



Carnforth Town Council

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

**Summons to attend meeting of Town Development & Planning Committee on
Monday 5th September 2022 at 5:00pm at Carnforth Council Offices**

A G E N D A

- 22080. Apologies:** To receive apologies.
- 22081. Declarations of Interest:** To receive Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on items on the Agenda.
- 22082. Urgent Business:** To consider any items of urgent business.
- 1) Closure of Carp
- 22083. Minutes:** To consider and approve Minutes of meeting held on 1ST August 2022 and any updates on actions not covered on the Agenda.
- 22084. Planning Applications:** To consider planning applications, traffic regulation orders and other planning matters.

Application No:	Description
22/00888/FUL	Erection of a two storey front extension and installation of solar panels on the south facing roof – Carnforth Community Swimming Pool. Kellet Road, Carnforth LA5 9LS

- 22085. Town Development:** To consider and receive updates on actions / opportunities to develop and promote the town, including:
1. Great Big Green Week – 24th September to 2nd October 2022
 2. Street Cleansing & Waste Bins inspection
 3. Community Arts Project
 4. Bike for Peace
 5. Remembrance Sunday – 13th November 2022
- 22086. Updates:** To consider and receive updates on actions including:
1. Speed Indicator Devices (SpID)
 2. PROW
 3. Lancashire County Council reports & matters including:
 - Market Street traffic lights letter
 4. Co-wheels Car scheme



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22087. Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan (CNP): To consider any updates

22088. Date & Time of next meeting: Date & time of next meeting

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert B. Bailey', is written over a horizontal line.

Clerk & Proper Officer **Tel: 07828 254 149**

Email: clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org

TOWN DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st August 2022

Present: Councillors Parker (Chair), Turner, Smith and Watkins

In attendance: Bob Bailey, Town Clerk & RFO and Mr J Blowes, Carnforth Rotary Club

22071 **Apologies:** There were no apologies

22072 **Declaration on interests and dispensations:** Councillor Smith requested and was granted dispensation to comment on planning application 22/00022/REF

22073 **Urgent Business:** The following matters were discussed:

- 1) Carnforth & Area Regeneration Partnership (CARP):** The Town Clerk presented a letter from CARP Ltd advising that the company is in the process of closure and that the remaining directors had decided that the original purpose of its financial assets are no longer viable. The directors, in conjunction with the Canal & River Trust (CRT) have developed a 'canal-based' project for some of the closing funds and are now seeking Carnforth Town Council's agreement for the proposal as well as enquiring whether there are projects that the Town Council would wish to put forward for consideration by CARP. Councillors raised many questions about the original concept and aims of CARP and its management and finances; the proposed project with CRT and how the balance of CARP's financial assets would be utilised.

After much discussion, it was **RESOLVED that CARP directors in invited to a future meeting of the Town Development & Planning Committee to discuss the closure of the company and potential projects further.**

- 2) Basketball request:** It was reported that a teenage resident had contacted the Council asking whether basketball hoops could be installed somewhere in Carnforth. It was pointed out that there are currently none and he considers that this would be a popular activity amongst our younger residents. Arrangements are being made for the Town Mayor and Councillor Parker to meet with the teenager and a parent/guardian to discuss further.

ACTION: Councillors Parker and Smith to report back to the committee in due course.

22074 **Minutes:** The was **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th July be accepted.**

22075 **Planning Applications:** The Committee considered the following planning application(s):

Application No:	Description
22/00209/FUL	<p>Retrospective application for the retained raising of boundary wall to the front and erection of new boundary wall to the side – 70 Crag Bank Road, Carnforth</p> <p>Decision: Object to the planning application as the development is likely to result in an unacceptable adverse impact upon highway safety for all highway users (vehicles and pedestrians), contrary to the aims of paragraph 111 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)</p>
22/0034/ENF	<p>Appeal against enforcement notice for operation of haulage business – Field at Netherbeck Carnforth</p> <p>Decision: That the appeal be noted. Carnforth Town Council supports the position that the development is contrary to the NPPF as it is located on a greenfield site and the haulage operations will be early in the morning and late at night in a rural location in close proximity to residential properties.</p>
22/00022/REF	<p>Erection of 2 detached dwellings and creation of an access – Carnforth Brow, Carnforth</p> <p>Decision: That the refusal be noted. Carnforth Town Council supports the refusal as the application forms part of a larger development site, which includes eleven other dwellings; proposal fails to comply with the requirements for affordable housing and does not represent sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF.</p>
21/00899/HYB	<p>Hybrid Application comprising a full application for the erection of 81 dwellings with associated vehicle access, incorporating a signalized junction, together with pedestrian and cycle access points, associated earthworks, roads, parking and drainage structure and an outline application for up to 114 dwellings including public and open space provision and associated infrastructure – Land between Brewers Barn and the A601(M), North Road, Carnforth LA5 9LJ</p>

