

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton
at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 29th July 2015

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors),
I D Ould (County Councillor), C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Administrative matters

a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that apologies be accepted from Cllrs Boston and Finch.

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 17th June 2015

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

The Chairman reported complaints from parishioners about dangerous parking, including one report of an accident, on Barton Road, Market Bosworth, during school hours. The most serious problem was caused by parking around the blind corner next to Home Farm, where northbound vehicles were forced onto the wrong side of the road on the bend. Vehicles including buses and lorries were often forced onto the grass verge on the eastern side of the road in order to pass, leading to mud on the road and a slippery surface. The road from Carlton was straight, and southbound vehicles approaching this corner would be expected to be travelling at 30 mph after decelerating from 60 mph. There was a serious risk of a head-on collision at this point.

It was resolved that Market Bosworth PC be advised in writing of these concerns, and that it be suggested that laying double yellow lines about 50m long on both sides of the road around this corner would create a clear section of road where vehicles could safely pass.

Cllr Sarson complained that the grass verge on the SW side of the Main St/Barton Rd junction looked untidy and created a poor impression at this entrance to Main St. He suggested that the PC's grounds maintenance contractor might be asked to mow this verge. It was noted that the Highway Authority was responsible for verge maintenance, though in practice most residents maintained the grass verges in front of their homes. Any public-spirited person who wished to mow this verge was free to do so. **It was resolved** that the PC would not undertake maintenance of this verge, because to do so would set a precedent and lead to further requests and escalating grounds maintenance costs.

Cllrs Sharp and Sarson reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Area sign on Congerstone Lane had been damaged. **It was resolved** that all of the signs be inspected and cleaned, repaired or replaced as necessary.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould reported on LCC business, and expressed concerns about the increased cost of services arising from the recent increase in the minimum wage.

Cllr Ould was trying to find out exactly what highway works had been agreed around the Marina site entrance and when they would be carried out. The PC wished to see the proposed bus bay built as soon as possible, had welcomed the proposal to change the Carlton Rd/Wellesborough Rd junction to a 'T' and create a parking bay for the cottages, and had suggested the creation of a cycle lane around the NW side of the junction.

Comments were made about the lack of grass cutting on rural roads in the area, and the problems that would be created if the current crop of rank grass was cut and left to rot. Cllr Ould agreed that verge maintenance had been a disaster this year. Cllr Ould left the meeting at this point.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr M Cook had sent a written report. The Market Bosworth Plan had been approved by H&BBC and the referendum would be held on Sept 3rd. The idea of combining local authorities was being actively discussed, but no firm proposals had yet been put forward. Construction of the new Leisure Centre was on target and on budget, with 'topping out' scheduled for 30th July. H&BBC had arranged for 12 local tourism providers to travel around the Borough to learn about each other's businesses. H&BBC were running an Active Carers project, in which carers were challenged to experience mobility and partial sight and hearing loss.

d) Carlton Neighbourhood Watch group

Ms R Yule had reported that there had been one report of violence and sexual offence in May (this category includes GBH and common assault).

e) Parish Clerk

Parishes Forum – the Clerk had represented the PC at a meeting at H&BBC Offices on 25th June. Key matters were (i) H&BBC was proposing to formulate a Rural Policy; (ii) rural PCs would be consulted about making Neighbourhood Plans; (iii) a Rural Summit would be arranged for October; (iv) the Forum would meet quarterly in future. Documentation from the meeting would be circulated.

Affordable housing: right to buy – the Clerk had raised this issue at the Parishes Forum. The concerns of the PC were shared by Shackerstone and Sheepy Magna PCs. The Forum had arranged a meeting with David Tredinnick MP at H&BBC on 3rd July to discuss the issues. This meeting had been attended by the Vice Chairman, Clerk, Borough Councillors and H&BBC Officers. It had been agreed that H&BBC would write formally to David Tredinnick MP who in turn agreed to take forward the concerns and recommendations expressed. The minutes of the Parishes Forum meeting were available on the H&BBC website and included the letter to the MP as Appendix 4.

Vanguard PC – the Clerk had presented a report on the S68 Footpath Project as part of the Vanguard Parish Council Showcase at the annual Parishes Liaison Event at County Hall on 6th July (p.1569/3e refers).

Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD – the examination in public would commence on 29th Sept; the draft timetable included

Housing need and housing land availability (Day 2), Residential site allocations, including Market Bosworth and rural hamlets (Day 3).

Little Lane – the surviving brambles at the northern end had been treated with weedkiller (Report 2015-14/2, p.1512/5e refer).

Transparency Fund – LRALC had advised of a grant fund to support smaller PCs in meeting the costs of compliance with the Transparency Code. PC business was currently carried out on the Clerk's personal computer, and it was advisable for the PC to own its own equipment so that compliance would not be compromised in the future. **It was resolved** that the Clerk investigate, and if appropriate to make application to this fund for a suitable laptop computer.

