

# CASTLE CARROCK & GELTSDALE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING, 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011

**Present:** George Devereux (Chairman), David Low (Vice Chairman), Derek Knight, David Rawsthorn, Richard Johnstone

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

**1. Apologies**

Keith Brown, Pete Miles

**2. Declaration of Interests**

Richard Johnstone and David Rawsthorn (Agenda Item a – Music on the Marr)

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on November 10th 2010 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Agenda Items**

**a:** A written request from Geltsdale Arts had been received by the Parish Council asking for a small donation to help with funding for the upcoming Music on the Marr event to be held on June 18<sup>th</sup> 2011.

It was agreed that a one off donation of £200 would be granted because the event last year was viewed as a total success, boosting local business (i.e. the two pubs), the "St Peter's church fundraising committee benefited from the sale of teas and cakes (and will do the same in 2011). The event was well attended by local people, and it was generally agreed that the event had been good for the village as a whole. It was noted that should Geltsdale Arts make any profit from this year's event, all money would be put back in to help finance future events. The view was aired that whilst many people in the village would benefit from the event, some would not, but that any project in the village would suit some and not others. It was also noted that this event is something which the Parish Council would be unable to put on itself, and is therefore happy to donate to an organisation which can.

**b: Parking at Jockey Shield**

An estimate from a local contractor has been received - £3000 inc VAT to make good the grass verges at Jockey Shield so that vehicles can park easily without obstructing traffic or getting stuck in mud. A donation from a local resident has been offered and additional funding will be sought from the RSPB. Cllr. Marriner offered a possible contribution of £750, which should become available in March. The balance will be financed from Parish Council funds. The work will include draining the area in question, scraping the surface flat and supplying and laying a new stone surface. It was agreed that the work should go ahead as soon as possible

**c: High Speed Broadband**

Cllr Johnstone had attended the second conference on "Localism meets Broadband" organised by the Carlisle Parish Councils Association with Rory Stewart MP for Penrith & Borders as guest speaker. To summarise – Eden District Council will be first in Cumbria to get fibre-optic broadband. Cumbria County Council is putting together tenders for delivery Cumbria-wide. The emphasis is on Parish Councils to "deliver the last mile" i.e. actually getting the fibre-optic cable to each residence from a central point. It was agreed that it would be useful if the Parish Council put together a questionnaire – one for each household, asking what (if any) internet access each requires, for what, etc. Cllr. Johnstone will implement this with volunteer help for delivery. Each person who completes and hands in the survey will be entered into a draw to win a £25 M&S voucher. More about high speed broadband can be viewed at [www.broadbandcumbria.com](http://www.broadbandcumbria.com)

**d. Village Web Site:**

Cllr. Devereux updated all present on the progress of the proposed village web site. Alex Widdowson has been constructing one in his spare time, with input from the Village Hall Committee, the St Peter's Church Restoration Committee with the Parish Council scheduled to liaise. It was agreed that the names of all Councillors and a generic parish email address should be added. On a regular basis, the agendas and minutes will be uploaded along with any other Parish Council business which needs to be made public. There will be a page for "History", a page for "Walks in the area – wildlife etc". The Parish Newsletter will also be available for viewing. Advertising by local business will be featured and it is envisaged that this will cover operating costs.

**e: Possibility of combined heating system for Village Hall, Church, School**

This item was not discussed to due to the absence of the relevant Councillor.

**f. Parish Council & Village Hall Grant Schemes**

No projects requiring funding from this source currently on the agenda.

5. **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were available for viewing.
6. **Financial Matters: Cheques were made out to the following:**  
Parish Clerk for office expenses £5.00 (cheque no.286)
7. **Planning Matters: 10/1003 – Installation of internet radio mast on B6413**  
**10/0005 - Installation of internet radio mast outside the school**

**Please note that Planning application No: 10/1005 was discussed as a special item alongside 10/003 as the two applications are part of the same project. The former had not been received in time to be included in the agenda for this meeting.**

Castle Carrock Primary School falls under the umbrella of "CLEO" (Cumbria & Lancashire Online Education) but is unable to access much of the material available online due to poor broadband service. To improve this, Lancashire County Council has applied for planning permission to erect a 10m radio pole on the verge of the B6413 on the opposite side, but close to, Oak Tree Hall, to work in conjunction (line of sight) with a 12m radio pole inside the school grounds close to the school gates. It was agreed that the parish council would ask for more information from the head teacher, Mr Chris Marsh as to what the benefits to the school would be and if they could wait until high speed broadband is available in the village (**see agenda item c. above**). It was noted that it sounds as the school would be disadvantaged if these radio poles are not erected. It was also noted that there would be a negative aesthetic impact on the village – the 12m pole in particular, will be visible from many points in the village. The Parish Council therefore decided to object to Carlisle City Council planning department on this basis.

8. **Councillor's Issues:**

**a Flag Pole:** It was noted that previous enquiries as to whether village residents would like a flag pole had been sparse, and those that were received, were mainly negative. This item has now been dropped.

**b. Tree Pruning:** One of the cherry trees adjacent to the Duke of Cumberland needs pruning

**c: Churchyard Pruning:** Trees overhanging road need pruning to allow school buses to pass underneath. In addition, the ash tree near the bridge needs a branch removed, and ivy needs to be cut from all trees in the churchyard. A working party will be put together with a date published in the Parish Newsletter.

**d: Litter Pick:** Cllr Rawsthorn agreed to organise this – details to be announced.

9. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March

**The meeting was closed at 9.15pm**