	Decision: Object to the planning application as the proposal fails to comply with the requirements for affordable housing and does not represent sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF. There are also concerns around the pedestrian safety and uncertainty about the plans to prevent vehicular access from the development onto North Road	
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Councillors considered each of the above planning application and appeals notifications and, given that there was no meeting of Carnforth Town Council in August, made decisions on its behalf in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

It was **RESOLVED that the Town Clerk acts upon the planning decisions of the Town Development & Planning Committee.**

22076 Town Development: The committee considered the following events, updates and opportunities:

- 1) **Carnforth Express – Jubilee Special:** Councillors commented on the July/August edition of the Carnforth Express which includes details of the Carnforth Big Weekend and memorabilia presented to local primary schools; the proposed closure of Barclays bank and the council's petition; stories about the return of Carnforth regalia after 50 years and the past history of Red Court; improvement plans for Carnforth Swimming Pool and the Council's Take Pride in Your Patch campaign and volunteering. It was then **RESOLVED that the special 12-page version of the Carnforth Express be printed and distributed.**
- 2) **Great Big Green Week:** Councillor Watkins reported that the Great Big Green Week is national celebration of Community Action to tackle climate change and protect nature that is taking place from 24th September to 2nd October 2022. Advice, support and possible funding is available for any planned events or activities. **ACTION: Councillor Watkins and Turner will work up a plan for a Community Information Day on 24th September at Crag Bank Village Hall covering a range of climate change and nature protection activities and themes.**
- 3) **Take Pride in Your Patch:** In response to the Town Council's 'Take Pride in Your Patch' campaign the Leader of Lancashire County Council has suggested that a 'Clean Up' event involving County Highways be arranged. This could be somewhere in the town that might otherwise be difficult for the general public to access. perhaps for safety reasons, but which would benefit from such an event. **ACTION: A location that would benefit from a joint clean up with County Highways to be identified and arrangements made for a clean-up event, during the Great Big Green Week.**

4) **Street Cleansing & Waste Bin Inspection:** It was reported that the planned review of the current provision and location of waste recycling and dog waste bins was cancelled on the agreed day by Lancaster City Council's Street Cleansing team. **ACTION: Town Clerk to rearrange a convenient date and time for the review.**

5) **Community Arts Project:** Mr Blowes from Carnforth Rotary Club reported on ongoing discussions with Booths management on the potential for a community art project to be established on the main retaining wall of Booths car park. The main purpose is to use this opportunity to showcase the local community and encourage local talent, community groups and schools to get involved in the design and painting of the wall. This will be an annual event with a different focus each year on a range of community events, activities and themes. It was reported that, at this stage, the project is only an idea and is yet to be 'signed-off' by Booths estates management before being formally communicated to the local community.

Councillors asked a variety of questions and commented that, managed sensitively, the project has the potential to bring a number of positive benefits. **It was then RESOLVED that Carnforth Town Council be recommended to support the Community Arts Project in principle and that, subject to the project going ahead, the Town Council provide resources to engage with the local community.**

22077 Updates: The committee considered the following updates:

1) **Speed Indicator Devices (SpID):** The Town Mayor reported that County Highways and the County Council Chair of the Highways and Transport Committee have yet to respond to the proposed installation of mobile SpiD's in areas of highest risk.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to report back in due course

2) **Public Rights of Way (PROW):** The Town Clerk reported that Lancashire County Council have confirmed that the requested fingerposts, wayleaves and 'kissing' stiles will be provided free of charge but that collection, from a depot in Preston, and installation will have to be arranged by the Town Council. It was reported that the Outdoor Maintenance Officer has advised that he is willing to collect and install with assistance and the hire of a vehicle.

