Minutes of Carlton Town Annual Parish Assembly held on 26th March 2026

Members of the Parish Council

Peter Dinsdale, Chairman	Town Foot (☎ 640480)
Raymond Brown, Vice Chairman	Park View (☎ 640409)
Howard Thomas	Littleside (☎ 640689)
David Suttill	Lane House (☎ 640380)
Dinah Alonso-Wilkes	High Barn (☎ 640566)
Carol Brown, Clerk	Park View (☎ 640409)

The meeting was held in the Coverdale Memorial Hall Annexe and started at 7.40pm.

Those present
Members of the Council present were Chairman Peter Dinsdale, Vice Chairman Raymond Brown, Councillor Dinah Alonso-Wilkes, Councillor Howard Thomas and Councillor David Suttill. Jenny Walker from the Water Committee (Working) and Dan Dent from the Water Committee (Funding and Management) also attended the meeting with three other members of the community.

1)To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 20th March 2025
The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman Peter Dinsdale.

2)Annual Parish Land lettings
Applications were invited from all interested parties via the parish notice board and letters to existing tenants on the 5th March 2026 with a deadline for applications being Wednesday 18th March 2026.

The council lands are let on the basis that they cannot be sub-let, no horses can be grazed on the Bull Park or Melbecks and thistles need to be cut before they go to seed on the Bull Park. Tenants are responsible for the upkeep of the boundaries of each parcel of land and fallen stock must be removed in a timely manner.

The following applications were received by the Clerk:
Land adjacent to Beech Cottage – One application from Reverend Kirkman – this is therefore let at an annual cost of £50.00
Melbecks – One application by Mr Ronnie Suttill – this is therefore let at an annual cost of £100.00
Bull Park – One application by Sir Gary Verity – this is therefore let at an annual cost of £230.00

RESOLVED: The Parish Clerk will send letters to the tenants accordingly.

3)Chairman's report
The Chairman read his report which is attached and asked the clerk to send a letter of thanks to Andrea Burden at YDNP (Yorkshire Dales National Park) for her help in acquiring the Sustainable Development Fund Grant towards the new water plant.

RESOLVED: The Parish Clerk to send thank you letter.

4)End of year financial report (subject to change up to 31st March 2026)
The Parish Clerk presented the attached end of year financial report and clarified that this was subject to change up to 31st March 2026. The final financial report will be printed on to the back of the June newsletter. The Clerk asked for approval to contact Frank Fletcher as our internal auditor, which was granted.

RESOLVED: The Parish Clerk to contact Frank Fletcher.

5)Public questions, comments or representations
None were received

The Assembly closed at 7.50pm and was followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

Welcome all, once again I would like to thank all the councillors for another years work and commitment to the parish. I would particularly like to thank Carol, who has stepped into the breach at such a difficult time – personally I think that Carlton parish with all its water issues and the need to finance and upgrade the plant, renew a water charter and possibly modify the governance of water provision are on another level to most parish councils – and without the dedication of parish clerk the process would be impossible – so thankyou Carol.
Again the water has taken up a large proportion of the Parishes time and resources, and often it seems that we take one step forward but then seem to fall back again. But I firmly believe that we have overall progressed, but we must be aware that we are still using mel becks water and that the plant hasn't yet been replaced! But I think that with respect to many of the complicated issues that have held back progress over the years, a way forward is emerging – we are not there yet but through the hard work of the various sub committees a direction is emerging.
Through the year we have strengthened the plan to provide water to Carlton, this has resulted in

1) A new contractor has been appointed to renew the water plant, which is fairly local (based in Ripon) possibly gives the opportunity to secure reliable and local service for the future. The basic quote was around £20k less than the one originally proposed by our recent contractor.
2) Through the generosity of the Suttill family we have taped new cleaner water supplies, invested in storage tanks and collection from various springs to hopefully improve the consistently of 'cleaner' water and reduce one of the common failings of the current water supply.
3) Through discussions with NYCC, we finally achieved the acceptance of the difficulty of the situation and the concession of a £20k to help cover the legal fees envisaged for a legal framework .
4) Through the YDNP we have secured funding of £10k as a contribution to the new plant.
5) Although perhaps controversial we have formulated a funding plan and budget to afford the much needed plant, collection tanks and legal framework to allow the water provision to be secured. The PWLB loan applications has been finally accepted and we hope to hear the out come soon – thanks to all those involved.
6) Planning permission was applied for and granted, and the water abstraction license is applied for.
7) During the tank installation we upgraded the track and improved the gates through Mel becks thanks to the highways aurthority.
8) Last but not least due to the hard work of the water committee we continued to provide water through the driest summer on record which is some

achievement with some significant leaks occurring during peak periods. Thanks to all those that volunteer to allow this to continue.

We still face issues and complications but hopefully these can be addressed and solved as they become more pressing. The issues of water have always been contentious in Carlton, and inevitably this will likely continue be it legal framework, mains, volunteers or even the fairness of who pays !
I'd like to thank all those who have given their time to be part of the process in particular the water committee and water management committee much work has gone on behind the scenes to get us in the position we are now in – you all deserve a slap on the back.
Finally on reflection, after my second year as chair I must give credit to the original Carlton Parish council who implemented a water supply network which has been able to provide Carlton with water for over 100 years – they have my respect!
They perhaps didn't have the levels of legislation and regulation we have today but well done – it would be interesting to discover how they managed to fund such a venture, maybe more interesting if they had complaints about the costs relative to Scrafton or Leeds, whether some residents wanted to contribute less than others, or 50% less than asked for or even if some would only contribute what was legally enforceable!

CARLTON TOWN PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2025/26

(Subject to change up to 31st March 2026)

RECEIPTS	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Precept	22,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Bank interest	611.94	935.52	806.69
Rent	380.00	290.00	290.00
Water contributions	11,875.00	3,116.67	3,417.50
Water repairs	2400.00	0.00	0.00
Wayleaves	5.74	5.74	11.48
VAT	14,061.09	0.00	1006.49
Grass Cutting Payment	32.84	32.84	30.79
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total receipts	£51,366.61	£24,380.77	£25,562.95
PAYMENTS			
Administration	940.69	1826.96	965.11
Clerk Salary	6,638.40	4,539.98	4,351.53
Insurance	700.25	633.85	593.30
Charity Donations (s137)	0.00	250.00	0.00
Open spaces	1415.47	22.70	605.95
Precept refunds	1115.77	942.93	925.42
Water plant costs	5,472.40	10,034.36	3,957.16
Water repairs	5,000.00	10085.75	800.00
VAT	8,811.40	3729.95	671.03
New Plant	34640.99	0.00	0.00
Total payments	£64,735.37	£32,066.48	£12,869.50
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY			
Funds brought forward	40,950.53	48,636.24	35,942.79
Receipts added	51,366.61	24,380.77	25,562.95
Less payments	64,735.37	32,066.48	12,869.50
Balance carried forward on 31st March	£27,581.77	£40,950.53	£48,636.24

Date Chairman