

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 13th June 2012

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, R H Edmunds (Councillors), I D Ould (County Councillor), PCSOs M Chapman and M Musa, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that apologies from Cllrs J D Finch and W R Sharp be accepted.

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

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 9th May 2012

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

4. Reports from members of other public authorities

a) Leicestershire County Council

Councillor Ould reported that he had been reappointed Cabinet Lead Member for Children and Young People's Services. A project to streamline support for families with complex needs was being developed, with projected savings of £52m out of current expenditure of £158m pa.

Cllr Ould invited the Clerk to join a small working group to try to progress the reopening of footpath S68 at Shackerstone Station. It was agreed that the Clerk would serve on this group.

b) Leicestershire Constabulary

PCSO M Chapman reported that there had been no reported crime in Carlton during May, and discussed liaison arrangements and current initiatives including the Farm Watch scheme.

5. Affordable Housing Project

a) Legal aspects of land acquisition and the planning application

The Chairman and Clerk had met with Mrs E Smithard (NCHA Project Manager) on 6th June.

It was resolved that:

- (i) NCHA would buy all of the site from the two landowners;
- (ii) the red line defining the application site would enclose all of the land, and the planning application would be submitted by NCHA;
- (iii) the landscaping plan submitted as part of the application would show only the minimum works required by H&BBC, but include the proposed Diamond Jubilee Orchard, path and seats;
- (iv) an agreement would be made between NCHA and the PC such that ownership of the Orchard land would be transferred to the PC on satisfactory completion of the

proposed landscaping works or formal discharge of any landscaping conditions imposed by H&BBC;

- (v) the agreement could include indemnities to be paid by the PC in the case of failure to carry out the required landscaping works, and to be paid by NCHA in the case of failure to transfer ownership of the land.

Four local solicitors had been invited to provide estimates of the costs of advising on the proposed agreement, and acting for the PC for the purchase of the land. **It was resolved** that Mr G Hammond of Flavells, Market Bosworth be invited to act for the PC in this matter, on the grounds that his estimates of the likely cost were competitive, there was an office in Market Bosworth, and the firm had previously carried out work for the PC.

It was agreed that the Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project should begin small, and be developed incrementally. It was envisaged that the orchard area would have to be mown grass for ease of access, use and maintenance, at least to begin with. A wild flower area might be created later.

It was resolved that a revised landscaping scheme be drafted by the Clerk and copied to all members for comment, to include an unsurfaced access path with bays for two picnic tables, parking and turning bay for a grounds maintenance vehicle, hedge along northern site boundary, fruit trees, deciduous trees and informal woodland area.

b) Progress report and open public discussion

The Clerk reported on an email from one parishioner asking about progress, and on discussions with one parishioner in the street, two after the Jubilee tree planting, and two more at the most recent coffee morning. All had wanted to know what was going on and why nothing had happened since the public consultation event in February. The Clerk had explained that the HCA had failed to follow the timetable agreed in January, and that it kept requesting additional information and clarifications.

6. Report 2012-12 on the future of the Carlton Youth Club

It was resolved that Report 2012-12 be approved and the recommendations in it be adopted.

7. Report 2012-13 on the volunteer work programme for 2012-13

It was resolved that Report 2012-13 be approved for implementation.

8. Annual Report for 2011-12

It was resolved that the Annual Report for 2011-12 be approved for publication and delivery with the next issue of Carlton News.

9. Correspondence

Noise from model aircraft. A parishioner had written to object to the PC's recommendations (p.1400/6b refers). It was resolved that no change be made to the PC's proposals, and that the complainant be advised to submit comments when the planning application was submitted.

Demand Responsive Transport - consultation from LCC proposed withdrawal of DRT from the western end of Carlton. DRT had been put in place when the No.7 bus, used by several older parishioners, had been withdrawn. **It was resolved** that strong objections be made to this proposal.

Provision for visual impairment. An inquiry had been received by email about the provision of PC documents in braille; the Clerk had responded promptly with an offer to read any documents to the blind person over the telephone. It had later transpired that the message was from a company seeking to translate documents into braille or supply braille printers and similar equipment. The position had been investigated, and the PC's new website was compatible with *Read Aloud* software; *Read Aloud* captions were now being added to all photographs. LRALC recommended that local council documents be printed in a clear 12pt or larger font, for easy reading. **It was agreed** that PC minutes and agendas be printed in 12pt font in future.

Rural Insight Survey 2012. Rural Services Network was carrying out second survey into the views and experiences of rural people in England. **It was resolved** that a response be submitted.

Public Rights of Way DEFRA consultation on a proposed package of changes to the policy and legal framework and processes for recording, diverting and extinguishing public rights of way. **It was resolved** that draft comments be copied to Councillors for comment and a final response be submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

LRALC wished to gauge interest in reinvigorating H&B Branch Panel. **It was resolved** that LRALC be advised that the PC would not wish to be actively involved in a Branch Panel.

