

Carlton Town Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council

Howard Thomas, Chairman	Little side (☎ 640689)
Peter Dinsdale, Vice Chairman	Town Foot (☎ 640480)
Raymond Brown	Park View (☎ 640409)
David Suttill	Lane House (☎ 640380)
Dinah Alonso-Wilkes	High Barn (☎ 640566)
Marina Briggs, Clerk	Quakers Garth (☎ 640058)

Minutes of Meeting held on 13th October 2022

Those present

Councillors Peter Dinsdale, Raymond Brown, Dinah Alonso-Wilkes and David Suttill and the Clerk, Marina Briggs, attended the meeting along with Jenny Walker from the Water Committee and 2 members of the community.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Howard Thomas. Cllr Dinsdale chaired the meeting.

2. To receive any declarations of interest and special dispensations

No declarations of interest were made.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st July 2022

RESOLVED: The minutes from the last meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive any public questions, comments or representations

A member of the community asked if there was to be bonfire on Melbecks this year. The council responded that a bonfire could take place in the usual area, but that items should only be brought up in the days leading up to the 5th November and the area cleared up afterwards.

5. To receive a report from the Parish Clerk

5.1 Actions from Last Meeting

All actions have been dealt with or are items on the agenda.

5.2 Welcome Letters to New Residents

A letter to Melanie Boast at Orchard Cottage has been sent. No others are outstanding.

5.3 Items for the December Newsletter

Queen Elizabeth II Memorial suggestions, Christmas events, Air Ambulance donations.

5.4 Update on the funding for the Newspaper box and Noticeboard

An offer for the funding has been made by RDC and the councillors therefore requested the Clerk to purchase the newspaper box and ask John Law to make the new noticeboard.

5.5 Other matters arising

The Clerk informed the meeting that a cheque for £75 has been received from Amanda Simpson on behalf of the Foster Charity to go towards defib supplies. A letter of thanks has been sent.

A letter has been received from Great North Air Ambulance. The Clerk asked the councillors if they wished to make a donation. It was felt that donations to charities should be down to individuals and therefore it was resolved not to make a donation,

but to put the request in the newsletter.

Gary Verity has asked for a new water trough in the Bull Park.

RESOLVED: Cllr Suttill will go and look at the old one and purchase a new one from Sam Turner's

6. To receive the Water Report from Jenny Walker and consider any financial expenditure.

Jenny Walker circulated the following report:

"The water supply to the residents of Carlton village continues to be safe to drink.

There continue to be various issues with the supply, treatment and distribution of water to the village of Carlton.

1)The water supply comes from behind the quarry face at the top of Melbecks and is carried by two blue pipes going overground into the top reservoir. The first overground pipe was installed as a temporary measure in May 2021 as the main underground earthenware pipe had been damaged by a rockfall in November 2020. These are small bore pipes which can block with debris. This led to the shortage of water earlier in the summer. A larger bore black pipe has been taken up to the top reservoir and is waiting to be installed.

2) The chlorinating pump was misbehaving in June for reasons unknown, but is currently working adequately. The lead-time from order to arrival of a new pump would be 3-4 weeks and it was agreed that a spare dosing pump should be here in Carlton. A new pump has been obtained and is in safekeeping in the bottom Hut.

3) There has been evidence of a leak of water within the village since March this year. The leak doubles the expected usage of water from 30-35 to the current 60-70 cubes per day. This leaking water is filtered and chlorinated.

The water table is still low due to the unusually dry weather and at times of high usage the supply from the quarry face has not kept up with demand and the Borehole has been switched on to provide sufficient water.

Use of the Borehole also increases the costs of production of adequate safe water.

The site of the leak has been further investigated since the last Council meeting and a leak has been located in the main water pipe as it crosses Butchers Bridge at the telephone box which supplies the top half of the village.

The private contractor who had already been appointed to replace the stop-taps within the village has also agreed to repair the leak during the same visit.

Both these actions require permission from NYCC due to the disruption to the road through the village at the areas affected. This has been applied for and is awaited.

4) The Annual Service is due in November and Culligans have been contacted.

5) There has as yet been no further progress with future plans for the water supply to the 100 houses in the village and the treatment of the water to the standards required in 2022 and beyond."

The Clerk informed the meeting that Richards Water Solutions are liaising with NYCC and the leak repair and stop tap cover work should be done soon.

7. Discuss a memorial for the late Queen Elizabeth II

Ideas such as bench, a plinth and renaming the village garden were suggested.

RESOLVED: The Clerk is to contact Calverts Stone for ideas and report back.

8. To discuss and consider the Parish financial report

The Clerk gave the following information to the meeting:

Bank balances as at 3rd October 2022:

Current Account	£3113.55
Deposit Account	<u>£41799.13</u>
Total	<u>£44912.68</u>

8.1 Expenditure since the last meeting

		£
M Briggs	July, Aug & Sept 2022 Salary	1010.10

8.2 Requests for payment

The Council formally approved the following invoices that have either been paid but not yet minuted or have not been paid and need approval before payment

		£
Opus Electricity	Electricity to Water Plant for July, Aug & Sept	442.16
Coverdale Memorial Hall	Hire of Annexe for October meeting	14.00
Coverham Churchyard	Grass Cutting Donation	200.00
Foresters Arms	Water Committee Meal	350.00
Robin Houseman	Strimming services	40.00
HSBC	Bank Charges for Jul Aug & Sept	31.00
Marina Briggs	Refund of Telephone charges from Opus	15.00

Income since the last meeting

		£
K Sharpe	Foresters Arms Water Contribution 2022/3	51.00
C Buzaril	South View Water Contribution	155.00
HSBC	Interest on Savings A/C	16.81

Proposed contributions from business properties towards the water supply

Contribution from Barn Acre is the only payment outstanding.