Councillor Turner kindly volunteered to help the Outdoor Maintenance Officer with installing the materials and offered to collect them using his own transit van.

ACTION: Arrangements to be made for the collection and installation of PROW materials for Footpath 25.

3) **Lancashire County Council matters:** Action on tackling the flooding experienced at the 1st Carnforth Scout Group premises caused by blocked and overflowing drains is still being chased up.

Councillors were pleased that Lancashire County Council had been clearing gullies on Market Street recently.

The Outdoor Maintenance Officer has placed several *Slow Down, Save Lives* posters on planters on Lancaster Road close to the Keerford View Retirement Homes. The Administrative Officer has posted information on social media to remind the public that highways matters can be reported online and via the new Lancashire County Council App, 'Love Clean Streets'.

A planned 'walkabout' with County Officers and Councillors on more strategic issues such as traffic management, public rights of way, drainage and priority highway maintenance matters will be followed up from early September.

- 4) **Co-wheels Car Scheme:** The Town Clerk provided an update on progress made in the last few weeks. The Town Council is now a member of BP Pulse and payment arrangements are in place. Lancaster City Council are awaiting a delivery date for the electric vehicle and then the scheme will be launched to the general public through a joint press release between Lancashire County, Lancaster City and Carnforth Town Councils. **ACTION: Town Clerk to keep Councillors informed.**

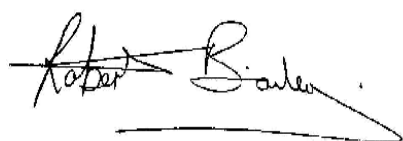
22051 Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan (CNP): The Town Clerk reported that the Planning Inspector for the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan had now been appointed and will be commencing his independent examination of the submitted neighbourhood plan and all the supporting documents in the next few weeks.

The Town Clerk advised that the main purpose of the examination was to ensure that the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan has regard to national planning policies; conforms to the strategic policies of the Lancaster District Local Plan and contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. Once the examination is complete a report will be issued that will include one of the following recommendations:

- Submitted Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to referendum;
- Submitted Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to referendum, subject to certain amendments;
- Submitted Neighbourhood Plan should not proceed to referendum

All involved in getting the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan to this penultimate stage were again thanked for their efforts over the last four years and it was **RESOLVED that the update be noted.**

22052 Date of next meeting: The next meeting of the Town Development & Planning Committee is due to be held on **Monday 5th September at 5:00pm**. The meeting closed at 6:25pm



Town Clerk and RFO

Councillor Chris Smith
Sent via email:
Chris.Smith@carnforthtowncouncil.org

Phone: (01772) 536350
Email: Phillippa.Williamson@lancashire.gov.uk
Our ref: CCPW/67830
Date: 23 August 2022

Dear Chris

Market Street, Carnforth

I am writing to update you regarding the ongoing works on Market Street, Carnforth.

As you will know, Aptus Utilities are currently installing gas and water mains, along with a high voltage electricity cable on the A6. These will provide new services to the Rowland Homes development near the Truck Haven services. Due to the size of the mains supply needed, the water main could only connect to the existing services at the Market Street junction. The electricity cable connection is nearer to the entrance to the new housing development, whilst the gas connection is near to Aldi.

Aptus completed the work at the Market Street Junction on the morning of 4 August 2022. The 4-way lights were removed and reverted to the use of 2-way lights further up the A6 (nearer the housing development).

County Highways asked Aptus to explain the circumstances which led to the reported problems with the temporary signals over the weekend of 30 and 31 July 2022. They apparently had received reports that the signals were not working correctly on 30 July 2022 and called out their traffic management company who attended the site. They found that the lights were working correctly, but motorists were becoming impatient with the significant delays due to the 4-way lights in operation.

On Sunday 31 July 2022, Aptus received further reports of defective lights. The traffic management company again attended site and found the signals were not working because of a defective battery, despite having replaced the batteries a few days earlier. They resolved this issue and returned the lights to full working order.

On Monday 1 August 2022, County Highways were made aware of the issues over the weekend. They immediately attended the site and contacted Aptus Utilities about the issue. When County Highways attended the site on Monday morning, the lights were still working correctly. Both Aptus and County Highways also confirmed that information boards with the correct contact details were displayed at the site. This is a legal requirement for all work undertaken by utility companies. Concerned residents could have contacted Aptus over the weekend to alert them to any issues, as any out of hours calls divert to an on-call person.

