

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF CARLTON

Minutes of a meeting held in St Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton at 1930 hrs
on Wednesday 11th May 2011

Present: W R Sharp (Chairman), J H Boston, R H Edmunds, R G Moseley, S G Tupling (Councillors),
one parishioner, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Minutes of the meeting of 12th May 2010

It was resolved that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. Report from the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group

There was no report.

3. Report from the Chairman of Carlton Parish Council

Cllr W R Sharp reported as follows.

First of all I would like to welcome Stuart Tupling, our new Parish Councillor. Stuart is a chartered surveyor, and has already done some good work behind the scenes on the affordable housing project. We hope his skills will complement the team.

I would like to thank Duncan Frazer for his work for the community, and I know he is very supportive of our efforts.

I would like to congratulate Tina Chastney on becoming our new Borough Councillor, and thank Rita Aldridge, our former Borough Councillor, for her efforts on behalf of Carlton and the rural parishes, and close liaison with our parish council.

I am pleased to report on another 12 months of Parish Council business:-

The council met 10 times last year, and Councillor attendance was: Sharp 9, Boston 9, Edmunds 6, Frazer 6, Moseley 8, Clerk 10. 12 representatives of other organisations attended meetings, as did 16 parishioners. The PC was represented at 9 meetings of other bodies. The PC considered 16 planning applications during the year.

The new Glebe Farm Green has been kerbed, together with the northern part of the West Green, and the private access drive to Stud Farm has been concreted by the residents. With the help of County Highways, a spring in the Glebe Farm Green has been piped, and with generous donations of topsoil, the use of farm equipment, and much time by volunteers the land has been levelled up and sown with grass. A report on this project is being prepared: most of the work will be funded by s106 grants.

The footpaths on the Carlton side of Barton in the Beans are to be improved and opened up after being blocked and unofficially diverted in some places. A formal diversion and path creation order will be made later this year, and will create a new east-west link through land half way between the two villages, and make it easier to follow the paths onto Main Street Barton and to walk along the southern side of Barton village. Guided walks will be arranged when the necessary works have been completed. New kissing gates have already been installed on the path from Main Street Carlton through Manor House Farm.

After almost a year of stagnation due to the financial crisis, the Affordable Housing Project has advanced slightly. The scheme has been included in the forward programme of Nottingham Community Housing Association, and a bid for funding has been submitted to the Homes & Communities Agency. We hope to hear the outcome of this bid in July. I would like to thank the landowners for their forbearance.

The Carlton Parish Plan Group has been formed, and is preparing a questionnaire which will be issued to every parishioner in the autumn. Surveys were carried out in 1991 and 2001 and the results have underpinned many projects. When funding is tight, it is essential to be able to point to repeated surveys such as this as evidence of need and public support for projects.

The former BT telephone kiosk has been bought and repainted, and now houses the Community Defibrillator – part of a new initiative by a group of volunteers to improve local knowledge of resuscitation techniques, and to be available to the team in case of emergency.

The Cemetery fence was moved back last year, bringing all of the second area of grave spaces into commission.

Vehicle speeds were checked outside the church, and most vehicles were found to be obeying the 30 mph speed limit.

The Ashby Canal Landscape project has been inaugurated by H&BBC and British Waterways. The PC has suggested various projects, which may be brought forward as part of a major funding bid in 2012.

Ongoing:

Youth Club continues to be successful and well attended thanks to Sebastien Maynard and his team, and the Carlton Youth Champions. We welcome Rosi Yule as a new Youth Champion.

Most housing projects in the parish appear to be on hold, which means that s106 funds have also dried up.

Although not in our parish, the proposed marina will bring a bus waiting bay and improved junction between Carlton Lane and Wellesborough Rd. It is regrettable that Sunday bus services are to be withdrawn just as a new visitor destination is being planned.

A mental health problem in the community was managed with strong support from parishioners for as long as possible. We are particularly grateful to the landlord and landlady at The Gate Hangs Well, for their unstinting support and forbearance during a very difficult time.

We have a new Christmas tree fixing in the East Green.

The chestnut tree in the churchyard is being monitored.

The PC has decided to apply for Quality Status, because of increased competition for grant funding and emerging legislation which may grant increased powers to quality councils. This has meant a complete review of all operations, and the results are evident in the minutes and in the PC's website. It also required our Clerk to become qualified, and not only did Chris complete his portfolio of evidence for the Certificate in Local Council Administration in six months, but was awarded a distinction.

Thanks:

My thanks to our Internal Auditor, Carlton News Editors, Carlton Footpath Group, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group, Keep Carlton Tidy Group, Carlton Youth Champions, Heritage and Tree Warden, Ashby Canal Project, Bosworth Crime & Safety Forum, Borough and County Councillors, Dave Riley our local PBO, and the many volunteers who have given their time and expertise and lent equipment to make many of these projects possible, and who keep the parish running.

As always a special thank you to our Clerk, Chris Peat, for his unstinting work over and above the call of duty, both in time and physical labour. He has been very supportive to me whilst I have been Chairman, which brings me on to a personal note, this is the last time I shall be sat here as your Chairman, we have had our disappointments, particularly the footpath to Bosworth, and the extraordinary length of time to move the affordable housing on, but we also have our achievements, which were reflected on the photo montage on Duncan's retirement card, and Chris's fine article in Aspect this month.

Thank you all for your support, and I hope that I can still contribute to Carlton as an ordinary member of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 1950 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____