

Annual Reports from Parish Organisations and Parish Council Representatives

These reports were presented under agenda item 8 at the Annual Meeting of Carlton Parish Council which was held on Wednesday 8th May 2013 in Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton.

a) Ashby Canal Forum: Mr C Brown

No report was received.

b) Carlton Charity Land

Mrs P Lockwood (Trustee) reported as follows:

There was no change in the Trustees who remain:

Nigel Axelrad (Chairman)
Joan Orton (Secretary)
Nigel Henry (Vice Chairman)
Roger Dobson
Pat Lockwood
Geoff Mephram

Financial Report for 2012

Balance of funds at start of year	£2986.04
<u>Income</u>	<u>£ 702.68</u>
Balance of funds at year end	£3688.72

No payments were made during 2012. The Trustees are still reviewing the objectives of the charity and expect to have this completed in 2013.

c) Carlton Footpath Group

John Piggon (Chairman) reported that he had walked every public right of way in the Parish of Carlton over the previous two months, and they were all fully waymarked and clear of obstructions except for a field planted with potatoes on S69 between Bottle Neck Spinney and Bosworth Mill. The LCC RoW Team were aware of this obstruction.

Physical improvement works on the kissing gate and footbridge at the junction of S51 and S48 had been completed, and the diversion order and associated improvement works at Bosworth Mill on S69 had also been fully implemented.

Guided walks had been led by members of the CFG on 15th and 20th August, 3rd and 16th Sept, 8th, 14th and 26th October 2012, and 22nd March 2013. The walks had been well attended by members of the CFG and their relatives, but had not attracted parishioners who did not normally go walking on their own or in small groups. The formal programme had been abandoned, though walks would still be arranged on an informal ad hoc basis.

Footpath S68, part of the Leicestershire Round, was still closed at Shackerstone Station. The temporary closure order had now expired, and it was understood that Leicestershire County Council was taking legal action.

d) Carlton Gardening Group

Mr F Onesti (Chairman) reported as follows.

Following an article in the March issue of Carlton News, the Group was convened at a public meeting held on 6th March, and currently comprises 15 members. Members of the Executive Committee are Franco Onesti (Chairman), Chris Peat (Secretary), Ian Sarson (*ex officio* Carlton Parish Councillor), Paul Boston, Graham Jackson and Bill Sharp. The Executive Committee has held one meeting, and plans to visit other local land-based volunteer projects.

A dedicated page has been set up on the Carlton Parish Council website (www.carltonpc.co.uk), and includes documentation and a photo gallery where parishioners will be able to follow progress on site.

Working parties have cleared wire and debris from the northern hedge line, cleared brambles, grass and scrub, and have planted the northern hedge and bulbs of wild garlic on the inside of the western hedge. So far, volunteers have provided 44.5 man-hours of work, including the use of farm machinery.

The northern boundary hedge comprises 600 x 40-60cm hawthorn whips, 4 x pot-grown holly, 2 x field maple, 2 x hornbeam and 2 x hazel whips. Tree T7 (crab apple) was supplied as a bare-rooted 10-12 cm circumference standard, and was planted on receipt on 18th April. Trees T1 (small-leaved lime), T2 (field maple), T3 sessile oak) and T6 (crab apple) are container-grown 10-12cm saplings, and are being kept at 7 Main St for the tree planting ceremony.

A short piece about the CGG was published in the May issue of Carlton News. The Committee is keen to involve young people in the creation of the Orchard and plans to liaise with the Carlton Youth Champions and approach St Peter's and Congerstone Primary Schools.

e) Carlton Heritage Warden and Tree Warden

Chris Peat had attended the East Midlands Tree Warden Forum at Warwick Castle in October 2012.

The Diamond Jubilee oak tree (*Q. petraea*) had been planted by Mia Cooper, the youngest parishioner (7 weeks old) with some help from the Chairman on 4th June 2012 in the highway verge near the Main St Barton Rd junction. The tree had been regularly watered during the summer.

The Millennium trees along Barton Rd and Nailstone Road had been crown raised, tagged, and the adjacent hedges trimmed. Two cypress trees in the churchyard had been felled and the brush disposed of, with the agreement of the PCC. A large

cedar branch had been cleared from the jitty (Footpath S51), as well as fallen trees from the verge of Congerstone Road, brought down by heavy snow.

A landscaping scheme had been drawn up for the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project, and was under consideration by H&BBC. One tree had been planted.

A guided tour of Larch Spinney had been arranged for Friday 10th May at 6 pm as part of the Tree Council's *Walk in the Woods* scheme.

Local history had been discussed on two guided walks, and the Warden was involved in ongoing studies relating to Bosworth Park.

f) Carlton Parish Council website

The Clerk reported on the PC website and usage.

The PC had used the <leicestershireparishcouncils/Carlton> website managed by LCC until the end of January 2012. The PC's bespoke website <www.carltonpc.co.uk> provided through 1&1, had been created in 2011, and had gone live on 1st January 2012. The LCC website had been cleared of all PC data at the end of January 2012. Some page titles had been changed during this transition period.

There may be significant technical differences between the site statistics collected in 2010-11 and 2012-13. There is no doubt that use of the PC website has been increasing steadily, and that the new website is more attractive and user-friendly.

Page Title	Page views 2010-11 <small>LCC website statistics</small>	Page views 2011-12 <small>1&1 website statistics 1/1/12-30/4/12 x 3</small>	Page views 2012-13 <small>1&1 website statistics 1/4/12-31/3/13</small>
Home Page	1114	2052	2688
News	376	1230	3261
Diary	451	801	406
Meetings & reports	172	285	694
Parish Councillors	158	225	402
Cemetery & Churchyard	102	192	266
Parish organisations	89	171	317
Affordable Housing Project	-	372	675
Parish Plan & Appraisal	54	159	330
Council information	53	141	330
Finance	32	159	256
Carlton History	-	165	366
TOTALS	2601	5952	9991
Total site visits	2700	4674	13432
Total page impressions	-	10713	22683

g) Carlton Youth Champions: Mrs K Owen, Mrs M Purnell-Mullick, Ms R Yule

No report was received.

h) Keep Carlton Tidy Group

Irene Peat (Chairman) reported that the Annual Spring Clean Litter Pick had taken place over the weekend of 16th/17th March. Despite the bad weather, 24 adults and 4 children had joined in, and cleared all roadside verges and ditches between Carlton and surrounding villages. They had been assisted by Shaun Gould, Neighbourhood Warden, who provided extra equipment, and who arranged for the rubbish, about 4 cubic metres in all, to be collected by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

A similar volume overall was collected through the rest of the year by volunteers, including 'emergency picks', and 8 fly tipping incidents were reported to HBBC and cleared promptly. Mrs Peat thanked all of the enthusiastic volunteers for their support and help.

All contributors **were thanked** for their reports, and for their work and that of their groups on behalf of the community. **It was resolved** that the reports received be amalgamated and recorded as Report 2013-07.