

South Muskham and Little Carlton Parish Council

<p>Chairman: Howard Clack The Paddocks, Ollerton Road Little Carlton, Newark NG23 6BP Tel: 01636 701520 howard.clack@btinternet.com</p>	<p>AGENDA</p> <p>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</p> <p>To be held in South Muskham Village Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 20 May 2015</p>	<p>Clerk: Christine Slim 4 Hatton Gardens Newark, NG24 4BX Tel. 01636 650667 smlc.parishcouncil@gmail.com</p>
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All residents of South Muskham and Little Carlton are warmly welcome to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in South Muskham Village Hall on Wednesday 20 May 2015 at 7.00pm.

WELCOME by the Chairman

Note of the Annual Meeting held on 21 May 2014

PUBLIC SESSION

CLOSING REMARKS

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will follow at 7.30pm or at the close of the Parish Meeting.

Signed

**Councillor Howard Clack
Chairman of the Parish Council**

10 May 2015

SOUTH MUSKHAM/LITTLE CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Note of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2014 at 7 pm in South Muskhams Village Hall

- Present: From the Parish Council
Councillors H Clack, L Francis, R Gill and R Pollard
Apologies were received from Cllrs D Catanach, Mrs C Hibbert and M Widdison.
- With: County and District Councillor, Mrs S Saddington
- And: 6 members of the Public
An apology was received from Mr G Wilkinson

Howard Clack, as Chairman of the Parish Council during the term 2013-14, presided

Howard expressed a very warm welcome to everyone present. The Annual Parish Meeting was not simply to receive a report on Council activities over the past twelve months but more importantly for local residents to take the opportunity to raise any issues they had which related to the Parish now and in the future.

Howard referred to a number of issues raised over the year which had been, and continued to be, important to local residents, and general discussion centred on the following

Planning Issues and the feeling of frustration that the views of the Parish did not seem to be important when applications were considered at District Level and, even more noticeably, when they were considered on Appeal. This was referring particularly to the recent notification in respect of

- **Manor Farm – Change of use of land to a demolition contractor’s yard (retrospective)**
- **2nd Wind Turbine at Debdale Hill**

In each case the local Planning Authority had refused permission – only for both applications to succeed on Appeal.

The frustration and disappointment was shared by all those present at the Meeting; and there was an increasing feeling of apathy. The Parish Council, residents and the District/County Council representative had worked hard to ensure that the local picture was presented not only accurately, but fairly, using all resources available – including substantial sums (£2000 in 2013-14 to engage professional assistance) but to no avail; the Localism Act appeared to be yet another piece of useless legislation and those with the power continued to ignore the views of local people.

Highways Issues. Reduced funding had delayed work to the mini roundabout, with the result that re-instatement of white line markings along the A616 had also been held up. Further, requests for a reduced speed limit from the roundabout, along the A616, to Debdale Hill had also been ignored because of costs involved in the consultation process. The Parish Council agreed with residents that the above work should be undertaken without delay for safety reasons and Cllr Saddington suggested that a further site meeting with the local regional Highways Officer should be arranged, particularly to ensure that the Parish Council had the opportunity to have some input in the plans for the new island, and problems relating to speed and congestion on the A616 when diversions were in place. With regard to

the work at the island it was disappointing to note that the request to amend the A1 North sign, to simply read A1, had also been ignored. The Parish Council had passed on this request following reports from local residents that strangers to the area had assumed that if A1 North was left of the island then A1 South must be right – resulting in a detour on to the Newark Relief Road. New signage has now been erected but once again shows the A1 North only.

Communications. Howard reported that more than 50 households were now receiving information from the Parish Council. It was appreciated that not everyone had access to a computer and information would continue to be posted on the notice boards. Further it was agreed that as and when in the future there was a need to distribute information to individual properties in the Parish the opportunity be taken again to encourage people to subscribe to the Village Parish Distribution List.

County & District Ward Councillor, Mrs Sue Saddington, presented her report for the year (a copy will be included with these notes). She understood and sympathised with the frustrations and concerns raised and encouraged the Parish Council to continue to lobby for local views to be heard – but, importantly, to have any effect this work had to be supported by individual local residents also making their views known on important issues, such as the Manor Farm application and possible future wind turbine sites.

Thanks. On behalf of the Council and Parish residents, Howard Clack thanked Sue for her tireless efforts to support and improve the position in the Parish. Her hard work on their behalf was very much appreciated. This view was echoed by everyone at the meeting.

Howard thanked everyone present for attending: he thanked each individual Councillor and the Clerk for their hard work and support during the last twelve months. He also acknowledged and thanked the regular attendance at meetings by a small number of residents, whose input during the Public Sessions was helpful and appreciated.

And, importantly, he stressed that the future of the two villages could only be maintained and improved with the support and involvement of the parishioners and he very much hoped that more residents would attend Parish meetings or contact their local Councillors to inform them on what they, as a community, would like to be achieved in the future.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Clerked by Christine Slim

County and District Councillor Mrs Sue Saddington

Outline Report presented to the Annual Parish Council Meeting : 21 May 2014

“After 4 years of being in control at County Hall, in May 2013 we lost control to the Labour Party who now are in charge of running the services provided by Nottinghamshire County Council and of managing and balancing the budget.

They made sweeping cuts in February 2014 not least the Local Improvement Scheme and our County Councillors Divisional fund. Both of these initiatives were able to help Parish Councils and Groups with funding for projects. I am not expecting that any applications to the Local Improvement Scheme will be granted, but I do still have a Divisional budget and will help as many groups as I am able.

The Environmental weight limit is now operative at Bathley and Little Carlton and although some lorries may run through the villages hoping not to be noticed, it should prevent HGV's using the villages particularly when the A1 is closed or when there are other major trunk road diversions.

The Trent Lane and Kelham Lane Environmental Weight limit is also in force at South Muskham through to Kelham, this I feel has been a major achievement as I first requested this weight limit in 1999.

Next year in May 2015, it will be the Parish Council and District Elections. The new District boundaries will come into force. We shall lose Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe from the Muskham Ward but Caunton and Norwell will join us.

My thanks to everyone who wrote to the Boundary Commission to support the proposal that Bathley, North and South Muskham should stay together, it makes sense as we have been linked historically for years. At least the Boundary Commission listened to residents and Parish Councils.

The one blot on the landscape literally are the wind turbine applications which we have received over the last 12-18 months.

I fully understand residents' concerns and will continue to make representation on their behalf.

We must maintain an eye to the Minerals plan as it is out for further consultation.

My thanks to all the Parish Councillors who give their time to the village and thanks also to Christine who has been a pleasure to work with and who I am sure you will agree, has helped to keep the Parish 'on track'.

I look forward to working with you all over the coming year.”