Police – Sgt Dean Wagstaff had advised that the Beat Sergeant covering Market Bosworth, Ratby, Groby and Stanton-under-Bardon was now Sgt 1863 Glen Iceton who could be contacted on Glen.Iceton@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Request for speed checks – no reply had been received to the PC's letter to the Chief Constable requesting action about speeding sent on 23rd May, and no response had been made to a reminder sent on 17th June.

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 none.

4. Toddlers Play Area

a) Post-installation inspection report

The post-installation inspection had been carried out on Monday 13th July and had been attended by Cllrs Sarson and Sharp, the Clerk, Mr C Brewin (LCC Corporate Services Management) and two members of the installation team. The security fencing and other site equipment had been removed immediately after the inspection, and the Toddlers Play Area had been opened for use. The written Inspection Report had been copied to Members and the PC's insurers.

The Inspector had drawn attention to two potential finger traps and one head trap in the equipment, and a potential finger crush under the picnic table folding seats. These were all considered to be low risk. The finger and head traps had been drawn to the attention of the equipment manufacturer, and the picnic table seats had been nailed into the down position. The timber edgings containing the play bark and dividing the play area from the picnic table and path areas had been identified as a low risk trip hazard.

b) Risk assessments and inspection checklist

The risk assessments of the Diamond Jubilee Orchard, and of the Toddlers Play Area had been updated as soon as the play area had been opened for use, and further modified in the light of comments received and observations of children at play.

It was resolved that these documents be approved, but kept under review in the light of new observations and experience.

5. Steel seats on Carlton Green and in the Churchyard

It was resolved that two students in the village who had sought holiday employment be asked to clean, wire brush and paint the steel seats on the East Green and in the Churchyard with Buckingham Green or similar coloured smooth Hammerite paint at a labour rate of £6.00/hour.

6. Litter bin on the East Green

H&BBC had advised that the litter bin was not their responsibility, but had offered to replace it with a bin from stock at the PC's expense (p.1568/3a refers). Designs were discussed, and **it was resolved** that the Clerk obtain prices for a green surface-mounted plastic bin with lid.

The appearance of the East Green was discussed, and **it was resolved** that plans be drawn up for conservation kerbing around the access drives to numbers 3-9 Main Street, with dropped kerbs to the adjacent footways. The occupiers of 3-9 Main St were responsible for the surfacing of their access drives, and the Clerk was authorised to initiate discussions with them about suitable materials and finishes.

7. Smartwheelie speed awareness scheme

Smartwheelie could supply speed awareness stickers (£43.50 for a pack of 50) to stick onto wheelie bins, which would then be displayed once a week when the bins were put out for collection. **It was resolved** that no stickers be purchased by the PC.

8. Wheels Project

A fully equipped mobile skatepark could be set up on any suitable area of hard standing for £294 for 3 hours. **It was resolved** that no skatepark be commissioned.

9. Publication Scheme

The current Publication Scheme had been approved by the Information Commissioner on 20th Feb 2007, and required updating. **It was resolved** that the revised Publication Scheme be approved and submitted to the Information Commissioner.

10. Planning matters

a) Planning applications submitted

There were none.

b) Comments submitted under delegated powers

It was noted that the following comments had been submitted by the Clerk under delegated powers after consultation with Members and the Chairman (p.1472/10a refers).

15/00653/FUL Erection of two dwellings. Overdale, Bosworth Road, Carlton. No further comments.

15/00658/REM Reserved matters application pursuant to planning permission 14/00311/OUT for the erection of three dwellings (layout, scale, landscaping and appearance). Heljon, Nailstone Road, Carlton. Objection on grounds that (i) the layout proposal does not achieve the required minimum separation of 14m between

the proposed dwellings and 1-4 Northfields, and (ii) the proposed pedestrian link to Barton Road will compromise the security, privacy and residential amenity of Plots One and Two, and will not provide safe pedestrian access to the Gate Hangs Well.

c) Planning applications determined

There were none.

d) Leicestershire Minerals & Waste Local Plan

The Clerk presented an overview of this plan, which would have little direct impact on Carlton. **It was resolved** that a draft response be copied to Members for comment and a final version be submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

11. Financial matters

a) Report 2015-17: Quarterly financial report April-June 2015

The monthly current account statements had been checked and signed as required (p.1515/9c refers), and Report 2015-17 was checked against the latest statements for all three bank accounts. **It was resolved** that Report 2015-17 be approved.

b) Clerk's salary and expenses

The Clerk presented his expenses book for examination, and **it was resolved** that the Clerk be paid £603.51 comprising £275.00 salary, £30 contribution towards broadband subscription, £275.38 approved expenses and £23.13 VAT paid on approved expenses.

12. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 9th September 2015 at Saint Andrew's, Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2130 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
DPD	Development Plan Document
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
LRALC	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council