

# Carlton Town Parish Council

## 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)
Marina Briggs, Clerk	Quakers Garth (☎ 640058)

Minutes of Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### Those present:

Councillors Peter Dinsdale, Howard Thomas, Dinah Alonso-Wilkes, Raymond Brown and David Suttill and the Clerk, Marina Briggs, attended the meeting along with Jenny Walker from the Water Committee, Carol Brown, the new Clerk, and four parishioners.

#### 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 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**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 the best way to contact the water committee. They were informed that they should call any of the numbers on the newsletter. A reduction in water pressure was noted.

**RESOLVED:** Matthew Wilkes to investigate reduction in water pressure potentially caused by the pipework to the trough in Suttill's field.

#### 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

##### 5.3 Items for the Newsletter

Parish finances on reverse, contacts for the water committee

##### 5.4 Correspondence received

Planning application Thistle Cottage (R/67/95)

**RESOLVED:** Application supported but local occupancy to be secured and not temporary.

Planning application Nathwaite Barn (R67/93E)

**RESOLVED:** Application largely supported but some concern expressed about changing the nature of the field and the characteristics of the Dales

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

Jenny Walker circulated the following report:

“Water usage is currently at 68-70 cubes per day.

A village of the size of Carlton should only be using 30-35-40 cubes per day, as we have done in the past. There must still be one or more leaks in the system and there are plans to investigate the site or sites of these leaks.

Regular water checks of all Community Water Supplies are carried out by the Environmental Health Department of North Yorkshire Council (NYC) to ensure that the water supply to Carlton residents is drinkable and up to the current legislation.

A routine test of the tap water at the house of a resident in late May by North Yorkshire Council (NYC) failed, and this contamination was found on repeat testing in different house taps and NYC served a notice of Insufficiency of the water supplied to Carlton.

A Boil Order notice was issued to all residents and this was in place from 13<sup>th</sup> June until 22<sup>nd</sup> June when further checks of the water by NYC were in good order.

In June the temporary blue pipes near Melbecks and the leaking connections were replaced by the larger diameter black pipe and new joints at the quarry face.

The black pipe is now running under the ground from the quarry to the top reservoir. These replacements have been approved by NYC.

The Parish Council are investigating a new Community Water Supply to provide water for the residents and businesses in Carlton.

This includes brand new equipment within the Hut, and using one or more new sources of water from springs adjacent to the current Water Treatment Hut rather than the water from the quarry face at Melbecks.

The water from the potential new sources are being analysed this month and an updated quote for an appropriate Treatment Plant will then be obtained. “

RESOLVED: Jenny is to make an appointment for a Culligan's engineer to attend to look at the Chlorine dosing pump since the engineer is very booked up, but this can be cancelled if all seems to working correctly over the next week or so.

### **6.1 To receive and update from the YWFC**

David Llewelyn from the YWFC circulated a report to the councillors prior to the meeting outlining the progress of the subcommittee to date as attached.

### **6.2 Update from the CWS Subcommittee**

A potable water tank has been installed to take samples and test flow of the water from Suttill's spring.

Culligans are coming to take samples of the water supplies on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July with a view to making recommendations for treating the new supply.

Thanks were given to the Suttill family for allowing the council to use the supply from their field.

### **6.3 Future Strategy for Water Provision**

- Reduce water usage by locating leaks potentially with the installation of more stop taps and central water meters.
- Investigate other providers of water treatment plants
- Letter to each household with an update on YWFC work and the proposed way forward for the CWS with a request for help to form a working group.
- Working group to address the short-, medium- and long-term issues for the water supply

**12. To discuss and consider the Parish financial report****The Clerk gave the following information to the meeting:**Bank balances as at 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024:

Current Account	£5,686.47
Deposit Account	<u>£47,975.98</u>
Total	<u>£53,662.45</u>

**Expenditure since the last meeting**

		£
M Briggs	Salary payments for May & June 2024	1171.66
HMRC	PAYE for Parish Clerk	124.00
Coverham Churchyard	Donation for upkeep	250.00

**7.1 Requests for payment**

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

		£
Eden Farm Supplies	Chlorine for Water Plant	123.60
HSBC	Bank Charges for May & June	36.00
Opus Energy	Electricity to Water Plant May & June	328.44
Howard Thomas	Beers for Dan the grass cutter	22.70
Marina Briggs	Whisky for Frank Fletcher	18.50
YLCA	Clerk Advert	20.00
Coverdale Memorial Hall	Hall Hire Charges for May, June July meetings	28.00
R W Brown	Water fittings for black pipe	151.05

**Income since the last meeting**

		£
G Verity	Bull Park rent	200.00
HSBC	Interest on Savings A/C	226.79
C Buzasi	Water contribution for South View & Elm Tree	350.00
A Cowings	Water contribution for Barn Acre 2023-4	175.00
M Horner	Agri Water Contribution	50.00

**7.2 Outstanding contributions from business properties towards the water supply**

Contributions are outstanding for M Suttill for agri contributions.

