

## **BRIEF HISTORICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY TO CARLTON VILLAGE from 1891 - 2019**

### **1891-1892**

Before 1891, the residents in Carlton took their domestic water from the beck or spring nearest their house.

Records held in the village describe the Carlton Water Committee in 1891-1892.

This committee of 7 people (Rev Wade Dalton, and Messrs Geldard, Walker, Constantine, Simpson, Law and Horner) arranged for the collection of the water from the quarry face at the top of Melbecks and piped this water to the village. The water was brought through 4" earthenware pipes to a small concrete reservoir on the hill alongside Melbecks. The water then flowed by gravity through a 3" cast iron pipe to the village where a junction was made. The water was then conveyed through a 2" cast iron pipe up to Town Head, and through a 2" cast iron pipe down to Miss Buckles and on through a 1" galvanised pipe to Town Foot.

The water was available to the public from 4 standpipes within the village. This 'Main' pipe and the standpipes were under the responsibility of the Water committee.

Gradually all the private houses had tee-offs created to supply their water directly from the 'Main' pipe. These pipes to each house were the responsibility of the owner.

### **In the 1960's**

Government regulations required bacterial treatment of water supplied to the public. The small stone hut on the right half way up the path to the quarry was built and a chlorination plant was installed. It was recorded that stormy weather and heavy rainfall brought sand and silt down the water pipes, and affected the bacterial protection.

### **In the 1970's, 80's and 90's**

The members of Carlton Water committee maintained the water supply and regular meetings were held to discuss the water supply and the treatment required. Water rates were collected from all the villagers by the Parish Clerk. Minutes of the meetings and the accounts were handwritten. The accounts were audited.

### **In 1997**

The monthly bacterial tests by Richmondshire Council were failing regularly and the villagers were unhappy about the sandy deposits in the pipes and household tanks.

Mr Gordon Hunter, a village resident, was asked by the Parish Council to investigate the consideration of a suitable treatment plant. Enquiries were sent to 15 companies.

### **In 1998**

Culligan were selected from the submitted quotes. The main stone Water Hut was built near the top of Melbecks, and the new Treatment Plant was installed in November 1998 with two Filters. This removed the sand in the water to the village, and after the chlorination as before, was bacteriologically safe, but the water would still discolour after heavy rainfall.

### **In 1999 - 2004**

Various manoeuvres were tried by different companies over the next few years to produce clear water, and a third Filter was installed in the Hut. The safety of the water continued, but the water still discoloured at times of heavy rain.

Yorkshire Water were asked in 2002 if they could supply Carlton, and they produced some information, but this was not pursued.

The water treatment plant was monitored and maintained by a Carlton resident from 1998 who was paid. He discontinued this work in 2004.

### **In 2005 – 2010**

Since 2004, the supply of water, its treatment and distribution to the residents of Carlton has been monitored and maintained by a team of volunteers.

Further activities, investigations and different recommendations from innumerable sources were introduced and tried, to try to improve the water supply to the village.

These included asking Yorkshire Water again in 2007, and they supplied more information, there was a suggestion to use the clearer water from the spring in the field adjacent to the Water Hut which had been discussed in 2004 and again in 2008, and even the possibility of a Hydro scheme, but none of these ideas were pursued.

It was decided in late 2010 to investigate supplementing the water supply in times of heavy rainfall with water from a Borehole and the Parish Council asked for various quotes.

### **In 2011**

A Borehole was drilled near the Water Hut by the selected Borehole specialist, and the water obtained was analysed. This showed that after filtration in the Water Hut and chlorination, the borehole water would be drinkable. An abstraction licence was obtained. Water from the borehole was then used when appropriate.

Yorkshire Water were installing a water supply to Horsehouse, and the residents of Carlton were invited in 2011 to indicate if they were interested to join this scheme, but they did not.

### **2012-2019**

The water supply, treatment and distribution to Carlton has continued with various upgrades, repair manoeuvres, installation of new dosing equipment, and the annual service by Culligan.

*If anybody is interested in more of the historical information, please contact the Parish Clerk who can put you in touch, thank you.*