

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 19:50 hrs on Wednesday 20th May 2015

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J D Finch, I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors), I D Ould (County Councillor), M Cook (Borough Councillor), 5 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

It was resolved that S G Tupling be elected Chairman.

It was resolved that I Sarson be elected Vice Chairman.

2. Declarations of Acceptance of Office

The election of Parish Councillors had been uncontested, and J H Boston, J D Finch, I Sarson, W R Sharp and S G Tupling had been declared elected on 18th April.

Signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office were received from all Councillors.

3. Administrative matters

a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that an apology from Cllr Boston be accepted.

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

There were none.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 8th April 2015

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

5. Reports, questions and comments from the following

a) Parish Councillors

Councillors asked whether Government proposals to extend the right to buy to occupiers of affordable housing might affect the Northfields development. The Clerk thought that this was unlikely, because (i) of the terms of the initial s106 agreement in respect of the Rural Exception Site; (ii) NCHA was a registered charity; (iii) Carlton was in a protected area where right to buy did not apply; and (iv) such a move would totally undermine the provision of rural affordable housing. **It was resolved** that inquiries be made; that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to make any representations they considered necessary; and that the position be reviewed at the next meeting.

Cllr Sharp reported that in spite of the recent article in Carlton News there had been repeated dog fouling of the footway in front of the church. The article had publicised advice about reporting offenders from the H&BBC Clean Neighbourhoods Officer at a recent Parishes

Forum (p.1549/3e refers). Members of the public also complained about the fouling of footways and grass verges near their homes. **It was resolved** that the stencil for writing white warnings on footways in places where dog fouling had taken place be borrowed or employed as an experiment.

Cllr Finch reported that she was setting up a Carlton Village Group on Facebook, and would forward contact details. It was envisaged that the Group would link with the PC's website, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch and The Gate Hangs Well website.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould reported that he had been re-appointed LCC Lead Member for Children and Families. Child safeguarding and the investigation of historic cases of sex abuse were major concerns.

Cllr Ould had chaired the F40 Lobby Group for the last 6 years. State-funded schools in Leics had benefitted from an increase of £20.5m in funding achieved by this Group, and the Conservative Party had promised that this would be an ongoing amount if they were returned to power, and that the current funding formula would be changed.

One constituent from Carlton had experienced problems with the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS). Six local cases had been raised through the Health & Well-Being Board, and so far four formal apologies had been made. EMAS was making major capital investments to improve performance.

Cllr Ould represented LCC on the George Eliot Hospital Members Advocacy Forum, and was investigating bed blocking. The induction course for new nurses at this hospital had been ranked 7th out of all hospitals in the country. Cllr Ould left the meeting at this point.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr M Cook **was congratulated** on her election as Borough Councillor.

Cllr Cook reported that she would be a member of the Planning Committee, and that the Conservative majority party at H&BBC would seek to increase the allocation of resources to the rural parts of the Borough.

d) Parish Clerk

Local crime – the Clerk reported that there had been no reported crime in Carlton during March.

Policing & Community - the Clerk had represented the PC at a meeting at Bosworth Hall on 18th May, and had requested (i) that the National Crime Database be updated more frequently so as to meet the reporting needs of local communities; and (ii) that more frequent random speed checks be carried out in rural settlements. **It was resolved** that a formal follow-up letter be sent to the Chief Constable, and that this incorporate the concerns raised by the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

Electoral Review – The Boundary Commission had initiated a review of Leics. LCC had proposed that the size of the Market Bosworth Division be reduced by transferring Barlestone to the Mallory Division. **It was resolved** that this proposal be supported.

Little Lane – the Tree Warden **was thanked** for cutting back bird cherry trees on the western side of Little Lane which had been shading the rowan and crab apple saplings on the eastern side.

Playground Inspection Course – the Vice-Chairman and Clerk had attended a course at Glen Parva on 28th April (p.1554/3e refers).

Trespass – a local landowner had complained of a large group of walkers accompanied by dogs crossing newly planted farmland where there was no public right of way. It had not been possible to identify the group concerned.

Headstone – the Clerk **was thanked** for contacting relatives and making safe the headstone to J D Wiseman in accordance with their wishes.

RCC – an entry had been submitted to the 2015 Village Achievement Awards competition, citing the S68 Footpath Project. The Assessment Team planned to inspect the project and background material on 17th June.

Toddlers Play Area – the final excavation had kindly been carried out by AR demolition on 2nd May (p.1553/3e, 1558/4 refer). The site was now ready for installation of the play equipment.

Parish noticeboard – H&BBC had approved a grant of £415 (subject to conditions); the carpenter had been given the go-ahead and had advised that the new board should be ready around Christmas (p.1542/5, 1549/3e refer).

