

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 12th October 2011

Present: R H Edmunds (Chairman), J H Boston, J D Finch, W R Sharp, S G Tupling (Councillors), I D Ould (County Councillor), C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence from Councillors

There were none.

2. Personal or prejudicial declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 14th September 2011

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

4. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Mobile Youth Club

Representations had been made to Mr S Cross (LCC Youth Work Manager) by Cllr Ould and the Carlton Youth Champions (p.1374/10 refers). Mr Cross had advised that the visits of the Youth Mobile would be reinstated from Wednesday 26th October, but had not yet provided details. The first visit would be before the November issue of Carlton News, so would need to be advertised. Cllr Ould and Mrs Yule **were thanked** for their strong support.

5. Reports from members of other public authorities

a) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould reported that the LCC DPRB might carry out a site visit to the proposed Bosworth Marina. Cllr Ould was advised that the PC would appreciate an invitation to attend this visit. **It was agreed** that the Planning Officer responsible for this application be advised of the PCs assessment of the objections which had been made to this proposal, and advised of the PCs continued support for the project (p.1353/7b refers)

Footpath S68 (part of the Leicestershire Round) had been closed at Shackerstone Station because the footbridge had been declared unsafe. It was not clear why the footpath had been closed, because pedestrians could easily cross the line at the northern end of the platforms. There were similar crossings at Carlton (footpath S75) and Shenton Station. The Clerk had received complaints about this closure. **It was agreed** that LCC RoW be asked to explain the closure and why a minor diversion had not been provided.

A wind farm scoping application had been made for 8x400' turbines at Orton on the Hill. The application for a 70k tonne composting site at Fenny Drayton had not yet been submitted to the DPRB. Cllr Ould had requested a flood risk assessment for the Witherley-Shenton river corridor in view of the MIRA science park application. An A5 Strategy Meeting had proposed that the MIRA highway mitigation measures include dualling of the A5 between roundabouts at the A444/A5 junction and the site entrance, and improvements to the Dodwell's Island roundabout. Cllr Ould left the meeting at this point.

b) Leicestershire Constabulary

PBO D Riley reported that four crimes had been recorded in Carlton during September: 10/9 – Theft motor vehicle, Main Street; 11/9 – Theft cycle, Main street; 12/9 – Damage, Main Street; 14/9 – Theft, Bosworth Road.

6. Annual Service of Remembrance

Cllr Sharp (Churchwarden) reported that invitations had been issued for the reading of the lessons and names.

7. Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee

The Clerk reported that the occupiers of 57 and 63 Main St had supported the proposal (p.1374/8 refers). **It was resolved** that a detailed proposal be drawn up in conjunction with the frontagers and Councillors, and application be made to the Highway Authority for a planting licence.

8. 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

The Boundary Commission had proposed a revised boundary for the Bosworth Parliamentary Constituency which would exclude Burbage and Earl Shilton, but include Ashby de la Zouch and the parishes of Moira, Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe, Measham, Appleby, Ravenstone & Packington, Ibstock & Heather and Hugglescote.

There was concern that there were very strong local ties between Hinckley, Barwell, Burbage and Earl Shilton, and cultural differences between the coalfield area in the northern part of the proposed Bosworth Constituency and the urban and rural areas in the southern part. It was considered that it would not be in the public interest for communities with very strong local links to be served by different MPs, nor for one MP to serve communities with different affiliations.

It was resolved that draft comments be circulated and a response submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

9. Planning matters

a) Planning applications submitted and determined

11/00665/NOMAT Non material amendment to planning permission 10/00268/FUL for amendments to Plot 4 of planning permission 06/00826/FUL.

11/00767/CONDI Variation of condition 2 on planning application 06/00826/FUL for amendments to Plot 4. Both applications related to Fern Lea, Barton Road, and comprised minor changes to windows, external doors and internal layout to Plot 4. **It was noted** that the plans included the garages to Plots 2 and 3, and that these might not be built as envisaged. **It was resolved** that no objection be made to the proposals, but that a condition be requested that the external gable wall of the garage be built of brick in the interests of visual amenity.

b) Draft National Planning Policy Framework

The Clerk had attended a workshop in the Atkins Building on 22nd Sept. There were many concerns about the published draft, mainly arising from the decision to abolish all existing PPG and PPS documentation (which underpinned the LDF), and the lack of definitions and loose wording of the proposals which made interpretation difficult and subjective (which would make it difficult to fight appeals). **It was resolved** that draft comments be circulated and a final version submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

10. Correspondence

H&BBC Staying Healthy Community Grant scheme 2012/13. **It was resolved** that the Clerk liaise with the CFG, landowners, Highway Authority and Market Bosworth PC and submit an application for funding for the replacement of existing stiles with kissing gates to improve public access to the countryside for exercise and recreation.

