

CASTLE CARROCK & GELTSDALE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING, 9th NOVEMBER 2011
7.30pm

Present: George Devereux (Chairman), Derek Knight, David Rawsthorn, Richard Johnstone, Guy Widdowson,

In attendance: Tricia Meynell (Clerk), Cllr.Doreen Parsons, Brian Edmundson (Internal Auditor)

1. Apologies.

Cllr. Nick Marriner, Cllr. David Low

2. Declaration of interests.

Cllr.Johnstone and Cllr. Rawsthorn declared an interest in agenda item g. Music on the Marr – Geltsdale Arts

3. Minutes.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2011 were a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Agenda Items.

a. Surface of short lonning between church & school – It is currently muddy and badly drained and bit of an eye-sore. It was agreed by all present that to resurface with sub-base and stone would be an improvement which would benefit the village in general, walkers, school users and church-goers alike. It was noted that at some point the St. Peter's Restoration Committee intend to create a path in the graveyard suitable for wheelchair access –this would exit the church yard onto this short stretch of lonning. It was unanimously agreed that this would be worthwhile repair so long as the drainage issues were thought through. A verbal quote of around £700 - £800 has been given, and will now be followed up.

b. Drainage outside village hall – this work is to be carried out imminently (replacement of broken drain cover)

c. Precept for 2012/13. It was noted that the parish council had not sought to raise the precept for the last three years. It was agreed by all present that a small rise is now necessary in order to match increased running costs – thus taking the precept for 2012/13 from £4192 to £4340.

d. Update on Back Lonning - Cllr Devereux has studied maps in the City Council Archives and is assured that the lonning between Rectory Rd and the shop was originally a "highway". The County Council footpath officer is confident that it will more or less be a formality to have this status officially recognised.

e. The bench at Jockey Shield has been repaired and is back in situ, looking good.

f. Hynam Bridge weight limit sign – It was unanimously agreed that the type and size of sign intended by Cumbria County Council is unacceptable at 1m high since it would be a very large blot on the landscape. It was agreed that the clerk should enlist the help of the County Councillor, Nick Marriner to liaise with the Director of Highways on this matter. It was also agreed that the clerk will contact the Traffic Management Officer to notify her of the above plan.

g. Music on the Marr 2012 Permission was sought from Geltsdale Arts to once again hold the (now) annual Music on the Marr festival on the village green. The dates for the event are Friday 20th and Sat 21st July 2012. The Parish Council is fully supportive of this event.

h. Road drain outside Duke of Cumberland – this drain was recently causing problems, waterlogging the road in the vicinity of the entrance to the Duke of Cumberland pub. It had been confirmed by Carlisle City Council that the drain had been partially blocked by roots from the cherry tree which have been removed via high pressure water. It was agreed that it is not desirable to fell the cherry tree at this stage. The clerk will investigate the possibilities of Cumbria County Council financing a drain liner to prevent this problem in the future.

i. Undergrounding of electricity wires from village to Jockey Shield – As a continuation of the project to bury electricity wires in Geltsdale underground – the wires from opposite "The Croft" up to Jockey Shield will likewise be buried, probably in January 2012 though the dates are not yet finalised. There had been an idea that whilst there was an open trench, it might be possible to lay fibre-optic cable in readiness for receiving high speed broadband – however, it was decided that this is not a practical suggestion. The clerk will contact BT to ascertain whether, in future, it would be possible to run fibre-optic cables alongside the telephone wires.

5. Correspondence – letters and emails were viewed and discussed where appropriate.

6. Financial Matters – Cheques were agreed for the following:

- a. Reimbursement of office expenses to parish clerk £5.00
- b. Cheque to be written to the value of £20 as parish council contribution to new village website (Lin Kendall)

7. Planning Matters.

a. Ref: 11/0683 The Weary Inn & Restaurant - Castle Carrock

Proposal: Change of use from Inn/Restaurant to holiday accommodation and alterations to create 5No. holiday units-
To note that permission has been granted

b. Ref: 11/0797 - ~Tottergill Farm Revised application for conversion of existing barns to 2 holiday lets plus one residential dwelling. To note that permission had been granted

8. Councillor's Issues –

- a. Cllr. Rawsthorn requested that Councillor's telephone numbers be added to the Castle Carrock village website – agreed unanimously.
- b. Cllr. Rawsthorn as "notice board monitor" explained that he is removing anything commercial from the notice board as there is always too much on there. Notices advertising local events are remaining in situ.
- c. Cllr. Johnstone suggested that the Parish Council should write a letter to the landlords of the Duke of Cumberland showing appreciation for the positive impact the pub has on the village. All present agreed.
- d. Cllr Devereux suggested that the Parish Council use "smart water" to identify parish council assets such as benches – the metal on these being worth stealing for scrap. The Church has recently purchased a bottle of "smart water" for marking valuables within the church, and the parish council will contribute to the cost of this.
- e. A working party will be organised to clean up the area between the churchyard and the Beck.
- f. The parish clerk for Carlatton had been in contact regarding flooding on the road at Tarn Lodge. It was reported back to her that nothing can be done about this, as previously discussed with the county engineers.
- g. It was noted that the grass cutting carried out on behalf of the parish council had recently not been up to the usual standard, particularly along Rectory Rd.
- h. Brian Edmundson noted that a fire alarm system is to be installed in the village hall over the coming weeks.

9. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th January 2012

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm