

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 9th May 2012

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, R H Edmunds, J D Finch, W R Sharp (Councillors),
I D Ould (County Councillor), 4 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Minutes of the meeting of 11th May 2011

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

2. Report from the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group: Ms R Yule

Rosi Yule reported on activity since being appointed co-ordinator in November 2011. An article about the scheme had been published in the February 2012 issue of Carlton News. A list of email contacts had been compiled, and those on this list received timely and relevant bulletins on local crime. Rosi Yule was registered with the Neighbourhood Watch system, but the CNWG had not been formally registered with the Police as a Neighbourhood Watch Group as there were no formal meetings in place. It was suggested that formal registration of the CNWG and signposting in the village could be investigated by a volunteer.

Rosi Yule outlined the objectives of the CNWG, which were to encourage neighbours to look out for each other, to encourage individuals to feel safe and confident in reporting suspicious activity to the Police, to encourage local people to take personal responsibility to secure their property and belongings, and to improve awareness of local crime patterns and the numbers to ring for help. The operation of Neighbourhood Watch Groups had changed over 15 years with the advent of e-mail – the old ring-round and personal reporting systems had been abandoned and residents were encouraged to report suspicious activity immediately to the Police by ringing 101.

The use of email enabled information to be forwarded very quickly to those on the list, but excluded people without access to personal computers. This problem was discussed, but Carlton News remained the only practical way of keeping every parishioner informed, and at least email ensured rapid dissemination of news to neighbours and the local grapevine. There had been strong support in the Parish Plan for setting up a local email information exchange, and it was suggested that this system might be set up for use by the CNWG and other organisations and individuals, rather than each group managing its own list. Rosi Yule described some of the problems she had experienced with the management of numerous emails, long lists of addresses and PDF/Word documents not being readable by some recipients.

3. Report from the Chairman of Carlton Parish Council

Cllr S G Tupling reported as follows.

Council

I am very pleased to report that Carlton Parish Council was awarded Quality status on 25th January 2012 (QC ID Number QC-01-12-00847). There are about 9,000 parish councils in England, of which only 698 have been awarded Quality status. Carlton is the smallest parish council in Leicestershire to achieve this standard.

I was elected to the Parish only a year ago when Robert Moseley began the year as Chairman, resigning shortly afterwards for personal reasons. Bob Edmunds stepped in at short notice and I would like to thank him for his work as Chairman from July 2011 to March 2012 and welcome Julie Finch who was co-opted to the Council in September 2011.

Carlton Parish Council held 10 meetings last year. Attendance was: Tupling 9; Boston 10; Edmunds 8; Finch 6; Moseley 2; Sharp 10; Clerk 10. 9 representatives of other organisations attended meetings, as did 6 parishioners. The PC was represented at 7 meetings of other bodies. The PC considered 13 planning applications.

Carlton Affordable Housing Project

Progress on this development with Nottingham Housing association is still rather slow. The initial bid for

funding in July 2011, mentioned in last year's report, was unsuccessful as was the subsequent bid to the LCC New Homes Bonus Fund in October. After an exhaustive vetting process, the Homes & Communities Agency has confirmed that the PC is a Community-led Organisation and a bid has been submitted for this funding stream. We are still awaiting the outcome.

A two-day public consultation event was held in the church in February, and was attended by 85 local people and some Interviews by radio Leicester were broadcast later. The verbal and written comments made have been carefully considered, and detailed plans are being prepared.

This project has required many meetings, site visits and investigations, and the preparation of a series of reports and documents.

If successful, this project will provide 11 affordable homes, improvements to a dangerous corner on Nailstone Road, and a new path between Barton Road and Nailstone Road through a Jubilee Orchard.

Glebe Farm Green

The grass seed sown on the new Glebe Farm Green did not germinate very well because of the dry weather, and it was eventually partially turfed by David Sansom and the remainder re-seeded by the Clerk. The grass is now well established and the Glebe Farm Green looks as though it has always been there.

Public footpaths

Diversion Orders were implemented and physical improvement works carried out on public footpaths S69 and S87 at Barton in the Beans by the County Council. These paths are now fully open and are very well used. Stiles between Carlton and the improvement area were also replaced by kissing gates, funded by the Barton & Carlton Residents Action Group and small grants from Shackerstone PC and Carlton PC.

A Creation Order was also made for the extension to footpath S90, which was formally opened by the landowner at a public ceremony organised by the PC. This event attracted widespread publicity, and we thank Tania Sharp for baking a special cake, and John Piggon, Bill Sharp and Chris Peat for leading a series of guided walks.

The PC made three applications for further footpath improvement works, of which one was successful. A grant of £1,000 from the Leicestershire & Rutland Foundation, with £250 from the PC and matching funding from the County Council has allowed stiles on footpath S51 to be replaced with kissing gates, improving access from the eastern end of Carlton to the valley of the Stony Brook.

Carlton Parish Plan Group

The Carlton Parish Plan Group has canvassed the views of parishioners, achieving response rates of 88% and 86% for adults and young people respectively. The final report is in preparation and will be published later this year.

Allotments

Provisional findings from the Parish Survey have revealed a higher demand than envisaged and we therefore need to source additional suitable land within the parish.

Chestnut tree

The horse chestnut tree in the churchyard was surveyed, and minor tree surgery carried out. The tree is old and has a small amount of heart rot, but is considered structurally sound. The PC intends to retain this tree for as long as possible because of its visual impact in this part of Main Street.

Youth Club

The Youth Club has closed down after three years, and we thank the County Council, Youth Workers and Youth Champions, particularly Rosi Yule, for their work and support.

It may be possible to set up a new youth club in Congerstone Village Hall – comments and volunteers have been solicited in the current issue of Carlton News.

Marina

Bosworth Marina has finally been approved. Survey teams have been seen on the site, so the project may be going ahead. If it does it will deliver a bus turning and waiting bay on Carlton Road and an improved junction between Carlton Road and Wellesborough Rd.

Website

A new website was created for the PC by Les Johns to our own specification, and is now fully functional. Visit us on www.carltonpc.co.uk

Thanks to

Internal auditor, Carlton News, Carlton Footpath Group, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group, Keep Carlton Tidy Group, Carlton Youth Champions, Heritage and Tree Warden, Ashby Canal Project, Borough Councillor Tina Chastney, County Councillor Ivan Ould, our local Policemen – Dave Riley and Phil Hale.

Finally my thanks go to the army of volunteers who have given their time, expertise and equipment to make many of these projects and the smooth running of the Parish possible.

The meeting closed at 20:00 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____