trent. Mike Keeling, the Highways manager at NCC has been addressing and assessing this issue for many months.

Mrs J Clark proposed a vote of thanks to Bruce Laughton for all his hard work in respect of this issue.

g) The New Model Publication Scheme

Mrs R Whate agreed to read up on this and stated that, as a Parish Council, we need to sign up to this as soon as possible. The Freedom of Information Act gives members of the public the right to examine all Parish Council affairs. We need to have published and on display details about the Parish Council, such

as names and addresses, locations of meetings, staff structure, the annual precept and how it is spent, a timetable of meetings, District and County Councillors, Standing orders, policies and procedures and other miscellaneous issues. The Clerk will contact NALC for further information.

h) Communities in Control- Consultation Document

Mrs Whate informed the meeting that this document slightly alters the Model Code of Conduct. The consultation is asking for other local government authorities to be included in the Model Code of Conduct, for example Parish Council Clerks.

i) Dog Control Orders/ Dog fouling

Those present discussed the purchase of dog waste bins for the village as dog waste has been disposed on in inappropriate places. The Clerk will write to local businesses starting with Caledonian Building systems to ask for financial donations to purchase the bins. The approximate cost of each dog bin is £125 plus vat and the weekly cost of having each bin emptied is £1.50 plus VAT

**5. Financial Matters**

a) Payment of Village Hall Fees-

Proposed by Mr T Cooper and seconded by Mrs J Clark to sign a cheque for £10.00.

b) Financial position

The Clerk informed those present regarding the current financial position and the increase in spending year on year. It was proposed formally to keep the Precept at £1500. Proposed by Lt Col G Vere-Laurie and seconded by Mr N Walton.

**6. Planning Matters**

Decisions made

Land adjacent to the rear of the Old Forge- Main Street, Carlton-on-Trent  
Demolition of existing steel framed barn and single storey outbuildings-  
APPROVED.

**7. Items to include on the next agenda.**

Matters arising.

**8. Any other business**

Post Deliveries.

The service is once again extremely poor. The Clerk will write again to the sorting office and copy in Bruce Laughton and if necessary will also write to Patrick Mercer. All those present to monitor the mail service.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is to be March 12th 2009 commencing at 7.30pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.00.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.30pm.