

# CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014

**Present:** S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors),  
I D Ould (County Councillor), 1 member of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

### **1. Administrative matters**

#### **a) Apologies for absence from Councillors**

It was resolved that an apology from Cllr J D Finch be accepted.

#### **b) Declarations of interests (including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) and requests for dispensations in respect of items on the agenda**

There were none.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

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

### **3. Reports, questions and comments from the following**

#### **a) Parish Councillors**

Cllr Sarson noted that Bosworth Marina had been brought into use, but the agreed highway improvement works had not yet been carried out. Cllr Ould agreed to raise this question with LCC Highways and Planning.

#### **b) Leicestershire County Council**

Cllr I D Ould reported that he had no casework specific to Carlton and outlined current LCC business which was dominated by the need to make additional savings of £22m: the necessary cuts would lead to the withdrawal of many non-statutory services.

A problem had emerged with adult social care in outlying settlements where adults who were capable of living at home with help were having to move into residential care homes because care agencies were not prepared to travel to provide the necessary care at their homes.

#### **c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council**

There was no report.

#### **d) Leicestershire Constabulary**

PCSO M Chapman had reported that there had been one reported incident in Carlton during October – the theft of a petrol lawn mower from Main St.

#### **e) Parish Clerk**

**S68 Footpath Project** – the works had been completed to a high standard; the contractor's invoice had been paid; and the agreed grant of £1,404 paid to the PC by H&BBC. The

new route would be officially opened by Borough Councillor Bill Crooks on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm. Articles about the project had been published in the November issue of Carlton News, the Rural Services Network Digest, the LRALC round robin and on the PC's website. A press release had been agreed and issued. LCC RoW, H&BBC, the CFG and local landowners **were thanked** for their help and support for this project (p.1517/3e refers).

**Local Walks** - final corrections had been submitted to LCC, and the Carlton Local Walks Pack should be uploaded to the LCC and PC websites before the opening. A link to the Local Walks page of the LCC website had been added to the PC's website. In future the welcome pack for new residents would include a copy of the cover sheet of the Local Walks Pack (p.1497/3e refers).

**CDJO Project** – the CGG Executive Committee had held a site meeting, reviewed progress and prepared a forward works programme which had been copied to Councillors. The delay in gaining possession of the site (p.1520/3e refers) had made it impossible to clean and cultivate the wildflower meadow areas before the end of September. In the event, one section of meadow had been prepared, *Naturescape N3 Meadow Mix* had been sown on 18<sup>th</sup> October, and this seed had germinated; the remaining meadow areas would be seeded in the spring. The meadow areas would require regular mowing during 2015, with clippings removed, and the PC's grounds maintenance contractor would be invited to quote for this work. The fruit trees and shrubs would be planted before Christmas if possible. It had been suggested that the redundant water trough in the Cemetery Field might be used as a planter in the CDJO. A site had been agreed for the park bench, and this would be ordered and a quotation obtained for installation on a concrete plinth to include parking space for a wheelchair.

**CDJO land** – Flavells Solicitors had forwarded the official copy of the Title Information Document. This document would be listed on the Inventory and stored with other PC documents at Flavells; a photocopy would be held by the Clerk.

**Churchyard horse chestnut tree** – had been felled on the day of the meeting, apart from the main trunk which would be dropped on the following morning. The brash had been cleared and three large branches set aside for use in the CDJO. One load of firewood would be delivered to the incumbent; the remainder was being sold by the PCC (p.1526/5, 1531/5 refer).

**Moles** – an enthusiastic new mole had begun work in Carlton Green. The Clerk had asked the same contractor as before to try to catch and remove it (see p.1505/2e).

**Speeding traffic** – the Clerk had requested that a spot speed check be carried out on Barton Road, in response to concerns raised by parishioners.

**New Homes Bonus** – H&BBC had advised that no further payments would be made. The PC had expected to receive a payment of about £8.6k in 2015-16 (See p.1442/9c and Report 2014-03).

**LRALC course** – the Clerk had attended a course on s106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy at Anstey on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Documentation from the course would be circulated.

**Internal Audit** – a meeting with the Internal Auditor had been arranged for 1000 hrs on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7 Main St.

**H&BBC Parishes Forum** – Clerk planned to represent PC at next meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 6.30pm, DeMontfort Suite, Hinckley Hub.

**LCC** – was proposing to hold quarterly operational meetings for parish clerks.

**RCC** invited applications for the Community Achievement Awards 2015.

**Parish & Community Initiative Fund** invited applications for 2015.

**Leics Fire & Rescue Service** – had published the *Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2015-2020* for consultation, and would hold a seminar at County Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm.

A list of digital communications and reports received would be copied to each Councillor, and copies of any files would be forwarded on request. Additional written documentation would be circulated.

#### **f) Members of the public**

There were no questions or comments.

#### **4. Appointment of four Representative Trustees to the Carlton Charity Lands**

**It was resolved** that in future at least one of the four Representative Trustees appointed by Carlton Parish Council must be an elected member of the Council in order to ensure an open channel of communication between the two bodies.

**It was resolved** that Cllr Ian Sarson, Mr Christopher Brockhurst, Mr Graham Jackson, and Mr Andrew Mitchell **be appointed** Representative Trustees for a term of three years in accordance with para 4 of the Charity Commission Scheme of 25<sup>th</sup> June 1912 which was the current Governing Document of the charity.

#### **5. Proposed Toddlers Play Area**

The need had long been recognised for a place in Carlton where the parents and carers of pre-school children could go for a breath of fresh air and exercise, and where they would be able to meet with other carers and young children. This idea had been incorporated into the Carlton Green Space Strategy (2006) and was supported by the Carlton Parish Plan 2011. If an opportunity arose, the PC intended to acquire land for a playing field for older children and continued to set aside money for this purpose. A toddlers play area would ideally be associated with play space and equipment for older children and families, and if a playing field were to be acquired in the future, consideration would be given to the re-location of any toddlers play equipment.

