

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 9th September 2015

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors), M Cook (Borough Councillor), C J Peat (Clerk).

1. 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.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 29th July 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 that he had accepted with thanks a donation of £1,000 from AR Demolition Ltd at a short ceremony at their offices on 17th Aug. This donation had been credited to the PAF (p.1553/3e refers).

Cllr Sharp reported on the Horticultural and Produce Show. On the day there were 99 entries @ £0.50 (total £49.50). Of the 28 classes there were no entries for chutney, therefore 27 first prizes of £2.00 were paid out (total £54.00). Two winnings were donated for the cause, £4. The show was viewed by 148 visitors.

Receipts	£. p	Payments	£. p
Brought forward	18.00	Prize money	54.00
Grant from PC	35.00	Schedule printing	16.00
Entry money	49.50	Judge's gift	15.00
Donations	4.00		
<u>Total</u>	<u>106.50</u>		<u>85.00</u>
Balance	21.50		

It was resolved that the balance be carried forward, and that Mrs T Sharp be thanked for her help and support with this event.

The Chairman expressed appreciation of the Church Fete Committee who had organised a very successful, happy and inclusive community event on 29th August, which had also raised £3,179.35 for church funds.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould had given the Clerk a short verbal report. On local issues Cllr Ould was seeking implementation of the highway works associated with the Bosworth Marina development.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr M Cook reported that poor decisions taken over the last few years had left H&BBC in a very difficult financial position. Failing to increase the precept, coupled with the loss of green waste recycling credits, might mean that the green waste collection service would become a paid-for opt-in service and that a referendum (costing £100k) would have to be held to authorise an increase in the precept of more than 2% in 2016.

A report on combining with the West Midlands or Leicester & Leicestershire would be considered at the next meeting of full council.

d) Carlton Neighbourhood Watch group

Ms R Yule had reported one theft of hanging baskets in June, but no reported crime in July.

e) Parish Clerk

External audit - the External Audit of the PC's accounts for the 2014-15 financial year had been completed on 8th August; the accounts had been accepted without comment or qualification; and completion had been advertised on the PC noticeboard on 12th Aug (p.1566/10b refers).

Toddlers Play Area – the play equipment had been modified by Wicksteed Playscapes on 13th August, and there were now no finger or head traps (p.1574/4a refers).

Steel seats – had been painted at a cost of £66 labour plus £42 paint (p.1575/5 refers).

Jubilee Post – the Vice Chairman and Clerk **were thanked** for cleaning varnish off the Jubilee Post, treating the timber with tung oil, and replacing one of the ceramic panels which had suffered frost damage (p.1498/5 refers). The Vice Chairman also planned to piece in a strip of oak to replace a rotten bead.

RCC Achievement Awards 2015 – **it was resolved** that the PC be represented by the Chairman and Clerk at the awards ceremony at Birstall Golf Club on 17th September (p.1565/5d refers).

DCLG briefing – the PC had been invited to host a visit by a senior DCLG official on the morning of Monday 28th September to showcase the work of a small Vanguard PC.

It was resolved that a paper reviewing the recent work of the PC be prepared; the meeting convene at Northfields; and the discussion be held under a gazebo in the CDJO with refreshments if the weather was suitable.

LRALC / DCLG briefing meeting – **it was resolved** that the Clerk represent the PC at this meeting at Anstey at 2.30 pm on 28th September.

Tree works – the Tree Warden **was thanked** for felling two Italian alder trees at the Congerstone Lane/Road junction; two stems of a coppiced alder further along Congerstone Rd; and a self-set silver birch near the Barton Rd bus shelter. The Italian alder trees had died back in 2013/14, most likely due to fungal infection. One of the trees was dead, but the other showed signs of life and it was hoped that it might coppice up from the stool. The coppiced alder stems had been growing over the road, and one had been damaged by a high vehicle in 2014. The silver birch was near to a BT distribution pole and had begun to tangle with the telephone wires.

Carlton Green – the Tree Warden **was thanked** for removing dangling branches from the coppiced ash tree on the West Green to make room for the fete marquee.

Neighbourhood Planning – H&BBC proposed to run an event for PCs on 27th Oct 10am – 3pm. **It was resolved** that the Clerk attend and report.

Parishes Forum – the Clerk had represented the PC at a Forum meeting with Inspector D Eveleigh at H&BBC on 8th Sept. Insp Eveleigh had presented an overview of the approach adopted by the Leics Force, based on THRIVE – Threat, Harm, Risk, Vulnerability and Engagement. The aim was to identify people and places which led to anti-social behaviour and crime, and to solve these problems with partners through Problem Solving Plans (PSPs). Current PSPs were reviewed, and involved serious problems in parishes in the Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA). The Clerk had reiterated the PC's request for intermittent radar speed checks in rural settlements, and had noted the lack of response to letters on this topic (p.1574/3e; 1564/5d refer). In the context of THRIVE, speeding traffic was not currently regarded as a serious problem in the NPA. There was a general discussion: given the nature and scale of the problems reported in nearby parishes, **it was agreed** that Carlton was very fortunate in that speeding traffic was currently the only significant policing issue.

Northfields Liaison Group – Mrs P Beverley had been appointed residents representative by NCHA.

Market Bosworth Neighbourhood Plan – the result of the referendum held on 3rd Sept had been 88% Yes, 11% No.

Sheepy Neighbourhood Plan – Sheepy PC had begun preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.
Neighbourhood Watch signs – the existing signs had been surveyed: two needed replacement, and two additional signs were required so that one would be visible on each approach road. Following consultation with Councillors, three quotations had been obtained (for £144.38, £88.00, and £60.00 + VAT), and the latter quote had been accepted (p.1572/3a refers).

Gambling Act 2005 – H&BBC had sent a revised *Statement of Principles* for comment; H&BBC is required to review this statement every three years. This document had been updated and slightly expanded, but was not fundamentally different from the existing version. **It was resolved** that draft comments be copied to Councillors and a final version be submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

Transparency Fund – the PC's computer advisor had been asked about best-value equipment suitable for PC purposes.

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. Publication Scheme and Schedule of information available

The bespoke publication scheme approved at the last meeting had been prepared by mistake. The Clerk had forgotten that the Model Publication Scheme version 1.0 issued by the Information Commissioner had been adopted and a Schedule of information available had been approved in Jan 2012 (p.1384/7), and that the Schedule had been revised in Feb 2013 (p.1448/12). The Clerk apologised for this error. A revised Schedule had been copied to Members before the meeting.

It was resolved that the Model Publication Scheme version 1.1 issued by the Information Commissioner on 1st September 2013 be adopted, and that the revised Schedule of information available be approved.

5. Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project

a) Bulb and plant orders

It was resolved that a refund of £236.60 (£197.17 + £39.43 VAT) be made to the Clerk for bulb and plant orders submitted to Naturescape and Parkers Dutch Bulbs Ltd, and that £197.17 expenditure be charged to the CGG Fund.

b) Grounds maintenance specification

It was resolved that the draft grounds maintenance specification be approved and that the existing grounds maintenance contractor be invited to quote for the works on the grounds that his work had been exemplary, he had won the contract with a very competitive price, and it was advantageous for all such work to be carried out by a single contractor (p.1434/14 refers).

c) Entrance signs

A draft design had been prepared, using timber left over from the TPA, with a lead cap made from donated flashing, lettering routed into the timber by a volunteer, and a brass plaque rebated into the post. A modified design (with the opening date of 2015 routed into the post) was agreed, and **it was resolved** that this design be approved, and that two brass plaques be ordered at an estimated cost of £100 each.

d) Path surfacing

The path required a smoother surface: tarmac had been dismissed as too expensive; limestone and crushed granite were considered. ‘Wayfarer’ aggregate supplied by Breedon Aggregates was a specialised limestone surface used in parks and on cycle tracks, but had to be laid to an exacting specification, wet rolled and allowed to set. It could be laid by inexperienced volunteers, but any mistakes in laying might be expensive to rectify. The cost of the aggregate (20 tonnes @ £54) would be £1080 delivered to site; LCC Corporate Services had quoted £2,703 to supply and lay.

Crushed granite (4mm to dust) offered an alternative; MQP at Whitwick had quoted £18.60/tonne, and Tarmac at Mancetter had quoted £21.27/tonne for 20-tonne loads delivered to site. Conflicting advice had been received as to whether this material would bind to create the desired surface.

Taylor's Hirebase had quoted £390.13 for the hire of plant (excavator, dumper and roller) for a weekend (Fri to Mon), including delivery and insurance.

It was resolved (i) that a small amount of 4mm to dust crushed granite be obtained and laid using hand tools to see what kind of surface it made; and (ii) that if this trial was successful, a 20 tonne load be ordered from MQP and laid by CGG volunteers over a weekend using hire equipment at an estimated cost of £762.13.

6. 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).

15/00784/HOU Proposed conservatory to rear. 87b Main Street, Carlton. No objection.

c) Planning applications determined

15/00653/FUL Erection of two dwellings. Overdale, Bosworth Road, Carlton. Approved.

7. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 14th October 2015 at Saint Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 2055 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
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
NCHA	Nottingham Community Housing Association
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council