

Carlton Gardening Group

Multorum manibus magnum levatur onus

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at 77 Main Street, Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Tuesday 13th March 2018

Present: Franco Onesti (Chairman), Graham Jackson, Jeanette Knappett, John Piggon, Ian Sarson (PC Rep), Bill Sharp, Mick Vann, Chris Peat (Secretary).

Apologies: Keith Scott, Pat Lockwood, Enid Morgan, Jo Spencer, Stuart & Caroline Tupling.

1. Minutes of the meeting of Monday 20th March 2017

The minutes were confirmed, and they were signed by the Chairman.

2. Election of five members to serve as the Executive Committee

Graham Jackson, Jeanette Knappett, Franco Onesti, Bill Sharp & Chris Peat **were elected** members of the Executive Committee. Councillor Ian Sarson is an *ex officio* member of this committee.

3. Election of Chairman and Secretary

Graham Jackson **was elected** Chairman, and Chris Peat **was elected** Secretary by members of the Executive Committee.

4. Appointment of representative to the Northfields Liaison Group

Members of the Executive Committee **resolved that** Franco Onesti be appointed CGG representative on the Northfields Liaison Group.

5. Financial report

All expenditure is reported in the Parish Council's quarterly financial reports under the Carlton Gardening Group Earmarked Fund.

20.3.17	Balance brought forward from previous statement	+	209.64
28.1.17	2 no <i>Hydrangea petiolaris</i>	-	10.00
24.4.17	Bark chips for box hedge	-	3.99
27.5.17	More bark chips for box hedge	-	7.99
31.7.17	Roundup gel	-	6.36
11.10.17	Roundup herbicide	-	27.48
22.2.17	Holly for Barton Rd hedge	-	4.50
13.3.17	Balance carried forward	+	149.32

6. Works carried out since the last meeting

The CGG currently had 13 members providing a total of 102.2 man-hours of volunteer labour in the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard (88 hours), Little Lane (12.2 hours), and in the Churchyard and Cemetery (2 hours). We express our appreciation of the refreshments provided to working parties by Enid Morgan and Tania Sharp.

a) Diamond Jubilee Orchard

A new wearing surface had been laid on the path, contractors parking area, and site entrance over a period of three days using hired plant and funded by s106 developer contributions.

All of the remaining shrub tubes and stakes had been removed. The fruit trees were still staked and had been pruned, and tubes had been left to allow easy spraying.

The NCHA border next to the path at the Barton Rd site entrance had been adopted by the neighbour, and planted with attractive shrubs. This makes for a much more attractive entrance to the Orchard.

The wildflower meadow areas had exhibited an interesting succession of flowers and grasses from April to June, but the growth had been very vigorous and difficult to clear and dispose of. Following discussions with the PC, the contracted maintenance regime had been changed for 2018 – most of the grassed areas would be mowed, leaving only two areas of wildflowers.

After removal of the cuttings from the wildflower meadow, the paths had all been covered with tiny weed seedlings which had required treatment with herbicide. A hedgehog box had been moved from the meadow area and installed in Little Lane. The site had been cleared of weeds, the north hedge had been side trimmed and gaps planted up, and bark chips had been laid along the box hedge.

b) Churchyard and Cemetery

Sunken graves had been levelled and spoil from grave digging had been used to level a small area of the site. *Cyclamen* had been planted under the variegated holly next to the church path and were growing well.

c) Little Lane

A wearing surface of 4mm to dust granite had been laid over a period of two days, with help from a local excavator operator who had kindly loaded the stone, and a tractor owner who had transported it without charge. A mixed group of tall shrubs at the northern end of Little Lane had blown over, and had been cleared and disposed of with help from the neighbouring farmer.

d) Roadside hedges

Five specimen trees of *Quercus petraea* had been planted, thanks to the kind permission of the landowners, and a grant of 60% of the costs from H&BBC.

7. Forward work programme

The surfacing of the paths in the Diamond Jubilee Orchard and Little Lane meant that construction work was now complete, and ongoing maintenance and minor improvement works could be carried out by small working parties on an ad hoc basis.

The programme of smaller and more frequent working parties implemented after the last meeting by the Chairman had proved successful, and would be continued.

It was suggested that the forthcoming Royal Wedding might be marked by the planting of a tree with some connection to the USA, and the northern end of Little Lane was put forward as a possible location.

Those compost bins which were not full were prone to blowing off site and needed to be pegged down or set into the ground.

Some kind of container for burning rubbish was required.

It was agreed that a report on the work of the Group be submitted to Carlton News.

A draft forward work programme had been copied to all members before the meeting, and was discussed and modified. **It was resolved** that the amended version be adopted and appended to these minutes.

8. Annual Report for Carlton Parish Council

It was resolved that the annual report to the PC comprise the text of item 6 above and the forward work programme.

Kay Onesti **was thanked** for providing refreshments at the meeting, and Franco Onesti and Chris Peat **were thanked** for their work for the Group over the past year.

The meeting closed at 20:30 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
NCHA	Nottingham Community Housing Association
PC	Carlton Parish Council

Carlton Gardening Group

Forward work programme

2017

Completed work:

7 Jan	Cem	Levelling graves
11 Jan	Orch	Planting holly hedge
5 Feb	Orch	Planting <i>Hydrangea</i> , spraying, pruning
29 Mar	Orch	Spring weeding
5 April	Orch	Spring weeding
15 Apr	Orch	Planting up gaps in north hedge
17 April	Lane	Transporting stone
19 April	Lane	Laying stone
21 Apr	Lane	Laying stone
10 May	Orch	Weeding
12 May	Orch	Removing dumped material
23 May	Church	Planting <i>Cyclamen</i>
5 June	Orch	Laying bark under box hedge
29 June	Orch	Path surfacing
30 June	Orch	Path surfacing
3 July	Orch	Path surfacing
13 July	Orch	Mowing wildflower meadow and removing cuttings
7 Aug	Orch	Cutting grass adj Toddlers Play Area
22 Aug	Orch	Spraying weed seedlings on paths
15 Sep	Orch	Weeding
5 Dec	Orch	Hedge cutting and winter clean-up
6 Dec	Cem	Levelling graves
14 Dec	Cem	Removing brash from hedgelaying, clearing moss from path

2018

Forward work programme:

April

- Orchard Monitor weeds in paths and Nailstone Rd hedge and spray if necessary. Spray round fruit trees. Check whether shrubs along board fences need wire or tying up. Peg down compost bins. Transplant ferns away from board fence adj no.10 to allow mowing.
- Cemetery Level graves and spoil; sow grass seed.
- Little Lane Control bramble growth in bare area near seat.

May

- Orchard Sow grass seed at Nailstone Road site entrance.
- Cemetery Attack brambles growing through shrubs.
- Little Lane Consider planting of tree to mark Royal Wedding.

June

Orchard Consider repair of Nailstone Road reptile and Amphibian refuge.

July

Orchard Cut wildflower meadow areas and dispose of cuttings.
Assess new contracted maintenance regime.

August

Orchard Treat park bench seat timbers and picnic table with tung oil.
Make display about CGG for Horticultural Show.
Consider ordering additional bulbs.
Consider entering fruit in Horticultural Show.

September

Orchard Review shrubs.
Consider removal of all remaining tree stakes.
Roadsides Review plantings of *Quercus petraea* in roadside hedges; replace any dead trees; invite landowner on northern side of Congerstone Lane between village and brook to consider an additional planting.

October

Orchard Autumn clean-up.

November

Orchard Trim Nailstone Rd and north hedges.

January

Orchard Consider planting snow drops in the green under Nailstone Rd hedge.