Market Bosworth PC invited PC reps to Christmas Lights switch on at 1800 hrs on 1st December. **It was resolved** that the PC be represented by Cllr Sharp and the Clerk.

West Leics CFR Scheme sent annual report for 2010-11.

Leics bus map & guide sent by LCC and copies handed out.

Bosworth Community Forum would meet on 20th October at Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre. **It was agreed** that the Clerk represent the PC.

Bosworth Community Forum would also meet on 10th November to determine funding applications.

It was resolved that a list of digital communications and reports received be copied to each Councillor, and that copies be forwarded on request.

It was resolved that additional written documentation be circulated.

11. Financial matters

a) Report 2011-20: Quarterly Financial report

The reconciliations were checked against the bank statements, and **it was resolved** that Report 2011-20 be approved.

b) Clerk's salary and expenses

The Clerk presented his expenses book for examination, and **it was resolved** that the Clerk be paid £368.58 comprising £210.00 salary, £30 contribution towards broadband subscription and £151.49 approved expenses (including £7.09 VAT). The expenses included £30.98 (excluding VAT) for C4 envelopes, and **it was resolved** that this sum be charged to the Carlton Parish Plan Group Fund and shown separately in the accounts.

12. Matters for report and questions and comments from the public

The Chairman had raised the problem of an increase in the number of ragwort plants in local pasture land and hay meadows, and was concerned about the amount of ragwort on highway verges as a source of seed. The Clerk reported on the Weeds Act 1959, which authorised the relevant Minister to make an Order requiring the owner of any land infested with spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), creeping or field thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), curled dock (*Rumex crispus*), broad leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), or common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) to bring these weeds under control. The Ragwort Control Act 2003 authorised the relevant Minister to publish guidance on the control of ragwort, and this had been done (*Code of Practice on How to Prevent the Spread of Ragwort*; Defra 2004). This legislation was commonly misunderstood. There was no such thing as a notifiable weed, and no legal requirement for landowners to control the named weeds except where an Order had been made. Cllr Tupling asked about giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed, and the Clerk agreed to investigate.

The Clerk had been notified of several incidents of abusive behaviour from motorists towards horse riders, and had forwarded this information to the Police.

A parishioner had complained that the stile footstool at the S75/S68 footpath junction needed repair. The stile was very high, and the Clerk intended to approach the landowners and LCC RoW to see whether it could be replaced by a kissing gate (See p.1377/10 above).

The Clerk reported that all necessary RoW furniture had been installed; the diverted and new RoW were open and in use, and the Carlton Footpath Group was planning a formal opening and programme of guided walks (p. 1350/10 refers).

Mr Peat (Tree Warden) reported that he had attended the East Midlands Tree Warden Forum at Derby Arboretum on 24th September. The morning had been devoted to talks, and the afternoon to practical workshops on trees, tree care and management, and the history and plantings of the arboretum.

The Clerk had attended an H&BBC Parish Forum on the Community Initiatives Fund and New Homes Bonus Funding on 22nd Sept. H&BBC proposed to remit a share of its' New Homes Bonus Funding to PCs, and administrative arrangements and allocations had been discussed.

The Chairman and Clerk had met with NCHA representatives on 28th September, and notes from the meeting had been copied to all partners. The NCHA Board had decided to proceed with the Carlton project, and it had been agreed to pursue funding from the HCA as a community-led scheme.

C J Peat (Secretary, CPPG) reported that questionnaires for the 2011 Parish Plan had been printed, and would be delivered shortly.

Cllr Sharp (Churchwarden) reported that work would soon begin on the repair of the stone chancel arch at the base of the church tower. **It was agreed** that the next PC meeting be held at 34 Main Street if the church was full of scaffolding and dust.

13. Date, time and place of the next meeting, and meetings calendar for 2012

It was resolved that the next meeting (Annual Finance Meeting) be held at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 9th November 2011 at Saint Andrews Church, or 34 Main Street, Carlton if work was in progress in the church.

It was resolved that meetings in 2012 be held on 11th January, 8th February, 14th March, 11th April, 9th May (Annual Meeting), 13th June, 25th July, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November (Finance Meeting).

The meeting closed at 2145 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CFG	Carlton Footpath Group	CFR	Community First Responder
CPPG	Carlton Parish Plan Group	DPRB	Development, Planning & Regulatory Board
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council	LCC	Leicestershire County Council
NCHA	Nottingham Community Housing Association	PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council		