

**CASTLE CARROCK & GELTSDALE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015 -7:30pm Watson Institute**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr. Devereux (Chairman), Cllr. Holland, Cllr. Wright, Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Widdowson, Cllr Knight  
**In attendance:** Mel Brown, Pip Brown, Tricia Meynell (Clerk)

**1. Apologies.**

Cllr. Johnstone, Cllr. Parsons

**2. Declaration of interests.** None

**3. Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. Agenda Items**

**a.** Autumn show – request for donation of £20 to help towards prize money. This request is on behalf of the St Peter's Church fund raising committee. All present agreed this was OK.

**b.** Levelling of Marr post-drainage work. Should this work be carried out and if so by whom, and financed by whom? Surface has always been a bit uneven but subsequent to the recent drainage works an indented channel has formed where the ground has sunk. Estimates should be sought for the work to be done. Geltsdale Arts have previously mentioned that they would contribute to the costs. Names put forward to do the work – Ken Murchison (who currently cuts the grass on the Marr), also 'Creative Gardens' from Renwick. Cllr Holland also has a contact whose number will be provided.

**c.** Tour of Britain cycle race – to note the efforts made by the Parish Council to procure, paint and position yellow bikes, bunting, other cycle race related decorations around the village. Thanks to Cllr Knight for collecting bikes from Penrith, Cllr Holland for securing additional bikes and to Cllr Devereux for procuring other items. Thanks to all the dozens of others who have decorated the village, procured more bikes and painted them.

**d.** The Duke of Cumberland Leek club have asked permission to erect their gazebo on the Marr on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. All agreed this would be no problem.

**e.** Allotments update by Cllr Holland: The City Council still do not have a proper title to the field....there is currently a dispute between Land Registry and the City Council. Cllr Holland is pursuing this matter avidly. She has also been approached by someone from Heads Nook who is also trying to provide allotments. To note that a cheque for £45 has been presented to the Parish Council by Marcus Pieri in payment for grazing on the allotment site.

**g.** To note that the owner of The Weary building site has been contacted regarding the painfully slow progress of the construction of the houses. His response was that it should be finished by 21<sup>st</sup> December. There is a new site manager.

**h.** Request from a parishioner to exterminate moles on the Glebe which are apparently coming from the Glebe field. It was agreed that the agents who deal with the Glebe Field (PFK) will be contacted and informed.

**i.** Picnic benches on Marr – these need to be moved around every week or so in order that the grass is cut beneath them. Previously this was done by the contractors who cut the grass. When the contract is renewed the contractor will be asked if he can do this throughout the next cutting season.

**j.** To note that the footpath/bridleway in the vicinity of New Water is being slightly re-routed in order to avoid areas of erosion. Map available to view.

k. Killwren Lonning repairs: Attempts to procure gravel extracted from the River Gelt on behalf of UUPLC were unsuccessful due to Environment Agency Licensing requirements. More gravel will be extracted next year, and it is hoped that a license will be able to be procured on time.

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

**6. Financial Matters - Statement of account and bills to pay as follows**

- a. . Re-imburement of costs incurred by George Devereux for Tour of Britain paraphernalia – paint, bunting etc. £77.16 for bunting, yellow material. Cheque #379. A Goodchild £20 for paint – Cheque #378
- b. Reimbursement for office expenses to parish clerk £7.00 – Cheque#380
- c. Donation to St Peter's Church for Autumn Show prizes £20 – Cheque #381

**7. Planning Matters**

**15/076** Roughet Hill phone mast upgrade – permission sought to add and replace antennae to the existing mast. All present agreed that this does not pose a problem.

**8. Councillor's Issues**

Regarding the potential hiring of the Marr by residents/non residents ; Cllr Johnstone is in the process of putting together some thoughts on this issue. The final document will require equal input from the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Johnstone is the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee. In addition, the issue of a possible joint insurance policy for the Parish Council and the Village Hall will be investigated. It was agreed that a sub-committee be formed to sort this out.

**The meeting closed at 20:05**

Subsequent to the close of the meeting there was an open discussion between members of the Parish Council, Mel Brown and Pip Brown from the Duke of Cumberland Pub, Castle Carrock regarding the vandalism of the two trees on the Marr.

Mel Brown asked why the finger of blame was being pointed at the owners of the Duke. Cllr Devereux pointed out that the blame has never been apportioned to any one person in particular. Pip Brown stated that the Duke helps with so many things in and around the village and now it is being blamed for this vandalism. When asked why Cllr Devereux has boycotted the pub - he replied that he does not feel comfortable sitting in the pub potentially with the person who committed the actions. The Browns are all very upset by the whole issue, emotionally and because people are now not coming to the pub because the Duke of Cumberland is being blamed. Cllr Wright asked why it was necessary to leave the dead trees. Mel Brown asked how it was known that the trees had been poisoned – Cllr Devereux responded that it was clear to see the holes that had been drilled from the ground into the roots of the trees, and that the ground around the holes was scorched by whatever poison was used.

Cllr Brown pointed out that in future very careful consideration should be given as to where trees are planted. The Marr is not the correct place to plant trees. Pip Brown said that it could be absolutely anyone who poisoned the trees.

Cllr Devereux said he would put an note in the Parish News stating that the owners of the Duke of Cumberland deny any responsibility for the vandalism.

Date of next meeting, Wed November 11th