RESOLVED: A chasing letter is to be sent and if Clr Alonso Wilkes sees the owners she will speak to them.

8.3 Agreement of the Water Plant Buffer Fund

The councillors considered the half year accounts and how much costs have gone up for the day to day running of the plant. Given that a new plant will be in the region of at least £70,000 based on previous quotes made some time ago, it was agreed that the buffer fund should be increased to £40,000 in order to try and accumulate funds for a new plant and increased costs generally.

8.4 Half Year Finance ReportBank balances as at 30th September 2022:

£		£		£		
Current account at 1/4/22	4445.54	Deposit account at 1/4/22		28779.12	Total at 1/4/22	£33224.66
					Unpresented Cheques from 2021/2	0.00
					Total expenditure for period	-5890.12
					Total revenue for period	3310.49
					Precept	15000.00
					Interest	20.01
					Unpresented Chqs	-752.36
					Total as at 30/9/22	£44912.68
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Current account 6t 30/9/22	1113.55	Deposit account at 30/9/22		43799.13		

Councillors were given the six-monthly budget sheet that detailed receipts and expenditure and is therefore more detailed than the statement above. This document provided more detail needed to consider setting the precept.

8.5 Precept Required for 2023/24

The attached statement of half-year accounts shows actual amounts of receipts and expenditure for the year (in black) as well as amounts of receipts and expenditure to date, ie for six months (in red). The amounts in red will increase but it is a problem to quantify these amounts as costs are always unknown eg amounts of chlorine, spares or maintenance required on the water plant and leakage repairs and therefore difficult to forecast. The red figures are therefore subject to change. The Clerk estimated that the balance at the end of the year will be approximately £34,000 but that further unknown costs may arise.

RESOLVED: In light of the expenditure that is going to be required in the coming months and years on the water plant and the large increase in electricity and supply costs, the councillors decided to raise the precept from £15,000 to £20,000 for 2023/4.

8.6 Council tax bills

Refunds are due to villagers who are not connected to the water supply. The Clerk was asked to send out the usual letters to Mr F Lawson, Sir Gary Verity, Mr A Parr and Mr & Mrs M Suttill.

9. To consider and set the Calendar for council meetings in 2023

RESOLVED: The calendar of proposed dates was approved and the Clerk will book the hall accordingly.

10. To consider items for the January 2023 meeting including review of risk assessment and asset register, water contributions and land letting rates, VAT refund claim and items for the March Newsletter.

There will also be an update on the noticeboard and the QEII memorial.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

CARLTON TOWN PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022/23 - HALF YEAR					
	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	
RECEIPTS					
Precept	15,000.00	15,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Bank interest	20.01	2.69	12.39	52.58	Rate decreased significantly
Rent	245.00	245.00	220.00	270.00	Rev Kirkman paid in previous year for 2020/21
Water contributions	2,768.00	2,238.00	2,130.00	2,088.72	South View & Cragg View O/S
Water repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wayleaves	0.00	5.74	5.74	5.74	£5.74 replacement cheque due
VAT	0.00	1,637.73	904.64	1,507.69	£297.49 due to date
Grass Cutting Payment	0.00	28.74	28.74	28.74	£28.74 due
Donations	0.00	0.00	75.00	1,300.88	
Grants	0.00	0.00	336.24	888.71	? Noticeboard/paper box
Total receipts	£18,033.01	£19,157.90	£13,712.75	£16,143.06	
PAYMENTS					
Administration	805.21	533.77	456.68	1,172.18	Water meal. bank charges. To come - Solicitors fees?
Clerk Salary	2,020.20	3,120.00	3,120.00	2,767.44	£2020.2 due for rest of year
Insurance	524.16	516.02	510.97	546.72	All paid
Charity / Donations (s137)	200.00	150.00	150.00	1,328.88	Air Ambulance?
Open spaces	40.00	300.77	81.90	89.20	Noticeboard /paper box £175
Precept refunds	0.00	676.39	450.54	332.55	Will be approx £450
Water plant costs	2,003.06	8,517.95	5,124.64	8,503.54	Plant service to come in October
Water repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Around £5,500 for stop taps and leak
VAT	297.49	1,550.08	982.56	1,595.40	
Total payments	£5,890.12	£15,364.98	£10,877.29	£16,335.91	
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY					
Funds brought forward	33,224.66	29,431.74	26,596.28	26,789.13	
Receipts added	18,033.01	19,157.90	13,712.75	£ 16,143.06	
Less payments	5,890.12	15,364.98	10,877.29	£ 16,335.91	
Balance carried forward on 31st March	£45,367.55	£33,224.66	£29,431.74	£26,596.28	
Red figures are six month totals and therefore subject to change					