

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF CARLTON

Minutes of a meeting held in St Andrew's Community Hub, Main Street, Carlton
at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 11th May 2022

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, S J Cooper, I Sarson (Councillors),
M Cook (Borough Councillor), 6 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Minutes of the meeting of 12th May 2021

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

2. Report from the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

Carlton NHW is a community group that exists to help Carlton stay safe, increase knowledge of local crime prevention and policing matters and encourage neighbourliness. 80 people are currently registered with the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and receive monthly e-mail crime updates and alerts. Information is also shared via Carlton News and the Carlton Villagers Facebook page on an occasional basis.

Neighbourhood Link and Leicestershire Rural Crime are available to all as a text alert service with live updates of local issues. The national NHW circulate regular newsletters and alerts on latest scams. Market Bosworth Police Facebook page and the monthly Police newsletter for Market Bosworth and Villages is a good source of local police news.

2021/22

During the 12 months April 2021 to March 2022 there were 15 reported crimes in Carlton. Slightly up on the 2020/21 figure of 11 but significantly better than 21 and 28 reported crimes for the 2 previous years. Details are as follows and previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison:

- 3 - violence and/or sexual offence (3)
- 3 - criminal damage and arson (0)
- 2 - burglary (0)
- 2 - drugs (0)
- 1 - vehicle crime (3)
- 2 - other theft (0)
- 1 - anti-social behaviour (1)
- 1 - other crime (1)
- 0 - public order (3)

February 2022 was our busiest month for reported crime with 4 crimes in Carlton. For 5 months July to November no crimes were reported at all. The relatively low annual figure may still be affected by Covid in 2021: people working from home, less holidays taken, less movement of vehicles and less social or alcohol related events.

It is pleasing to see far less vehicle crime in Carlton but disappointing that drug crime has been reported for the first time this year.

Violence and/or sexual offence which covers domestic abuse amongst other things remains the largest crime across the wider Bosworth rural area, accounting for 37% of all reported crime, 839 incidents. The second highest crime across the area is criminal damage and arson at 13.5% of all crime, 305 incidents. Carlton mirrors this trend.

Cybercrime, fraud and scamming is a constant and increasing issue affecting all ages and social demographics. New scams this year include covid travel pass or covid vaccination payment fraud and Ukraine humanitarian fraud as well as the regular BT account closure, parcel delivery payment and bank account fraud. Scams arrive by text, landline, post and email and are constant. NHW have highlighted the need for vigilance and increased security on passwords and devices. Major banks and credit cards have all introduced extra security measures over the last 12 months to combat fraud.

Outcome rates for crime in our wider area 11 months to February 2022 are below with last year's figures in brackets:

- 39% Investigation complete, no suspect identified, no further action (36%)
- 31% Unable to prosecute suspect (28%)
- 3% Further investigation or action not in the public interest (6%)
- 5% Under investigation (5%)
- 9% Offender dealt with by local resolution /caution / court result unavailable/action by another organization / awaiting court outcome (10%)
- 2% Status update unavailable (2%)
- 10% Other (13%)

Just 9% with a clear offender outcome is disappointing for residents and victims of crime.

Wider Comparisons

In the 12 months to June 2021 (latest available ONS) the crime rate in Hinckley and Bosworth was broadly the same as the crime rate across nationally similar areas and lower than average for other councils in the Leicestershire force area. Outliers are:

- theft from the person crime was much higher than average (worst in the family of 15 most similar council areas)
- public order crime was much higher than average (2nd worst in the family of 15 most similar)
- burglary was significantly better than average (2nd best in the 9 Leicestershire councils and 5th best out of 15 similar councils nationally)

Leicestershire Police

Our local beat team carried out a very successful drop-in session at The Gate Hangs Well in March 2022 with much discussion about speeding, ASB, vehicle theft protection, travellers occupation of property, support for rural areas and many other issues. Neighbourhood Link was recommended and can be found at <https://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk/> . You can register your details and receive alerts from police about relevant crime in the local area.

Contacts

Sgt 2194 Shaun Wilson heads the local policing unit for Bosworth, Ratby, Groby, Markfield and Stanton. PC Allan Charles, PC 41 Greg Rawisinski, PC 3004 Mike Statt, PCSO 6051 Tom Vaughan and PCSO 607 Simon Stevenson make up the rest of the team. Inspector Jamie Osborne is the Local Policing Commander for Hinckley and Blaby.