P4C grant scheme advertised by Natural England. **It was resolved** that the Clerk be authorised to investigate the potential for partnership working with landowners, LCC and the Parish Councils of Market Bosworth, Cadeby, Osbaston and Nailstone for physical improvements to local RoW.

Mrs A Swallow had written to thank the PC for the gift of a Carlton Diamond Jubilee Mug. This gift had been made as a gesture of thanks for the donation of a line drawing of St Andrew's Church which had been used on the mugs.

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.

10. Planning & applications submitted and determined

2011/0499/04 Construction of a composting site etc, land off Fenn Lane, Fenny Drayton. Appeal reference APP/M2460/A/12/2175524/NWF (p.1371/10, 1384/8 refer).

12/00261/CONDIT variation of condition no 2 of planning permission 11/00762/FUL. Insertion of window. Approved. PC had objected on grounds that window would overlook a private patio area, but permission includes erection of 1.8m close-boarded fence so there would be no overlooking.

11. Financial matters

a) Refund of expenditure on Diamond Jubilee Tree and seat repairs

It was resolved that a payment of £272.50 be made to the Clerk, comprising refunds of £197.08 + £39.42 vat and £30.00 + £6.00 vat for the Diamond Jubilee Tree and tanalised timber for seat repairs, respectively.

b) Internal audit report

The Internal Auditor had no concerns to report to the PC, and had completed his section of the Annual Return, which had been forwarded to the External Auditor.

c) Change of bank account

Standard Life Bank had been taken over by Barclays, and the balance in the PC's account transferred to a Barclays Business Direct Access account.

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

The Diamond Jubilee Tree (*Quercus petraea*) had been planted at 10:30 hrs on Monday 4th June by the youngest resident of Carlton, seven-week old Mia Cooper, helped by her mother and the Chairman. The ceremony had been attended by 30 parishioners. The site had been agreed with LCC Highways, who would be responsible for the tree (p.1394/4b refers). The tree had also been listed on the Woodland Trust Royal Record of trees planted to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

Mrs P Lockwood had reported on the Diamond Jubilee Party and Derby Day, which had been attended by about 100 people, from the youngest to the oldest in the village. Simon Finch had provided table tennis, billiards & table football for the young people; Julie Finch had done face painting; and Pat Lockwood had provided games for the younger children. Prizes had been awarded for the best child & best adult hat: there had been 5 entrants in each category. A magnificent tea was provided by a number of people and was enjoyed by all. Vanessa Fudge had played her keyboard during the afternoon. Every child in the village had received a Carlton Diamond Jubilee Mug, and the rest had been sold. A surplus of £69.35 remained after all costs – for mugs, license, drink, face paint, prizes and sweets - had been paid out. **It was agreed** that the surplus be credited to the Parish Amenities Fund which had underwritten the event (p.1391/8 refers).

A parishioner had complained that trees were being cut down in a nearby back garden, and had requested that the remaining trees on the site be protected by a Tree Preservation Order. The Clerk had inspected the site from the road: the trees were hardly visible from the street and did not make a significant contribution to public amenity. The Clerk had also spoken with the landowner, who had said that the small trees and bushes removed had been badly sited or in poor condition; that he intended to remove some more overgrown conifers and other trees which had been very badly pruned; but that his long-term ambition was to plant an orchard on the land. The complainant had been advised that the PC was reluctant to interfere with the management of trees in private back gardens, and would not support the imposition of a TPO in this case because there was no overriding public interest.

The Clerk reported that footpath S50 was obstructed by overhanging vegetation at the rear of 86 Main St. A new fence had been erected and hedge planted apparently across the definitive line of the western end of this path. **It was agreed** that LCC RoW be asked to investigate and take appropriate action to rectify these problems.

Cllr Sharp had reported that another cat had gone missing from a house near the church (p.1397/12 refers).

The Clerk had granted consent for the erection of a monolith-style headstone to Brad Wootton.

The loose kerb near 80 Main St had been repaired (p.1402/16 refers).

The inspection team for the RCC Village Achievement Awards 2012 had arranged to meet at the home of the Clerk at 1100 hrs on Wednesday 20th June to inspect documentation and photographs, to be followed by a drive to selected sites. An itinerary would be copied to Councillors beforehand (p.1392/12 refers).

Mr & Mrs Peat planned to hold a book fair at 7 Main St on 11th August in aid of the Parish Amenities Fund.

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 had received Royal Assent on 1st May 2012. It contained all of the new safeguarding and vetting requirements for individuals who had contact with children and vulnerable adults.

13. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 25th July 2012 at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2103 hrs.

Signed _____ Date _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CPPG	Carlton Parish Plan Group
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DEFRA	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
HCA	Homes and Communities Agency
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
LRALC	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
LPA	Local Planning Authority
NCHA	Nottingham Community Housing Association
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council