

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 13th February 2013

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

1. Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that apologies from Cllrs Finch and Sarson 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 January 2013

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

4. Reduced street lighting

Mr T Bull introduced the plan by LCC Highways to reduce street lighting levels in Carlton to reduce energy bills, along with carbon emissions and light pollution. Background information had been copied to members before the meeting. The scheme had been successfully piloted, had been implemented successfully in NW Leics, and was now being extended to Hinckley & Bosworth. The programme was being closely monitored by the Police, and had not led to increased crime in any areas where street lighting had been reduced. There had also been a decrease in vehicle speeds in areas of reduced street lighting. Mr Bull confirmed that arrangements could be made for street lights to be left on in front of any dwellings where an occupier was receiving 24-hr care.

A highways-related risk assessment had been carried out, and the Police and emergency services were being consulted about the proposals for Carlton. The proposal was to leave unchanged the first street light on all approach roads to the village, together with two lights on the sharp corner outside Old School Cottage, and six lights across the road junctions near The Gate Hangs Well. All other street lights would be switched off from around midnight until 5.30am. During discussion it was also agreed that the street light nearest to the defibrillator would also be left on all night. The proposal, as modified, would result in a saving of £230 a year. Work would probably start in September / October.

It was resolved that the modified proposal (with lighting column 15 in Main St remaining on all night) be approved.

5. Reports from members of other public authorities

a) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould reported that he was involved in discussions with East Midlands Ambulance Service about the location of ambulances on call and agreed response times for the rural part of the Borough.

Cllr Ould had attended a meeting at Stoke Golding to discuss the traffic implications of the Barwell SUE. It had emerged that employment sites would not be developed until the later

stages of the SUE, and there was concern that many new residents would work in the Nuneaton area and would be likely to commute through the rural area.

Plans for a wind turbine 79m tall at Elms Farm, Twycross (12/00810/FUL) had been refused under Policy NE5 of the Local Plan.

HS2 Phase II would have a severe impact on the western part of the Borough. Cllr Ould left the meeting at this point.

b) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr T Chastney had submitted a written report.

Confidential pre-application discussions had been taking place between H&BBC and Charles Church regarding 47 houses on the Station Road/Golf Course site in Market Bosworth.

An application for housing development in Groby that was refused at planning committee went to appeal on the basis that HBBC did not have a 5 year housing supply. At appeal the inspector determined that HBBC did have a five year housing supply and rejected the appeal. Another appeal had recently been rejected on the same basis, which was an endorsement for the H&BBC Planning Committee.

Other matters of general interest included: a special all day planning committee meeting is to be held on 19th March to include site visits and presentations for the Barwell S U E; H&BBC will be reducing car parking charges in the town centre in order to boost trade for local businesses; and work on the Hinckley Hub had been taken over by Stepnalls who had released a completion date of 2nd May, weather permitting.

c) Leicestershire Constabulary

PBO M Chapman had submitted a written report, which had been copied to the Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator. There had been no reported crime in Carlton during January.

6. Affordable Housing Project: Progress report and open public discussion

The planning application (12/00889/FUL had been unanimously approved by the H&BBC Planning Committee on 22nd January. The NCHA Project Architect had spoken at the meeting, which had also been attended by the NCHA Project Manager, the Rural Housing Enabler, and the Clerk. The decision had been reported in the Hinckley Times on 24th January (p.15). The consent was conditional on the execution of the s106 agreement, which was in final draft form and had been copied to Councillors. The Schedule forming part of this agreement specified the local connection criteria and allocation process as previously agreed.

The Schedule of the draft agreement included a provision that the terms of the Schedule would not apply in the event of a disposal to another Registered Provider. There was concern that this might mean that the local connection criteria and allocation process set out in the

Schedule would no longer be applied if the site should be sold. **It was resolved** that this be investigated, and that the Clerk be authorised to obtain independent legal advice if necessary.

The Chairman and Clerk had attended a meeting with the Contractor, NCHA Solicitor and NCHA Project Development Team at NCHA Offices in Nottingham on 5th Feb. It had been

agreed that (i) the development of the CDJO and sale of this land to the PC would be governed by a simple contract without indemnity clauses, for exchange in March or April, and completion in 2014; (ii) the land transfer would include an easement for pedestrian access from the CDJO to Barton Rd; (iii) NCHA would be responsible for maintenance of the garden fences adjoining the CDJO; (iv) the PC would not object to the construction of soakaways under the CDJO if necessary.

A plan had been received, showing an area adjacent to the northern boundary of Plots 1-4 where it might be necessary to construct soakaways, depending on the results of ongoing ground permeability testing and drainage design work. **It was resolved** that the Project Manager be advised that (i) the PC had no objection to the construction of soakaways in this area; (ii) the landscaping plan would be adjusted so that no trees would be planted in this area; (iii) the PC would also have no objection to the construction of soakaways running north-south across the CDJO.

7. Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project

a) Report 2013-04 on the Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project

It was resolved that Report 2013-04 be approved.

b) Constitution of the Carlton Gardening Group

It was resolved that the Constitution set out on pages 6-8 of Report 2013-04 be adopted.

c) Earmarked fund for the Carlton Gardening Group

It was resolved that an earmarked fund be set up for the CGG and that £200.00 be allocated to this fund.

d) Inaugural meeting of the Carlton Gardening Group

It was resolved that the inaugural meeting of the CGG be held at Redroof, 64 Main Street at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 6th March by kind invitation of Cllr Boston.

e) Appointment of Parish Councillor to the Executive Committee of the Carlton Gardening Group

It was resolved that Cllr Sarson be appointed *ex officio* Parish Councillor member of the Executive Committee of the CGG.

f) Revised plans for the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard

Minor changes to the tree plantings shown on the draft landscaping plan **were agreed**, so as to take account of the possible need to construct soakaways under part of the CDJO.

It was resolved that the agreed landscaping plan be approved and submitted to the Project Manager and Project Architect.

8. Matters relating to the Carlton Charity Lands

The current agricultural tenancy of the Carlton Charity Lands would expire in 2013 (p.1206/6c), and the management and objectives of the charity were under review (Charity Lands Report for 2011 - p.1394/4a). Two new Representative Trustees had been appointed in

June 2011, and two existing Representative Trustees re-appointed in November 2011 (Charity Lands Report for 2011), though the PC had been advised that it was responsible for making these appointments (PC Minutes 1965-06-17), and such appointments had been made by the PC until 2005 (p.866/6 for Nov 2002-2005; p.1059/5 for Nov 2005 – 2008).

It was resolved that a letter be sent to the Chairman of the Carlton Charity Lands with a copy to each of the other five Trustees (i) requesting that consideration be given to leasing part of the Charity Lands to either the PC or a suitably constituted group for use as allotments; (ii) suggesting that the provision and maintenance of a village hall or play equipment and facilities for children might be considered as aims of the Charity; and (iii) requesting a copy of the Scheme of 1912 and an explanation of who is responsible for the appointment of the Representative and Co-Optive Trustees.

9. Planning applications submitted and determined

There were none.

10. Correspondence

a) Draft Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017

Draft comments had been copied to Members before the meeting and **were approved**.

b) Timebanking proposal

It was resolved that this proposal would not be pursued.

c) Other correspondence

Leicestershire Rural Partnership - survey had been returned.

Wheels 2 Work - scheme information had been forwarded to Carlton News.

HS2 Phase II - route had been announced, and will follow eastern side of M42 between Polesworth and Ashby. The Clerk expressed concern that the plans showed no bridges for key bridleways within the National Forest.

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. Reports on meetings attended

a) First Contact briefing event

The Clerk had represented the PC at this briefing, at LRALC Office on 16th January (p.1432/8; 1441/8 refer). The scheme offered a single-step method of referral for any PC contact who might benefit from help or advice provided by a range of local organisations.

b) H&BBC Parishes Forum

The Clerk had represented the PC at this forum at the Atkins Building on 23rd January; the minutes and other documentation would be circulated.

A key briefing on recent developments in PC finance had been given by Mr Kohli (H&BBC, Head of Financial Services). The New Homes Bonus Funding scheme had been set up by the Government for a trial period of six years, and there was no guarantee that it would continue after this period. District and County Councils were keeping records of how this funding was

being used as evidence to support the continuance of the scheme. H&BBC was now the only DC in Leicestershire to remit a share of this funding to PCs, and had requested information on how this money was being spent. The approach adopted by the PC had been commended (p.1442/9c refers). Mr Kohli had advised that payments to the PC should continue at the present rate for the next two financial years, but the position would then be reviewed. The Council Tax Support Grant had been introduced by the Government as a transitional measure, and no decision had been made as to whether the grant would be payable in 2014-15 (p.1441/9c refers).

12. Schedule of Information available under the Publication Scheme

The current Schedule of Information available under the Publication Scheme had been approved on 11th January 2012; an updated version had been issued with the agenda. **It was resolved** that the updated version be approved.

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

Cllr Sharp and the Tree Warden **were thanked** for felling a Leyland cypress tree on the eastern boundary of the churchyard and disposing of the brash (Report 2012-13(a) refers).

The Radar Lux speed monitoring equipment had been requested, but was still in use at Hinckley (p.14390/6 refers).

The Traffic Management section at LCC Highways had been asked to advise on the installation of false gates in highway verges on approaches to the village (p.1440/6 refers).

Plans to change parliamentary constituency boundaries had been shelved, at least until 2018 (p.1377/8 refers).

Blocked gullies in Main Street outside St Andrews Church and in Nailstone Road between Heljon and Northfield, and a faulty street light in Nailstone Road had been reported to LCC Highways.

Mrs I M Peat (Chairman, KCTG) had advised that the Carlton Spring Clean litter pick would be held on Sunday 17th March at 10am.

11. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 13th March 2013 at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2105 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CGG	Carlton Gardening Group	CDJO / P	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard / Project
DPD	Development Plan Document	HCA	Homes and Communities Agency
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council	KCTG	Keep Carlton Tidy Group
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	RHE	Rural Housing Enabler
SUE	Sustainable Urban Extension		