

Carlton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Carlton Parish Council on Tuesday 26th November 2023 held at 7.30pm, in the school room of Carlton Methodist Church.

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press have a statutory right to attend meetings of the Council as observers. They have no legal right to speak unless the Chair authorises them to do so.

Present: Cllr's Lowes, Clayton, Deller, Kibble, Land, Palmer, and Taylor.

Attending: Four members of the public.

79. Apologies for Absence

- i) The Council received apologies and reason for absence from Clerk, Cllr Holmes, and Cllr Quinn.

Resolved: That Cllr's Holmes and Quinn's and the clerk's apologies be received and their reasons for absence be approved.

- ii) The Council considered the apology and reason for absence to 26th October 2023 meeting, retrospectively, for Cllr Deller.

Resolved: That Cllr Deller's apology and reason for absence at the meeting held on 26th October 2023 be received and retrospectively be approved.

80. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Land made a Declaration of Interest relating to item 86 of the agenda.

Resolved: That Cllr Land's Declaration of Interest be noted.

81. Parish Council meeting – 31st October 2023.

The Council considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31st October 2023.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31st October 2023 be approved.

82. Finance Committee meeting – 15th November 2023

To consider the minutes and recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held on 15th November 2023.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 15th November 2023 be approved.

Recommendations to Council were that :-

- i) the Parish Council approve the provision of the updated shortfall of £870.85 for payment to permit the project to commence and be completed by 31st March 2024.

Resolved: That the provision of the updated shortfall of £870.85 for payment to permit the allotments improvements project to commence and be completed by 31st March 2024 be approved.

- ii) the Parish Council consider approval of the draft budget for 2024-25.

Resolved: That the draft budget for 2024-2025 be approved and adopted.

- iii) the Parish Council approve the proposed increase for the cost of the annual groundworks contract for 2024-25

Resolved: That the proposed increases for the cost of the annual groundworks contract for 2024-2025 be approved.

- iv) the Parish Council approve the Precept Demand for 2024-25.

Resolved: That the Precept Demand for 2024-2025 of £34,154.00 be approved.

83. County Councillors Report

The Council received the verbal report of the attending County Cllr, as follows: -

- The planning application for the development of land adjacent to Carlton Holy Family School, Station Road has been refused.
- The Mill Lane, Carlton planning application has not really progressed, and it is believed that it will probably go to planning in the New Year.
- The Locality Fund has been completed for this financial year.
- Carlton Cricket Club still waiting for a final decision regarding trees nearby the club; they need to have all the work done before the new season starts.
- The Eastern link project (Drax) – there is a public consultation on the 11th December 2023 at Drax Sports Club.
- PSO also has a surgery on 11th December 2023 at Drax Sports Club.
- The Drax Liaison meeting is scheduled for 5th December 2023 at Drax Sports Club.
- Regarding the vehicular incident adjacent to the Lincolnshire Co-op, the Police are still working on this to establish cause.
- Speaking with North Yorkshire Council office, Paul Gilmour regarding lights out on Station Road, Carlton, and the new development issue with power supply, it was stressed that the need to get lights back on, and will be actioned.

Resolved: That the County Councillors report be noted.

84. Chair's Report

The Council received the Chair's verbal report on meetings and events attended since the meeting held on 26th October 2023.

- The Chair had attended the consultation meeting on 9th November 2023 held regarding the Helios Solar Farm Project.
- The Chair, along with a number of the Parish Councillors, attended the Remembrance Sunday Service at the Golden Garden on 12th November 2023. Thanks to all who attended the event.

Resolved: That the Chair's verbal report be noted.

85. Clerk's Report

The Council received the clerk's report for updates on queries from the public and actions completed since the meeting held on 26th October 2023. The report is available on the Council's website.

Recommendation to Council: That approval be given for use of CIL funds for payment of any new electricity installation and infrastructure for Christmas Tree electricity supply within the Golden Garden.

Resolved: That

- i) the clerk's report be noted; and**
- ii) the use of CIL funds for payment of any new electricity installation and infrastructure for the Christmas Tree electricity supply be approved.**

86. Carlton Village Hall

The Council received a verbal update from the Council's Representative regarding Carlton Village Hall meetings attended since the Parish Council meeting held on 26th October 2023, as follows: -

- The information required for the funding grant application is almost gathered in anticipation of re-submission to the Parish Council.
- Separate bank accounts have now been set up for the bar and hall bookings.
- There have been some issues with water heaters in loft; it was found that there are three, one will cover the Ladies facilities, one for the Gents facilities and another the bar. The Committee are waiting for quote from a plumber to sort the works.
- There is much work to be completed to mend/ improve faulty/ broken items, but an end is in sight.
- The Committee are looking to generate Facebook page as the present page cannot be accessed.
- All the excess wine stock has been sold, which is a big positive.
- Legionnaires testing has been completed.
- Functions at the village before Christmas are progressing well.