The councillors were asked to note that the accounts had been sent to the Auditors, PKF Littlejohn, and apart from one query had been cleared for acceptance. Confirmation will be received in due course and the accounts will be complete for the year 2023/4.

**8. To consider items for the next Parish Council meeting agenda in October 2024**

Items to include half yearly budget, parish precept, precept refunds, items for the December Newsletter, calendar of council meetings and a water update.

The outgoing Clerk received a gift and thanks for her work for the council over the last 10 years.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

## Yorkshire Water Funding Committee (YWFC)

### Report to the Carlton Town Parish Council (PC)

1. The YWFC first met on 29 February. Since then it has taken part in a PC meeting with North Yorkshire Council (NYC), met with Yorkshire Water (YW) and conducted a comprehensive investigation of costs, funding sources and financing options for the adoption of the village's water supply by YW.
2. Throughout these discussions, the PC has been represented by Howard Thomas and helpful input on behalf of the Water Committee has been provided by Jenny Walker.
3. Our investigations of funding sources led to the submission of an expression of interest, via the PC, to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, following advice from NYC on the approach to be taken to this bid. However, the NYC later confirmed that the bid would not be eligible under the suggested funding scheme (climate change) apart from the possibility of submitting a full bid for the cost of installing water meters. This bid is currently being put together so as not to lose the possibility of obtaining up to £50k of funding from this source.
4. Our investigations also led to the identification of the Community Ownership Fund (COF). The YW scheme did not appear to be eligible for this fund, but there was a possibility that the private water supply (PWS) option could be. We therefore alerted the PC to this fund in the expectation that a funding bid would be made. The COF is entering its final stages, and the last funding round is likely to be announced later in May. To be eligible to apply, an expression of interest must be registered beforehand with the fund, and it is understood that the Water Committee and PC are now progressing this element of the application.
5. Throughout the YWFC's activities we have been addressing the request of the majority of those present at the public meeting on 8 February to look further at funding options for the YW scheme. In the process we have been mindful of the PC's paper on the YW and PWS options, presented at that meeting, which said that applications for funding '*cannot be made unless there is a definitive amount of money applied for, together with a business plan*'.
6. One of the major issues identified with the PWS in the PC's paper was the capital cost of the mains replacement. Without taking the cost of this into account it is not possible to:
  - a. Determine the cost/benefit between a YW scheme, or the full PWS option, versus the cost of repairs and supply interruptions, especially because these are factored in to water bills in the YW option
  - b. Be clear with the community about the long term cost implications of adopting the PWS option, should that be the approach that is finally taken
  - c. Prepare a full business case for both approaches, costed in a similar manner for the options appraisal usually required in grant funding applications
7. The PC might therefore wish to consider that the whole-life costs of each option (capital and recurrent) should be set out alongside each other. It will then be up to the PC to decide if, and how, a PWS option might be phased and, if so, what the timing and costs to households/businesses of this approach are likely to be in the longer term. This will help the community understand why a sinking fund, or further community contributions, may be needed in future to cover any remaining costs of a full PWS scheme. It should be noted, however, that:
  - a. If a full PWS scheme was adopted to the standard required by YW, there is the longer term possibility of a transfer of the supply to YW at a much reduced cost (therefore providing a 'hedge' against future problems with water supplies from the current/proposed sources)
  - b. Grant funding via the COF for the PWS scheme should be pursued because, if successful, this would significantly reduce the cost of the scheme (and any future costs of phasing) to households/businesses.
8. It seems likely, at this point, that funding for the transfer of a PWS to a public body is unlikely to be available, unless the government is able to identify a source of funding following the

request made to our MP for assistance with the YW scheme, which was referred to Defra. The YWFC is realistic about the limited prospects of success in identifying a funding source and has routinely discussed the need to relay alternative funding sources it has identified to the PC and the need to inform the community, in due course, about the lack of available funding for the YW approach. In so doing, there will need to be a clear message to the community about the full relative costs of the YW and PWS options.

9. The time for bringing the community up to date is fast approaching. The PC clerk is chasing a response from our MP on the referral made to Defra, and if this does not result in a viable funding solution, the YWFC will need to discuss the possibility of an early end to its work, and a recommendation to the PC that the community should be informed about the latest position. In this meeting, the community could be presented with:
  - a. A full assessment of costs of the YW and PWS options and a summary of the work undertaken by the YWFC to investigate sources of funding
  - b. An option for the PC to borrow funding for the YW scheme, if it was so willing, together with the financing model for loan repayment by households and businesses
  - c. The PC's detailed approach to capital funding (with any phasing) and recurrent costs of the PWS option
  - d. A proposal that, if the PWS approach is to be taken, whether it should simply provide a replacement treatment plant, or adopt a funding approach for the full PWS scheme that involves borrowing by the PC and repayment by each household/business in a fair and transparent way, based on the financing model at (b) above
10. If a vote is required to identify the way forward, the PC might wish to consider that it should not be taken at the meeting, but it should be via a census of the village, with one vote per residential/business property, to ensure that a fair assessment of the community's views can be taken into account by the PC.

DL/DL  
May 2024