

## **Carlton-on-Trent Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009 commencing at 7.40pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Lt Col G.E Vere-Laurie (Chairman), Mrs J Clark, Mrs L Wells-Pope, Mrs R Whate, Mr T Cooper, Mr N Walton, Mr C Hemstock , Mrs C Rose (District Councillor- arrived after item 5e) Mr B Laughton (County Councillor)- left the meeting after 5a, Mrs S Beresford (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence :**) None
2. **Declaration of interest on items on the agenda.-** Nil
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009.**

The minutes, having been circulated and read were agreed to contain a true record of items discussed. Proposed by Mrs L Wells-Pope and seconded by Mr C Hemstock.

### **4. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Lt Col G.E. Vere-Laurie stood down as Chairman and the Clerk invited members of the Parish Council to nominate and propose a new Chairman. Mr T Cooper asked Lt Col G.E. Vere-Laurie if he would be willing to stand. Mrs R Whate proposed Lt Col G.E. Vere-Laurie, seconded by Mrs J Clark. There were no further nominations. Lt. Col Vere-Laurie agreed to accept the position of Chairman and thanked the Parish Council for the continued support.

Lt Col Vere-Laurie invited the Parish Councillors to submit proposals for Vice-Chairman. Lt Col G E Vere-Laurie proposed Mrs R Whate and this was seconded by Mrs J Clark. There were no further nominations. Mrs Whate stated that she be willing to accept nomination and agreed to take up the position.

### **5. Matters arising from the minutes.**

#### a) **Flood Resilience and Drainage issues**

Work is starting on the flood relief drain. Mr Kevin Smith of Doves Wood has offered to serve on the Resilience Team and attend meetings and training.

Mr Cooper has been sent a letter asking him to attend a training meeting which would cost £75. Mr Cooper asked that the Parish Council fund this request. Lt Col Vere-Laurie proposed that the Parish Council fund, Mrs R Whate counter-proposed against this, stating it was outrageous that a small Parish Council such as Carlton-on-Trent should have to pay such a large amount- Lt Vere-Laurie therefore withdrew his proposal.

b) Highways Issues

The missing manhole cover on Ossington Lane has now been replaced. The hedges which are overgrown will be dealt with by the landowner (discussed at the previous meeting). There are some Yew trees obstructing the street lights on the corner of Ferry Lane- Lt Col Vere-Laurie to talk to the owners of the property. The dead Horse Chestnut tree at the verge of Ferry Lane has been reported to the Tree Officer at Kelham Hall. There are other trees obstructing the highway on Back Lane, these also to be discussed with the landowners.

Mr Cooper asked if there were any further developments in respect of the verge bollard concept- this to be discussed with County Councillor Bruce Laughton at the next meeting.

There is a large pothole adjacent to the Post Box, outside the Old Forge, the Clerk to report this.

c) Feedback from the subcommittee- policies and procedures- Freedom of Information

The Clerk distributed the available copies of these reviewed documents, all to read and pass comment at the next meeting. The Clerk will email these to Mr Walton.

The Clerk will bring to the next meeting a copy of her job description for review. The Clerks salary to be reviewed annually and the Clerk will bring along the supporting documents in order for this to take place.

d) HGV issues

Mrs Clark and Mrs Wells-Pope reported back to the parish Council following a recent meeting with Mike Keeling from the County Council. The HGVs are legally permitted to park (including overnight parking) at Cromwell Halt. Only the Police have the power to prosecute if the HGV is causing a highway obstruction. The white lines at Cromwell Halt to demark parking/highway are due to be re-painted by July 2009. There has been no further mention of tarmacing the areas. Mrs Wells-Pope and Mrs Clark are to set up an in-depth traffic survey of HGVs using the village as a short-cut. HGV details and registration numbers will be logged and persistent offenders will be dealt with by the Parish Council writing a letter to the company to ask why they are using a conservation village unnecessarily.

They have asked if any one willing would join the rota and all help would be appreciated. The County Council report into this issue is expected in July. Mr Walton offered to join the rota. Mrs Clark wished to propose a vote of thanks for the dedication and hard work displayed by County Councillor Bruce Laughton over the last two years on respect of this issue.

e) Postcode Irregularities

All residents have now agreed to change their addresses. The District Councillor representing Mrs Rose at the meeting stated that they have

arranged a meeting with the Gazetteer of Addresses in late June 2009, a process which will formally enable the residents to change addresses. Thanks made to Peter and Christine Rose for their time spent dealing with this issue. It was also raised at the meeting that a similar problem had also been experienced at Park Farm Cottages- this will also be checked.

e) Dog Bin erection and location

The Dog waste bin has arrived and Mr C Hemstock kindly agreed to erect the bin up Carlton Lane (Back Lane) on the East side. The Clerk will now contact Newark and Sherwood District Council to arrange for the bin to be emptied on a weekly basis.

f) Any other matters arising

- a) BT Phone Kiosk- the Clerk has still not received any further documentation from BT despite writing twice. The Clerk will chase this up.

**6) Correspondence**

a) Best Kept Village Competition

Agreed at the meeting to enter again this year, Proposed by Mr T Cooper and seconded by Mr C Hemstock- 4 in favour, 2 against and 1 member of the Parish Council abstained. The £4.00 entry fee approved.

b) Remidi- victim offender mediation and restorative justice initiatives

The Clerk read out a letter inviting local communities to put forward ideas for Community Service projects for offenders. Those present discussed litter picking and mowing the church yard as possible ideas. The Clerk will write to the County Council offering these ideas. During this discussion, it transpires that 2 Church Lane bungalow was overgrown and unkempt, having stood empty for a year. The Clerk will write to Newark and Sherwood Homes to ask for this to be maintained.

c) Freedom of Information DVD-Tick Tock

Mrs Whate agreed to take this away to view and will report to the next meeting.

All other correspondence distributed in the pack for Parish Councillor perusal.

**6 Financial Issues**

a) Payment of the Village Hall Fees

A cheque made payable to the village Hall Committee for the sum of £10.00 Proposed by Lt Col Vere-Laurie and seconded by Mrs Whate

b) Summary of the Accounts prior to Internal Audit

The Clerk explained that the balanced accounts were showing a less favourable position than last year although within a positive balance. To consider increasing the Precept- the Clerk will arrange for a financial officer from Kelham Hall to discuss this process.

The accounts were approved to represent a true record of expenditure and income- proposed by Mrs L Wells-Pope and seconded by Mrs J Clark. The Chairman signed the accounts.

**7. Health and Safety**

There were no Health and Safety issues to address – the benches are both secure and the Dog Bin yet to be erected.

**8. Planning Issues**

None to discuss

**9. Items for Inclusion of the next agenda**

- a) Highways Matters
- b) HGV issues
- c) Clerks job description and salary
- d) Matters arising

**10. Any other Business**

- a) A letter from Carlton-on-Trent Village Hall Committee has been received by the Clerk asking for donation towards Insurance- all present voted unanimously to offer the sum of £50.00. Proposed by Lt G E Vere-Laurie and seconded by Mrs J Clark.
- b) PCC- St Marys Church- request letter received by the Clerk asking for a grant donation towards the cost of grass cutting in the church yard. Lt Col Vere-Laurie will talk to the PCC secretary (Judy Storer) and to postpone the decision until after further discussions regarding the Precept.
- c) The European and County Council elections will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> June- posters displayed on the village hall door.
- d) The Annual County Council Civic Service- no one available to attend.
- e) Document regarding the Equality Bill- Mrs Wells-Pope to take away to read.

**11 Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on July 2nd 2009

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.31pm.