Continued...

In cases like this, residents may default to contacting the county council when they have issues with utility works. However, Aptus are fully responsible for these works, and the county council have no direct control over them. Further, county highways street works team do not operate an out of hours service. Therefore, the most appropriate course of action is to use the contact information displayed at the site.

All that said, for major work such as this communication with the Town Council could have been much better. This applies to the County Council and Aptus and I have asked that we ensure all parties look to improve this aspect moving forward.

As I am sure you will appreciate, there is a vast amount of work taking place constantly across Lancashire, so it is not possible to inform people directly about all work. In addition, the County Council get little or no notice of any especially urgent, or emergency works. However, it is appreciated that any works on this type of highly sensitive route would benefit from more planning and advance notice. In fact, there is no reason why direct communication with key stakeholders, such as the Town Council, could not take place in future.

County Highways have discussed with Aptus the lack of activity on the site for several days leading up to, and over the weekend of 30 and 31 July 2022. Aptus incorrectly believed planning conditions stipulated they could not work at the weekend. However, as Lancaster City Council have confirmed this is not the case, Aptus will now operate over a 7-day working period going forward. They have assured us that their teams have also been on site on all available weekdays so far. As County Highways regularly inspect the site, they will raise the issue with Aptus immediately if they see no activity taking place.

Looking to the future, there is still a substantial amount of work outstanding at this site, which is summarised below:

- Completion of the installation of the water main, which is currently underway
- United Utilities connecting the water main installed by Aptus. This will require further work in the Market Street Junction and at a point near to the M601 roundabout (Carnforth side)
- Closure of Scotland Road (A6) on the 26 September 2022 for two weeks to allow the water main, gas main, and sewer to be installed underneath the rail bridge
- Installation of a sewer from the development to the main sewer in the junction of Market Street, and
- Connection of gas main and installation of a pressure release valve near to Aldi.

Most of this work was originally planned as separate projects, which would have meant more disruption and no joined up working. In fact, the sewer installation had not been shared with the county council until last week. This would have likely caused disruption until Christmas 2022 and possibly beyond. As the County Council do not consider this original approach acceptable, we have met with Aptus and United Utilities (UU) to advise that much shorter timescales are required. Shared occupancy of the road, and more resources deployed over a 7-day working week, must take place to bring the work to a swifter conclusion. Aptus and UU have agreed and are putting in place a revised plan. So, although regrettably, some disruption will occur, we expect all work to provide services to this housing development will be complete by mid-October 2022.

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UU and Aptus are working on a few technical points which require clarification before we can give you a detailed explanation, with definitive timescales. However, the closure of the A6 will definitely take place from 26 September 2022, as this is a requirement of Network Rail. The plan is still to have continuous work either side of this closure, to shorten the length of the disruption. Once we have the definitive timescales and details, Aptus and County Highways will contact the Town Council to provide full information.

Unfortunately, the disruption to Scotland Road (A6) will not end at that point. Rowland Homes must make substantial improvements to the highway network as part of the planning approval. These are listed below.

- The formation of two new bus laybys and bus stops along Scotland Road in the vicinity of the site frontage
- Pedestrian/cycle access points along the site frontage on to Scotland Road and Netherbeck
- Pedestrian crossing facilities on Scotland Road
- Footway/cycleway improvements along Scotland Road between the new bus stops, the site access, and the junction of Scotland Road with the Booths/Aldi junction
- Street lighting works between the site access and new bus stops on Scotland Road, and
- Footway/cycleway improvements from the site along Netherbeck/Carnforth Brow.

Given that no legal agreements are in place concerning the above work, we have no delivery timescales for this at the moment. However, the County Council's Development Control Team are aware of the impact these works will cause and the need to ensure that key stakeholders, such as the Town Council, are briefed once they are planned. My officers will be in touch as soon as we have details to share.

I appreciate this is quite a detailed letter, but I thought you would appreciate all the background information along with an indication of what is planned for the future

As more information becomes available, Highways officers will be in touch and obviously if you have any further questions in the meantime, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



County Councillor Philippa Williamson
Leader of Lancashire County Council