Resolved: That the Council's Representative to Carlton Village Hall report be noted.

87. Communications from the Public

To consider any pre-submitted questions from members of the public on local issues and/or concerns.

- i) A member of the Public requested prior permission to speak regarding the Helios Solar Farm planning application.

Three members of the Public delivered a detailed overview of why they object to solar farm project. The main points put forward were as follows: -

- Safety concerns regarding noise and vibration which was felt could cause potential long term affects to residents within 1 to 2 miles of the farm.
- Environmental issues regarding potential fire safety risks, of fumes if the battery storage units caught fire, and run off into water courses of chemicals. (An example was given of battery storage facility in Liverpool which caused concerns to the general public and emergency services.)
- Points raised regarding biodiversity and the negative effects on wildlife particularly bats.
- Concern was raised that some Public Rights of Way would be lost.

Resolved: That the Chair thanked the Members of the Public for their input.

Continuing the discussion on the topic, the Chair read through the detailed response sent by Helios Group regarding the concerns raised since their consultation at the Village Hall in Carlton.

The Chair read and noted the results of a Facebook poll which resulted in the quota of participating residents of the village being of split decision.

The Chair asked the Councillors their thoughts on the solar farm project, with two Councillors raising concerns regarding the Helios representatives' lack of knowledge to questions raised at the Public Consultation.

A detailed discussion took place, responses of the Councillors as follows: -

- One Cllr strongly objected
- One Cllr saw very little benefit of the project to the community, raising a point that the Council should challenge the Helios projects positive benefits for example, why for example are the panels three metres high when there are farms that are sited at ground level.
- Five Councillors were undecided on the project.

The County Cllr raised some valid points to consider, noting that there was very little point in replying to the Helios team as he believed this would not prove beneficial, and that any objections should go directly to Secretary of state. He also stated Camblesforth Parish Council are strongly against the solar farm.

The County Cllr was asked if he could raise this issue on behalf of the Parish Council with the local Member of Parliament (MP). This was noted and he would report back regarding outcome of the meeting, and where the MP's stance lays on the project.

Resolved: That

- i) **the topic be included as an agenda item at the January 2024 Parish Council meeting to discuss further; and**

ii) **the Parish Council consider the Council's stance, as a Body, at the scheduled January 2024 meeting.**

ii) A member of the Public raised by email the issue of vehicles from the nearby garage being parked along Fairfield Avenue, Carlton.

Resolved: That the clerk responded asking that the Member of the Public raise this with the proprietor as a first point of call.

88. Finance Matters

88.1 The Council considered the Cash Book, Bank Statements, Budget Monitoring, and Bank Reconciliation reports up to 31st October 2023.

Resolved: That the accounting records and bank statements up to 31st October 2023 be approved.

88.2 The Council considered approval of payments outstanding and those made by the clerk under delegated authority.

Invoice Date	Customer Inv. No.	Payee	Payment Detail	Date Paid	Amount Paid	Payment Method (Incl. Cheque No.)
29/06/2015	LGUYBNZZ	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	69.30	BACS
01/07/2017	LGU4FQ5Y	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	69.30	BACS
01/08/2018	LGU8PWQG	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	69.30	BACS
09/06/2019	LGWCKVXY	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	6.46	BACS
28/04/2020	LGWGWPRW	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	315.00	BACS
07/04/2021	LGWK3HTT	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	315.00	BACS
15/04/2022	IN03388814	N Power	Golden Garden Energy	01/11/2023	315.00	BACS
Total of Aged Debt					1,559.36	
06/11/2023	S22427	National Allotment Society	Annual Subscription	06/11/2023	66.00	BACS
25/11/2023	M8 Wk34	Nest	Pension Contribution		71.02	DD
25/11/2023	M8 Wk34	H Phillips	November Salary	24/11/2023	974.02	BACS
10/11/2023	n/a	H Phillips	Repayment for Cash given - British Legion	10/11/2023	100.00	BACS
07/11/2023	n/a	H Phillips	1st Class Stamps Booklet	10/11/2023	10.00	BACS
08/11/2023	n/a	Carlton Methodist Church	Oct 23 Room Rental	11/11/2023	25.00	BACS
09/11/2023	1351	Silica Lodge - Landscaping Division	Provision & Installation of Golden Garden Christmas Tree	20/11/2023	408.00	BACS
17/11/2023	Vf2012B	Vanguard Future Fabrications Ltd	Final Payment for Cemetery Gates Refurb & Refit	20/11/2023	600.00	BACS
14/11/2023	2721	TA Leek & Sons	Grass Verge Cutting	20/11/2023	622.15	BACS