The current proposal arose from a s106 developer contribution of £11,867.90 which could only be spent on children's play equipment within 400m of Orton Close, and which could be reclaimed by the developer after 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The only site available was the CDJO which was small, at the eastern end of the settlement, and would oblige most users from the village to cross Barton Road where speeding traffic was a problem.

Articles about the proposal had been published in the November issue of Carlton News and on the PC website, and a notice had been put up on the proposed site. The three Carlton Youth Champions had been consulted and all strongly supported the proposal because it would provide a breathing space for parishioners in charge of young children. The three residents of Northfields whose back gardens were nearest to the proposed site all supported the proposal. The Police had advised that similar play areas in rural villages had not given rise to any problems. One member of the public who expected to move into Northfields had objected to the proposal by email on the grounds of noise from playing children, disturbance from visitors to the site, traffic, parking, effect on wildlife, need to cross Barton Road, and that the development would be contrary to planning permission 12/00889/FUL. Another member of the public had expressed support for the project by email, and noted that there were 3 children under 5 living in Northfields.

A public consultation and information event had been held in St Andrew's Church on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 10 am to 1pm. Mrs T Sharp **was thanked** for providing refreshments. The event had been attended by eight adult members of the public, and no

children. 7 consultation response forms had been returned. A report on the consultation responses had been copied to Councillors.

Of the 7 consultation responses, three respondents supported the proposal on the grounds that there was no other provision for children in the village, funding was in place, it would bring people together and represented a good use of land. Three respondents did not support the proposal on the grounds that the use would create noise and disturbance, the location was near to busy roads and inappropriate, and the site was intended for wildlife. One respondent supported the proposal on the grounds that it would provide a play space, but also objected because the site was not in the middle of the village and the proposal did not include provision for older children.

Illustrations of a range of items of play equipment for children 18 months-6 years old had been displayed at the consultation event, and respondents had been invited to select the four items they considered most appropriate. The most popular items were a multiple-use installation (6), a cradle swing (4), a fixed wooden train to climb and sit on (3) and a balance beam (2). The safety surfaces considered most appropriate were rubber tiles (4), reinforced grass (3) and bark chips (1).

Members took the view that the available money must be used for the benefit of the community, and that a play area for young children in part of the CDJO was the only appropriate use of the available funds. The site was not expected to be heavily used, nor to attract significant numbers of users from outside the village. The site was within the 30 mph speed limit, there was parking space for two cars off Nailstone Road, and any cars parked in Barton or Nailstone Roads would help to slow down the traffic. Children of the age range envisaged would not be expected to visit the site or cross Barton Road unaccompanied. Noise was not likely to be a problem, and would in any case be mitigated by the plantings of orchard trees. The levels of equipment and use envisaged would not affect privacy, birds or small animals significantly more than adult use of the CDJO as a public open space.

Safety surfaces were reviewed, and it was agreed that bark chips were most appropriate because of their appearance, low cost and ease of maintenance and removal.

**It was resolved** that detailed plans, specifications and costings be drawn up for a Toddlers Play Area on the eastern side of the picnic table in the CDJO for consideration at the next meeting, based on the preferred items of play equipment identified from the public consultation event, and with a safety surface of bark chips.

## **6. H&BBC review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations**

There were less than 300 registered electors in the parish, turnout in local elections was usually less than 50%, and an increasing number of parishioners used postal votes. It was considered that the cost of setting up and manning a polling station for this small number of voters was not justified.

**It was resolved** that the PC suggest that the polling station for Carlton might be combined with Market Bosworth, and that the number of polling stations provided in the rural settlements might be drastically reduced.

## **7. Planning matters**

### **a) Planning applications submitted**

There were none.

**b) Comments submitted under delegated powers**

**13/00195/FUL.** H&BBC had been advised that ongoing development at 36-38 Main St did not appear to be in conformity with the approved plans.

**14/00662/FUL** **Erection of agricultural building. 36 Main St.** Re-consultation. PC re-affirmed objections (p.1522/7b refers); additional information did not present any justification for an 88m<sup>2</sup> agricultural building instead of the approved outbuilding of 36m<sup>2</sup> (13/00195/FUL).

**14/00946/HOU** Installation of 2 rooflights to garage roof. Fernlea 19 Barton Road Carlton. PC had no objection.

**c) Planning applications determined**

**14/00677/HOU** **Extensions and alterations to dwelling. Harcourt Mill, Barton Rd, Mkt Bosworth.** Application withdrawn.

**14/00917/HOU** Extensions and alterations to a dwelling. Park View Farm, Bosworth Road. Application approved.

**d) DCLG consultation: planning and travellers**

A draft response had been copied to members before the meeting and a revised version **was approved** for submission.

**8. Meetings calendar for 2015-16 and date, time and place of the next meeting**

**It was resolved** that meetings be held on the following dates: 14<sup>th</sup> Jan (Finance Meeting); 11<sup>th</sup> Feb; 11<sup>th</sup> March; 8<sup>th</sup> April; 20<sup>th</sup> May (Annual Meeting); 17<sup>th</sup> June; 29<sup>th</sup> July; 9<sup>th</sup> Sept; 14<sup>th</sup> Oct; 11<sup>th</sup> Nov; 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 (Finance Meeting).

**It was resolved** that the Annual Finance Meeting be held at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2120 hrs.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abbreviations used in these minutes**

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
CFG	Carlton Footpath Group
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
LRALC	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
PC	Parish Council
PCC	Parochial Church Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
RCC	Rural Community Council
RoW	Rights of Way