

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 11th March 2015

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, J D Finch, I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors), 1 member of the public, C J Peat (Clerk). I D Ould (County Councillor) attended for item 2b only.

1. Administrative matters

a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

There were none.

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 11th February 2015

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

3. Reports, questions and comments

a) Parish Councillors

Cllr Finch reported on complaints from parishioners about speeding traffic on Bosworth and Barton Roads. This was an ongoing concern on all local roads, and the Police had advised that most of the offenders caught in their speed traps were local residents. **It was resolved** that LCC Highways be asked to carry out a speed survey on Bosworth Road, half way between the 30 mph signs and the junction with Main Street.

Cllr Sarson reported that the *dragons teeth* markings on Bosworth Road, and the *give way* marking both needed to be renewed. **It was resolved** that road markings in the Parish be checked, and all defects reported to LCC Highways.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould had no casework specific to Carlton, but reported on current activities and more general matters.

There were concerns that young people in Leics were being groomed and blackmailed for sexual exploitation, and LCC Children's Social Services had moved a team of six staff to work in partnership with the Police.

Four local cases where ambulance travel had been arranged, but the ambulance had failed to turn up had been referred to the Health & Well-Being Board and were under investigation.

Local residents had complained to Cllr Ould that the police had failed to attend after burglaries and other thefts, even in cases where forensic evidence had been left at the scene. Cllr Ould had raised these concerns with the Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Cllr Ould requested that his County Council email address be used for all official correspondence – any such messages sent to his personal email account would be deleted without response.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

No report was received.

d) Leicestershire Constabulary

The crime map on the Police website had not been updated, and there was no information about crime in Carlton in February.

Sgt 1184 Dean Wagstaff had advised all local PCs that staff would no longer collate crime figures for PC meetings because official figures were already available from <https://www.crimereports.co.uk/> and <http://www.police.uk/leicestershire/L79/crime/>, nor would Police Officers routinely attend PC meetings. In addition, 20 days' notice would be required for all Police attendance at a PC meeting.

Carlton PC had never required the local beat Officer to attend all meetings, even when this had been police policy. The request for 20 days' notice of attendance was considered unreasonable because any local crime issues serious enough to warrant Police attendance would be likely to arise unexpectedly and to require a prompt response and partnership working. It was also noted that although Carlton PC had always sought to minimise demands on the police, the Parish had not received much in the way of service. For example the PC had helped to fund the purchase of Police bicycles, but bike patrols were now never seen. The PC had also requested that Officer time be spent on carrying out speed checks in the village instead of holding beat surgeries: although the beat surgeries had ceased there had been no speed checks. There were also concerns that the police were distancing themselves from the local community. **It was resolved** that a formal response be prepared and submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

e) Parish Clerk

Carlton Green – had been levelled as far as practicable; the invoice for the works would be forwarded to the transport company responsible (p.1549/3e refers).

Overhanging hedge - had been cut back after a follow-up visit to the landowner concerned (p.1548/3a refers).

Superfast broadband – a parishioner had written to ask about provision, with copies of correspondence suggesting that Carlton might not be connected to superfast broadband. LCC had advised that most properties on the northern side of Main St would be connected to superfast broadband by the end of March 2016. The remainder of the Parish was eligible for funding through the Superfast Extension Programme, but the results of modelling by BT would not be known until June 2015. If the outcome was positive, the rest of Carlton would be connected by April 2018. **It was resolved** that an article about these developments be submitted to Carlton News.

AR Demolition – proposed to hold a charity event on 20th June to celebrate the opening of their new offices at 36 Main St, extended an invitation to the PC, and had offered to extend support to a local good cause. **It was resolved** that this invitation be accepted, and that AR be advised that the PC would welcome help in kind for local projects such as conservation kerbing around Carlton Green, and that the PAF and Friends of St Andrews would welcome donations.

Council tax - the PC's precept had been reduced by 3.5%, and the Band D Council Tax payable by householders would be £1,455.04. **It was noted** that this was the third successive year in which the PC had been able to reduce its share of the Council Tax. Band D Council Tax payable in the Borough ranged from £1,513.55 to £1,451.69. When ranked from high to low in order of amount of council tax payable, Carlton was ranked 22nd out of 25 parishes.

Playground Inspection Course - had been arranged by L&RPFA at Glen Parva on 28th April. **It was resolved** that Cllr Sarson and the Clerk attend this course at a cost of £90 plus travel.

LCC Customer Focus consultation – **it was resolved** that the Clerk attend this discussion meeting at 2pm on Thursday 19 March at Glenfield Parish Rooms.

H&BBC Environmental Improvement Programme – Daniel Britton, H&BBC Regeneration Project Officer had advised that kerbing works to Carlton Green were not eligible for scheme funding because the project would be on land in private ownership and not an adopted highway.