Resolved: That the payments outstanding and those made by the clerk under delegated authority be approved.

88.3 There were no community grant applications received from since the meeting on 26th October 2023.

88.4 The Council received the recently issued NALC salary rate review (1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024) concerning the clerks salary rate and back pay.

Resolved: That

- i) **the NALC salary rate review for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 be noted; and**
- ii) **the clerk update the Council with the pro-rata rate that will be paid in future standard monthly wages.**

- 88.5 The Council considered authorisation of the clerk's standard hours worked in November 2023.

Resolved: That the clerk's standard hours worked in November 2023 be approved for payment.

89. **Policy Review** - None to review.

90. Planning Matters

- 90.1 To consider any Planning Applications received.

2023/0229/FUL – Londis Store & Post Office, High Street, Carlton.
Erection of 6x apartments on brownfield site.

A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the Parish Council object to the development due to lack of parking facility. A Cllr emailed the clerk to request a letter of objection be penned and forwarded to the County Planning Department before the deadline of 30th November 2023.

Resolved: That a letter of objection be sent to the County Planning Department by the clerk to meet the deadline of 30th November 2023 be approved.

- 90.2 The Council received the noted Planning Decisions.

- i) ZG2023/0932/MAN2- Harron Homes Yorkshire Ltd – REFUSED
Non-material amendment of 2018/0871/REMM Reserved matters application for the erection of 66 dwellings pursuant to 2014/1129/OUT on land to west of Station Road, Carlton.
- ii) ZG2023/0987/HPA – Coates Hall Lodge, Hirst Road, Carlton – GRANTED
Erection of a single storey detached workshop outbuilding with adjoining carport.
- iii) 2023/0040/REM – Land Adjacent to Thorn Tree Cottage, Low Street, Carlton – GRANTED
Reserved matters application including appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of approval 2019/1072/OUT Outline application for erection of 3 dwellings to include means of access (all other matters reserved) following demolition of existing buildings.
- iv) 2022/0738/OUT – Land North of Carlton Holy Family School, Carlton – REFUSED
Outline planning application for the erection of up to 190 dwellings (Use Class C3) formal and informal open space, landscaping, works and means of access (all other matters reserved).

Resolved: That the Planning Decisions be noted.

- 90.3 The Council considered response to Planning Consultations received.

- i) Abbey Coachways, Meadowcroft Garage, Low Street, Carlton. - Reconsultation.
Erection of 5x dwellings following demolition of bus station.
Deadline was 21st November 2023. (emailed prior to that date)

Resolved: That no comment be required.

- i) 2023/0229/FUL – Londis Store & Post Office, High Street, Carlton.
Erection of 6x apartments on brownfield site.
Deadline 30th November 2023.

Resolved: That (as per point 90.1) the clerk forward a letter of objection to the County Planning Department to meet the deadline of 30th November 2023 be approved.

91. Press and Public Bodies were not excluded at this point.

92. The Council considered Quotes A and B received for the contract to repair and restore the cemetery walls.

A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the decision on the contractor be deferred until funding has been secured, (or not), when the item should be considered at the next available scheduled meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the consideration of choice of contractor for the Cemetery Walls repairs be deferred to a future date be approved.

93. Action Log

The Council's action log for outstanding actions and updates was not available for this meeting.

Resolved: That the clerk update the Council's Action Log and present it at the meeting scheduled for January 2024.

94. Training

94.1 No training requests were processed by the clerk under delegated power since 26th October 2023.

95.2 No feedback was received from the councillors or clerk regarding any training completed since 26th October 2023.

96. Date of Future Meetings

96.1 Finance Committee: 14th February at 7.30pm.

96.2 Parish Council: 30th January 2024 at 7.30pm.

96.3 Cemetery Working Group: to be confirmed.

96.4 Allotment Working Group: to be confirmed.

96.5 Staffing & Recruitment Committee: to be confirmed.