

Carlton Community Water

Carlton Memorial Hall Annexe

Thursday 27th March 2025 19:45 – 21:00

Attendance

Peter Dinsdale (PD)
Jess Fall (JF)
Stephen Pritchard (SP)
Claire Hodgson (CH)
Dan Dent (DD)

Apologies

Marina Briggs

Group Objective – What is the purpose of the group.

PD – After meeting with Callumn McKeon (Director of Regulatory Services at North Yorkshire Council) and Sharon ??? (Local Community’s Representative) as well as following on from the Carlton Parish Council meeting of March 2025 -

‘The groups’ purpose is to come up with a recommendation to the CPC with the most suitable provision (structure), management plan with thorough financial basis for the Carlton Community Water Supply. To review the options available for structure, governance, financing and management of the community water supply.

SP – confirmed that this aligned in more basic terms with the previous groups’ objectives.

PD JF – the process of coming up with the recommendation is that it will not satisfy everyone however this will be the best option available for the community, the community must be brought on the journey with the CPC and understand how they arrived recommendation.

PD – NYC have confirmed that they will support the CPC with the roll out of the recommendation ensuring compliance with all homeowners, residential and business – this allows a fair stance to be taken.

Updates from Group Members

PD – Stephens questions on whether the double council tax can be utilised, and the base is increased on why the CPC are getting 22k vs 20k from the previous year.

CH – understanding the double council tax base and how this is useful for the CPC finances.

PD – The double council tax for second homeowners has increased the base of the precept for the village, this has meant that residents will see a 3% reduction even though the precept for the village has increased by 10%.

PD – Following the meeting with Callum there has been a confirmed 20k available for the CPC to use for legal structure and governance of the Carlton Community Water Supply.

SP CH – We need to understand the caveats attached to this and the options of who chooses the legal aid that we need – to be picked up under actions.

SP – apprehensive that after scouting that there are not many people who know the setup of a community water supply.

- Question to Sharon is it someone on the NYC panel or someone that we can find ourselves.
- Can the precept collection be built into a CIC with CPC transferring funds.

PD – The ‘new’ source kindly donated to the community by the Suttill family is the foundation of the new Carlton Community Water supply – this is a cleaner supply and is a far superior option than remaining with the source from Mel Becks. The understanding is that this is on a permanent basis (easement) and that the Suttill family have contacted their solicitors (Scotts) to confirm this, the CPC need to propose HOTs to ensure that this is progressing.

Financial / Charging Mechanism / Structure

PD – There is an agreed spec with John Ellerton for the installation of the holding tanks – this is budgeted at 20/25k with a 10% contingency.

– the Water Treatment plant itself is budgeted at 60/65k with a 10% contingency.

DD – Legal costs 5k budget for obtaining the water abstraction and easement with the Suttill Family.

SP – structure of the CIC parish council collection of bills and budget and running expenses

JF – We need to ensure that the vehicle that takes this on going forward is flexible to adapt to legalisation changes and we budget for some of the worst-case scenarios that could arise.

PD – For the short term my view is that we will budget for fixing the main with 5-year reviews built into the management plan for the recommendation going forward on replacement.

SP - The system and the fail safes in place – this needs to be quoted and included with the plant costs and not after

DD – We should have an accurate handle on measuring the flow of water and the chlorine used with the plant with technology without the need for intense physical human resource.

SP – ancient water charter currently does do the job similarly to other communities.

SP – The research has demonstrated that there is nobody else in the situation where the Parish Council are responsible for the Water Supply, this allows us flexibility to move forward with a CIC / Charity – we need the ability to be flexible and raise capital – the raising of capital would be best suited to the CIC model.

DD – The first step as part of the flexibility is ensuring that our recommendation of a CIC is the best first step, as many of the examples show this is something that evolves and we do not want to close the door on possibilities until there has been 5 years of management in place, with the new vehicle to drive this forward will allow for the community supply to be efficient and well managed with a group of people from the village with a keen interest. Flexibility is key to getting this off the ground.

CH – Tax implications of CICs vs Charity status

PD – The current process of the CPC paying for works and being able to reclaim the VAT.

SP – the tax and VAT implications need to be built into the financial modelling.

AOB

N/A

Actions

- Requirements of the monies and structure – NYC Sharon – Stephen and Dan
- CIC structure and inclusion of precept – simple or complex - Brief – Stephen and Claire
- Financial Model / budget and projection. Hour session going through this – DD to send out calendar reminder and book with Carol Brown.
- CIC and tax implications – Stephen and Dan
- Technology for the Plant and monitoring – Peter
- Programme of the groups objectives – Stephen and Claire
- Draft HOTs and plan for Suttills / CPC – Dan
- Grant options exploration later down the line as part of programme – All

Next meeting W/C 14th April – please can everyone send their availability to DD individually and I will circulate an invite.

Meeting with Callum and Sharon W/C 21st April – please can everyone send their availability to DD individually.