In an emergency dial 999, the non-emergency police contact is 101. Specific officers can be contacted by calling 101 and asking for their collar number voice mailbox. Further contacts are HBBC ASB Helpline on 01455 255 746 and Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

We thank all local officers for their support over the past year.

Rosi Yule
Tel: 292212

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator
Email: chalkstorm@bopenworld.com

3. Report from the Chairman of Carlton Parish Council

The last two years have been challenging for everyone with the Covid 19 pandemic and thankfully following the widespread and comprehensive vaccination programme we are, with a certain amount of caution, able to continue our daily lives.

Carlton Parish Council held five meetings last year; four in Saint Andrews Church and one in The Gate Hangs Well Public House whilst the church was closed for building works. All meetings were open to the public and were advertised on the Parish notice board, in Carlton News and on the Council's website—www.carltonpc.co.uk.

Attendance this year was: Tupling 5; Boston 5; Cooper 4; Sarson 4; Vann 4; Clerk 5; members of the public 7. The PC considered 14 planning applications and 4 enforcement matters, and also commented on the Draft local Plan.

The Parish Council's accounts for the financial year 2021-22 should be approved later this evening and will be published on the Council's website; all financial records for this year will be open to public inspection from 13th June to 22nd July. These accounts are exempt from routine external audit unless objections to them are raised by a member of the public.

Saint Andrew's Church and churchyard. Building works were completed before the end of the year, providing the village with its **Community Hub**, a meeting place with kitchen and toilet facilities and internet connection. This a valuable asset for the village and my thanks go to all concerned for their valuable time and effort.

The churchyard retaining wall has been monitored for some time for seasonal movement and it was decided that some remedial action should be taken. The level of the ground behind the western section of the wall has been reduced slightly, weep holes installed in the wall, and drainage introduced. The turf in this area had been compacted and damaged by the recent building works, and the area has been cultivated and re-seeded.

Cemetery. The tarmac paths in the cemetery were extended and repaired, and the spoil arising from the works has been used to level up a hollow and sown with grass.

Platinum Jubilee Tree Planting. Three new specimen trees were planted in the churchyard on Sunday 6th February, the day of our Queen's accession to the throne. The plantings were carried out by young people and members of the former Carlton Brownie pack who had planted trees to mark the Silver Jubilee.

Village Christmas Tree. For several years we have erected a Christmas Tree on the village green, usually with a traditional lighting up ceremony. This year the event will be relocated to the front churchyard and Community Hub.

Parish Plan. All households in the village have been consulted by way of a questionnaire and the information has now been collated. The completed Parish Plan will be launched at a public meeting in the Hub on Wednesday 29th June at 7.30pm - all are welcome.

Carlton Charity Lands. The income from these lands have provided a valuable income stream to help students within the Parish in their careers. Following the responses to a recent consultation in Carlton News, changes have been made by increasing the monetary amounts available and widening the qualification criteria.

Miscellaneous. A new village information board has been erected in the garden of the Gate Hangs Well by kind permission of the owners. The hedge to the north of the Jubilee Orchard has been laid and an old water trough has been planted up and placed on the verge to the corner of Main Street. The ash tree monitoring continues and fly tipping is becoming an increasing problem. Unfortunately, there has been a recent incident where an empty property was unlawfully occupied by travellers.

Village News. A good way of keeping up to date with village activities is Carlton News, Facebook, the Parish website or indeed word of mouth particularly at the weekly coffee mornings in The Gate Hangs Well.

Thanks to: Internal Auditor, Carlton News, Carlton Parish Plan Group, Carlton Footpath Group, Carlton Gardening Group, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group, Keep Carlton Tidy Group, Carlton Youth Champions, Heritage and Tree Warden, Parochial Church Council, The Friends of Saint Andrews and the Village Fete and Horticultural Show organisers. Borough and County Councillors – Maureen Cook & Bertie Harrison-Rushton; our local Police officers and supporting authorities. 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 Councilors, Judith Boston, Simon Cooper, Ian Sarson, Mick Vann and your Parish Clerk Chris Peat whose support make all of this possible.

Stuart Tupling, Chairman

The meeting closed at 19:50 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____