

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in St Peter's Church Carlton On Tuesday 8 February 2011

Present: - Hedley Francis in the Chair, Michael Mann, John Coppen, Elaine Read Stephen Roberts, Caroline Revitt, Edith Osborn as Clerk. Richard Barrett - District Councillor, John Batchelor - County Councillor, a couple of parishioners

1 Apologies: Malcolm Stennett , Pauline Jarvis- District Councillor

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2010 were agreed as correct. John Coppen proposed and Caroline Revitt seconded the motion.

3 Matters arising from the previous minutes

The Clerk confirmed that that she had noted in a letter from SCDC that the standard fee for uncontested election expenses is £15 per councillor and thus the invoiced fee of £105 was correct.

4 Administration

4.1 Election of new Chairman

Stephen Roberts was proposed as the new Chairman and he agreed to consider taking over the position before the AGM in May when the position of Chairman would be voted on.

Elaine Read advised that she would be unable to attend the next meeting but would like it noted that she would vote for Mr Roberts as Chairman.

5 Finance

5.1 Payments were authorised for:

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| 5.1.1 CPALC chq 199 | £ 105.00 |
| 5.1.2 Country Grounds Maintenance chq 200 | £ 47.00 |
| 5.1.3 St Peter's Church | £ 150.00 |
| 5.1.4 Clerk's salary | £ 867.77 |
| 5.1.5 Clerk's expenses | £ 8.00 |

The Clerk advised that CCC anticipated reducing the village maintenance grant by 25% in the next financial year and therefore CCC would expect Parish Councils to cut the grass verges 3 times per year instead of 4 times per year.

The Clerk agreed to speak to the Church Warden regarding a contribution to the cost of the gas bottles.

5.2 The Receipts, payments and bank reconciliation as at 31 January 2011 were reviewed. Stephen Roberts proposed that the accounts were correct and Michael Mann seconded the proposal.

6 Planning.

6.1 S/2111/10 Replacement dwelling, 163 Carlton Green Road

It was noted that the Council had approved the planning application.

7 Environmental

7.1 Youth Club in Balsham

Clr Batchelor confirmed that the Youth Service budget had been cut in half so the money will be spent in deprived areas only. Balsham, Linton and Castle Camps do not qualify as deprived areas and therefore the youth groups had written to the Parish Councils requesting a contribution. It was decided that further information about who attends the groups would be needed before deciding to make a contribution.

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7.2 War Memorial

The Clerk advised that the War Memorial would need cleaning by the end of the year in order to comply with the conditions of the contract signed with English Heritage.

7.3 Roadways within Carlton village

It was noted that a considerable number of HGVs had been driving through the village and damaging the verges when they passed each other. CCC had organised a meeting in March to discuss a new lorry strategy and Stephen Roberts agreed to attend on behalf of the Council.

7.4 Village website

It was agreed that Hedley Francis would instruct the Clerk on how to keep the website up to date.

7.5 Wadlow Wind Farm

Hedley Francis advised that there are two sets of meetings, one of which looks at projects to which some of the anticipated £40k pa income can be applied.

Cllr Batchelor advised that the formula for deciding how the money will be distributed had not been decided. It had been suggested that the beneficiaries should be within 5km of the wind farm. The income would be available for the next 20-30 years and was to benefit organisations in the locality. However the money will not be forthcoming for another 18months.

Caroline Revitt suggested that an article should be put in the Village Voice as the building work starts in late summer.

7.6 Footpaths

Caroline Revitt advised that she had walked all the paths in Carlton and new signs had been put up. She intended to cover the ground down to Six Mile Bottom next.

It was noted that the Parish Paths Partnership had given the Council some money to lay sleepers across ditches but the work had not been completed yet.

7.7 Poppy Party 10-12 June 2011

It was decided that the Clerk would email the local Parish Councils to see if they were organising a party and perhaps a note could go in Village Voice.

8 District Councillor's report

Councillor Barrett confirmed that there would be no increase in council tax for the next financial year. SCDC had, however, to find savings of £1m.

He advised that there had been some difficulty with the Planning Department as the IT system had changed and this had lead to complaints by the public.

He also advised that there had been excellent feedback on the introduction of the new bins. He advised that cardboard placed in the blue bin was worth more than in the green bin. He agreed to investigate why the bags for the batteries were not being replaced.

9 County Councillor's report

Councillor Batchelor reported that the County Council had a budget figure of £500m for businesses and schools but that they had to find savings of £100m over the next five years. To reduce the budget by £50m in Year 1 would lead to the loss of 450 jobs.

He noted that there was a fundamental change in the way the County Council operated, they were no longer a service deliverer but a service commissioner.

There would be no increase in taxes for the next five years. Instead the areas being cut were:- maintenance budget for Highways leading to a deterioration of the road network as only A and B roads will be maintained, libraries will be under threat over the next 3-4 years, over the next 3 years bus subsidies will be withdrawn leaving the closest bus service being the one running on the A1307 between Haverhill and Cambridge.

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10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

It was noted that there were a considerable number of potholes in Acre Road again this winter.

The Emergency Planning Officer at SCDC had requested that he give a talk to the Parish Council about emergency parish plans. The Clerk agreed to find out if he could attend the Parish Meeting.

11 Parish Meeting Agenda- items to be included

Speakers for the Parish meeting were suggested on the following topics: Wadlow Wind Farm, Burrough Green School.

Any other ideas, please let the Clerk know.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 7.30pm

The next Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 8pm

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm.