

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF CARLTON

Minutes of a meeting held in St Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton
at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 11th May 2016

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, J D Finch, I Sarson, W R Sharp (Councillors), M Cook (Borough Councillor), 2 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Minutes of the meeting of 20th May 2015

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

2. Report from the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch

Carlton NHW is an informal community group that exists to help Carlton stay safe, increase knowledge of local crime and policing matters and encourage neighbourliness.

Around 70 households are currently registered with the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, and receive monthly e-mail local crime updates and alerts. To register or de-register for this circulation please email Rosi Yule on chalkstorm@bopenworld.com

2015/16

During the past year there have been 12 reported crimes in Carlton, an increase of 1 over the two previous years. These are:

- 2 criminal damage and arson
- 1 vehicle crime
- 4 violence or sexual offence
- 2 other theft
- 3 burglary

Some residents have queried the "violence or sexual offence" category, which can seem alarming. This covers a very broad range of crime with violence ranging from pushing and shoving through to serious incidents of wounding, injury and even homicide. Sexual offence includes rape, sexual assault, grooming, indecent exposure. Domestic violence will fall within this category. A national increase in this category is thought partly to be due to increased willingness of victims to come forward.

Residents should not be unduly alarmed as the level of crime in Carlton remains very low, even compared to local areas such as Market Bosworth. However we remain committed to reducing this number further and any victims of crime have our sympathy.

Wider trends

The last year has seen yet another decrease in police spending in Leicestershire (a national trend) and this is due to continue into 2016/17 and for the next 3 years. A "Strategic Alliance" has been set up between Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Nottingham force to increase efficiency and manage the cuts.

The impact on Carlton or our wider area is difficult to quantify however there is no evidence that we seem to be suffering unduly in policing support. The trend of self-policing with initiatives such as police volunteers and Rural Watch is likely to increase.

Over the last year **outcome rates** for crime in our wider neighbourhood of Bosworth, Ratby, Groby, Markfield and Stanton show:

73% "no further action" - an improvement on the 77% in 2015/16

17% "under investigation"

10% "offender dealt with by police or the court."

This is from a total of 1,900 reported crimes in the wider neighbourhood, a disappointing 33% increase on last year.

The Police and Crime Commissioner election last week resulted in Willy Bach being elected for 4 years. The turnout was 20.25% (17.69% in our area)

Contacts

Sgt Bec Tilbury heads the local policing unit for Bosworth, Ratby, Groby, Markfield and Stanton and can be contacted by calling 101 and asking for voicemail no 4394

PC Robert Cross is a dedicated Neighbourhood Officer for Bosworth villages and can be contacted on 101 voicemail no 0207. PC David Riley also covers the Bosworth area on 101 voicemail no 1242. We thank all local officers for their support over the past year.

Rosi Yule Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator
Tel: 292212 Email: chalkstorm@btopenworld.com

3. Report from the Chairman of Carlton Parish Council

Council

Carlton Parish Council held 9 meetings last year, all in Saint Andrew's Church. All meetings are open to the public and are advertised on the Parish notice board, in Carlton News and on the Council's web site – www.carltonpc.co.uk. Attendance this year was: Tupling 9; Boston 6; Finch 3; Sarson 9; Sharp 8; Clerk 9. Two training courses were attended. Parish Council meetings were attended by 13 representatives of other organisations, and 7 parishioners. The PC considered 15 planning applications, and was represented at 11 meetings of other bodies.

Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard

The hard landscaping was completed in October 2015, thanks to 488 man-hours of volunteer labour over two years. The park bench seat, the final surfacing of the path, and the brass plates for the entrance signs were funded by kind donations made to the Parish Amenities Fund by AR Demolition Ltd and an anonymous benefactor.

The spring bulbs made a good show early in the year, and the other plantings are establishing well. The wildflower meadow will be cut for the first time in July.

Membership of the Gardening Group is open to everyone.

Toddlers Play area

The Toddlers Play Area was completed in July 2015, and was fully funded by s106 Developer Contributions. I thank Brian and Ben Sutton and AR Demolition Ltd, who excavated the site for the play equipment and disposed of the spoil free of charge.

Parish Council Noticeboard

The new noticeboard was made by a local joiner, and funded by a Parish & Community Initiatives Fund grant from the Borough Council and s106 developer contributions.

Public footpaths

All public rights of way are monitored by the Carlton Footpath Group. The last remaining stile on the footpath from Market Bosworth to Keeper's Cottage – between The Old Rectory and the Stone Pits Field – is to be replaced by a hand gate later this year.

Marina

The Market Bosworth Marina is now open, and planning permission has been granted for a cafe, but members of the public will not be allowed onto the site until the heavy plant has finished work. The road junction is not going to be altered, but there will be a bus turning and waiting area with a shelter on the Carlton side of the Marina entrance.

Carlton Charity Lands

The Trustees continue to work on behalf of the parish granting two further educational awards during the year of £200 each.

Mud Problem

In the autumn a significant problem arose during the harvesting of the potato crop on land off Barton Road. Large amounts of mud and slurry were deposited onto the roads including Main Street causing noticeable distress to all. Complaints were lodged with the Police and County Highways and appropriate action was taken.

Website

Special thanks are due to Mr Leslie Johns, who is upgrading the Parish Council's website, and continues to advise on management and maintenance without charge.

Precept

Carlton has the lowest council tax in the Borough in 2016-17.

Coffee mornings

Coffee mornings continue to be held at The Gate on Fridays at 11 am, and provide a useful forum and meeting place for parishioners old and new.

Thanks to

Carlton News, Carlton Footpath Group, Carlton Gardening Group, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch, Keep Carlton Tidy Group, Carlton Youth Champions, Heritage and Tree Warden. Borough and County Councillors – Maureen Cook & Ivan Ould. Local Police – Robert Cross. Internal Auditor – Jackie Marshall.

As always my thanks go to the army of volunteers who have given their time, expertise and equipment to keep the Parish running smoothly.

Finally, my thanks go to my fellow Councillors Judith Boston, Julie Finch, Ian Sarson, Bill Sharp and your Parish Clerk Chris Peat whose support make all of this possible.

Stuart Tupling, Chairman

The meeting closed at 19:45 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____