Internal audit – the Internal Auditor had borrowed the accounts and supporting documentation, and had then inspected additional documents at the home of the Clerk.

KCTG – the Annual Spring Clean litter pick would take place at 10 am on Saturday 14th March.

West Leics Community First Responder Group – had sent annual report and accounts.

Twycross Zoo – the Clerk had attended the launch of the 20-year forward plan on 10th March. Documentation from the event would be circulated.

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

Ongoing restoration work at Harcourt Mill was described, and the history of the building and the current planning applications (6a below) were discussed. It was made clear that the application site was in the Parish of Market Bosworth, and that the PC was concerned only with the safety of the proposed highway access.

4. Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard

a) Toddlers Play Area

The Clerk reported that H&BBC had now accepted that the proposal was permitted development under Sch 2 Part 12 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, and therefore a planning application was not required. The application fee paid by the PC would be refunded.

Messrs Brian and Ben Sutton **were thanked** for excavating the TPA site to a depth of 300mm and disposing of the spoil.

The CGG had expressed a willingness to erect the play equipment and carry out the necessary groundworks. **It was resolved** that this kind offer be acknowledged with thanks, but refused on the grounds that the specifications for assembly and erection were exacting, and guarantees and compliance certificates would be required. The saving on erection of the timber edging, membrane installation and bark filling would not be significant.

Four written quotations had been received for the supply and erection of play equipment and the associated ground works, but only one was itemised, some were for the wrong equipment, and three were only for selected parts of the proposed works. **It was resolved** that the play

equipment required for the TPA comprised one Marco Polo Unit without roofs, and with decks 900mm high and a stainless steel slide, and one 1800mm log swing with one flat seat and one cradle seat, both in natural wood finish and for bark fixing and manufactured by Wicksteed Playscapes as part of their 'Young Explorers' range.

It was resolved that the Clerk ascertain what depth of play bark would be required for this equipment, and obtain written quotations (i) to supply this equipment and deliver it to Carlton; and (ii) to install this equipment in a bark pit of specified depth, lined with a suitable membrane and edged with 75 x 300mm tanalised timber boards, for consideration at the next meeting. The bark pit would be excavated by the PC to the necessary depth.

c) Quotations for the installation of a park bench seat

It was noted that the park bench seat had been bought with the aid of a donation in memory of Councillor Bob Edmunds (p.1489/3e refers), which had been credited to the PAF.

It was resolved that a quotation of £348 + VAT for the construction of a concrete base and installation of the park bench seat be accepted, and that the cost of the seat and installation (£891.00 excl VAT) be charged to the PAF.

5. Response to consultation

a) LCC Consultation on Recycling and Household Waste Sites

It was resolved that Councillors make individual responses to this on-line consultation.

6. Planning matters

a) Planning applications submitted

14/01034/ COU Change of use of land to residential curtilage, erection of two storey side extension and new access (part retrospective). Harcourt Mill, Barton Road, Market Bosworth. **It was resolved** that concerns be expressed that the proposed access drive is situated to the south of a dip in Barton Road, and that this makes it very difficult for the driver of a car emerging from the access drive to see up the road towards Carlton. Barton Road is straight, and most vehicles passing the proposed access are likely to be travelling at more than 50 mph. The PC requests that this aspect of the proposed access be assessed by County Highways, and that their recommendation be supported by the Planning Committee.

14/01164/COU Change of use from agricultural to land for the grazing of horses and erection of stable block (part-retrospective). Harcourt Mill, Barton Road, Market Bosworth. **It was resolved** that no comments be made.

b) Comments submitted under delegated powers

There were none.

c) Planning applications determined

Planning application 14/01219/FUL Erection of dwelling, outbuildings, modification to existing access and proposed new access. Windhover House, 69 Main St. Approved subject to landscaping conditions.

d) Market Bosworth Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that the Inspector had recommended that the Market Bosworth Neighbourhood Plan be submitted to a public referendum with only minor changes.

7. Clerk's salary and expenses

It was resolved that a refund of £139.73 (including £22.13 VAT) be paid to the Clerk for hedging whips, trees and grass seed ordered for the CDJOP.

The Clerk presented his expenses book for examination, and **it was resolved** that the Clerk be paid £388.20 comprising £250 salary, £30 contribution towards broadband subscription and £104.39 approved expenses (including £3.81 VAT).

8. Date, time and place of next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 8th April 2015 at Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2115 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

BT	British Telecom
CDJO(P)	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard (Project)
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
KCTG	Keep Carlton Tidy Group
L&RPFA	Leicestershire & Rutland Playing Fields Association
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council
TPA	Toddlers Play Area