

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### Those present

Councillors Howard Thomas, Peter Dinsdale, Raymond Brown, Dinah Alonso-Wilkes and David Suttill and the Clerk, along with Andy Morson and Jenny Walker from the water committee and 3 members of the community.

- 1. To receive apologies for absence**  
None received.
- 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 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
**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**  
None received.
- 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

None needed

### 5.3 Items for the March Newsletter

Carol singing funds raised, changes to recycling and Memorial Hall field plans

### 5.4 Update on QEII Memorial Stone

The stone has been made and is due to be collected. It is now down to the councillors to agree what they would like to do with it. This will be discussed at the meeting in March

### 5.5 Update on the Parish Land registration

The Clerk informed the meeting that James Fawcett from McGarry has been in touch with some queries for the land registry regarding the pieces of land and whether the whole area for the Bull Park, Melbecks and Parking Space are rented out and details of the rental agreements. The Clerk has forwarded him copies of the rental letters which get sent each year and answered the queries regarding the amount of land rented. This will go on file with the land registry as further evidence that the land belongs to the parish should it be needed.

### 5.6 Other matters arising

A complaint has been received regarding the CCTV announcements that play outside Middleham House. The Clerk informed the meeting that the owner of the property had been in touch to confirm that the setting had been made in error and has now been switched off.

**Item 6 was moved to the end of the meeting since it required more details discussion.**

**7. To review and update the parish risk assessment and asset register**

**RESOLVED:** The risk assessment and asset register were circulated prior to the meeting and were duly approved

**8. To discuss and consider the Parish financial report**

**The Clerk gave the following information to the meeting:**

Bank balances as at 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024:

Current Account	£2923.68
Deposit Account	<u>£49510.58</u>
Total	<u>£52434.26</u>

**8.1 Expenditure since the last meeting**

		£
Marina Briggs	October, Nov & Dec 2022 Salary	1010.10

**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 needed approval before payment:

		£
Opus Energy	Electricity to Water Plant Oct, Nov & Dec 2023	1391.56
NYC	Water Analysis x 2	303.49
HSBC	Bank Charges Oct Nov & Dec	35.00
F Lawson, H Parr, G Verity & M Suttill	Council Tax Water rebates	925.42
Eden Farm Supplies	Chlorine	148.32
Marina Briggs	Stamps	18.00
Coverham Churchyard	Lawnmower appeal	250.00
Coverdale Memorial Hall	Council and water meetings	28.00

**Income since the last meeting**

		£
HSBC	Interest on D/A	242.86

**8.2 Outstanding refunds on Water precept**

All are paid and up to date.

**8.3 Annual VAT refund claim**

The Council were asked to note that the provisional amount of VAT due back for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 is **£918.41**. More VAT may be due on purchases made between now and the 31<sup>st</sup> January so this figure may alter.

#### 8.4 Water donations

Donations are requested annually from villagers who use water to fill water troughs and supply agricultural buildings. The Council confirmed that the names and amounts are correct for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024:

		£
Mr John Simpson	Agricultural buildings	150.00
P Dinsdale & Son	Agricultural buildings	100.00
Mr R Suttill	Agricultural buildings	150.00
Mr Roger Utley	Cattle trough	50.00
Mr Michael Horner	Cattle trough	50.00
Mr M Suttill	Cattle trough	50.00

Donations are also due from business properties in the village for the past year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The Council confirmed that the names and amounts are correct:

		£
Mr M Stott	Coverdale Lodge Cottage	175.00
Mrs J Hayes	Old Hall Byre	175.00
L & A Dent	Ghyll Farm	175.00
Craig Lovell & Lisa Kay	Barn Cottage	175.00
Diana & Paul	Foresters Arms	175.00
D Boucherat	Carlton Old Hall	175.00
Yvonne Hall	Midsummer House	175.00
Mr Bob Inch	Lyndhurst	175.00
A Dent	Thistle Cottage	175.00
A Dent	Church Manor	175.00
A Dent	The Old School	175.00
Mr M Yeatts	Coverlea	175.00
C Buzari	South View	175.00
T Powis & A Cowings	Barn Acre	175.00
C Buzari	Elm Tree Cottage	175.00
Hebe & Steve Pritchard	Heathlands	175.00

The Clerk has requested information from RDC about which properties pay business rates to ensure all properties are included and will add or remove properties as appropriate.

**RESOLVED:** The councillors resolved to maintain the current levels of water donations given that the precept has not been increased this year and in light of the current water plant situation.

**RESOLVED:** The councillors confirmed the rates for the land lettings are to stay the same.

Bull Park - £200

Parking Space by Beech Cottage - £30

Melbecks - £60

#### 9. To consider items for the Annual Parish Meeting and the March 2024 Parish Council meeting

Including Standing Orders, Financial Regs and GDPR Data Audit, Renewal of Insurance Cover and review of Clerks salary and hours.

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

Jenny Walker circulated the following report:

“The water supplied to the residents of Carlton continues to be safe to drink. Water usage was around 65-70 cubes per day until this recent icy-cold weather, when it increased overnight to 80 cubes on the first day and over 92 cubes/day each on the last two days. There have been no recent reports of leaks, yet perhaps, as the thaw is still to come.

The water from Melbecks to the top reservoir, and hence to the Water Hut, flows through the two temporary blue pipes. One of these two pipes has been almost completely blocked twice in the last couple of months. This reduces the pressure of water going through the filters in the Hut, but on these occasions did not affect the supply to the village. Both these blockages were associated with the tremendous rainfall we have had. It was fortunately possible to clear the pipe adequately on both occasions.

The fencing around the top reservoir has been replaced to make it stock-proof.

The annual service by Culligan has been booked, and a date is awaited.”

Discussion then took place regarding the way forward with the renewal of the water plant.

Concerns were raised about the financial implications of the Parish Council signing up to Yorkshire Water, both in terms of raising the finance and the potential of unknown total cost since YW will not provide a definitive quote.

Concerns were raised about the legal standing of the council with regards to water and whether the document from the 1890's constitutes a legally binding water charter. The Clerk informed the meeting that legal advice had been sought from NYC, YLCA, NALC and specialist private water supply solicitors. Not one of these avenues has been able to provide any help. Withers Worldwide has been contacted by Dan Dent to request if advice is available and at what cost. The Clerk will forward any information received to the councillors.

**RESOLVED:** The council resolved to send a letter to each household outlining the following options:

**Option 1** Full costing implications for the replacement and ongoing costs of the existing plant to be provided by the parish council under a new water charter.

**Option 2** Full costing implications for provision of water by YW. The considerable cost of this project and the financial implications for each resident is beyond the scope of the parish council and if this route is chosen, it will need to be undertaken by the residents.

If a way forward cannot be found, then there will be no other option but to inform NYC that the Parish Council is no longer able to progress and that help is required from them to resolve the situation.

This letter is to be sent around the 26<sup>th</sup> January giving residents time to digest the information before a village meeting to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> February to discuss a way forward.

Carol Little has asked for a meeting with the councillors and the Clerk is to contact Carol with suggested dates that she is available.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.58pm