Footpath S90 – the extension to footpath S90 was shown on the latest edition of OS Pathfinder map sheet 232 (p.1385/11 refers).

Cemetery fees – some difficulties had come to light in the interpretation of the regulations and fees in respect of the burial of certain cremated remains, the transfer of grants of exclusive rights of burial, and the position regarding multiple burials of cremated remains in a single grave space. **It was resolved** that the Clerk investigate the position, obtaining legal advice if necessary, and prepare revised versions of the Regulations and Table of Fees for consideration (p.1494/12b refers).

Website – the Clerk was working with Mr Johns on updates and enhancements to the PC's website and a simplified maintenance regime.

Digital files & reports - a list would be copied to each Councillor, and copies of any files would be forwarded on request. Additional written documentation would be circulated.

e) Members of the public

Two members of the public complained about noise nuisance arising from 36 Main St, and asked about the planning consents which had been granted. Planning permission had been granted for the demolition of 38 Main St and nearby buildings, and erection of a new dwelling on the site, but this had not been implemented. Planning permission had been granted for the conversion of an agricultural building behind 38 Main St to offices, and this had been completed. Planning permission had also been granted for the erection of a new agricultural building behind 36 Main St, and work on this was almost complete.

One member of the public asked whether any of the current residents of Northfields had a close connection to Carlton. None of the current residents had a close connection to Carlton, but all had a close connection to other local settlements. If a vacancy occurred, an applicant with a close connection to Carlton who was on the H&BBC Housing Register would have priority.

6. Annual reports from parish representatives and organisations

a) Carlton Charity Lands: Mr I Sarson

b) Carlton Footpath Group: Mr J Piggon

c) Carlton Gardening Group: Mr F Onesti

d) Carlton Geocache: Puddlejumper

e) Carlton Heritage Warden & Tree Warden: Mr C J Peat

f) Carlton Parish Council website: Clerk

- g) Carlton Youth Champions: Ms R Yule**
- h) Keep Carlton Tidy Group: Mrs I M Peat**
- i) Northfields Liaison Group: Cllr I Sarson**

The contributors listed above **were thanked** for their reports, and for their work and that of their groups on behalf of the community. **It was resolved** that the reports received be accepted and amalgamated into Report 2015-09.

7. Power of General Competence

It was resolved that Carlton Parish Council met the criteria for eligibility set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 (SI 2012/965) in that all Members had stood for election and the Clerk held a Certificate in Local Council Administration and therefore that the Council was qualified to use the Power of General Competence under Chapter 1 s1-8 of the Localism Act 2011.

8. Signage for the Toddlers Play Area

A draft design had been copied to Councillors before the meeting, and modified wording **was agreed**. **It was resolved** that one A2-size sign and post be ordered from Nuneaton Signs and erected on the northern side of the play area.

9. Planning matters

a) Planning applications submitted

There were none.

b) Comments submitted under delegated powers

There were none.

c) Planning applications determined

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.
Approved.

10. Financial matters

a) Internal Auditor's report for 2014-15

The Internal Auditor had not raised any matters for consideration by the PC.

b) Annual return for the financial year ended 31st March 2015

(i) Accounting statements 2014/15

It was resolved that the accounting statements for 2014-15 be approved, and the statements were signed by the Chairman. **It was resolved** that the supporting statements be approved, and they were signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

Cllr Cook left the meeting at this point.

(ii) Annual governance statement 2014/15

It was resolved that the annual governance statement for 2014-15 be approved, and it was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

c) Report 2015-10: Summary financial statement for 2014-15

It was resolved that Report 2015-10 be approved.

d) Report 2015-11: summary statements of earmarked funds and s137 expenditure

It was resolved that Report 2015-11 be approved.

11. Report 2015-12: asset register

It was resolved that Report 2015-12 be approved.

12. Report 2015-13: inventories of property and documents

It was resolved that Report 2015-13 be approved.

13. Report 2015-14: condition of Parish Council property

It was resolved that Report 2015-14 be approved, and the recommendations in it be implemented.

14. Report 2015-15: condition of memorials in the churchyard and cemetery

It was resolved that Report 2015-15 be approved. **It was noted** that the memorial to J D Wiseman had been made safe.

15. Annual Report for 2014-15

A draft had been copied to Councillors before the meeting and was approved for publication. **It was resolved** that the Annual Report be printed and distributed to every household in the parish at an estimated cost of £17.

16. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 17th June 2015 at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2135 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CDJO(P)	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard (Project)	CiLCA	Certificate in Local Council Administration
CFG	Carlton Footpath Group	CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
EMAS	East Midlands Ambulance Service	H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
KCTG	Keep Carlton Tidy Group	LCC	Leicestershire County Council
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund	PC	Parish Council