

Annual report on condition of property

1) Carlton Greens

Glebe Farm Green: in good condition. Displaced kerbstone has been re-set.

West Green: in good condition. Stems of coppiced ash tree overhanging grass to north should probably be removed in a few years' time. Damage caused by articulated lorry made good by PC and stop taps repaired by Severn Trent, but area will remain uneven for some time.

East Green: damage next to drive to 3-9 Main St caused by residents and visitors and by lorries turning – consider kerbing edges to grass; footway kerbs need re-setting; dropped kerbs also needed to footway. Grass needs cutting back from footway edgings. No molehills after 3 moles were caught. Seat needs cleaning up and re-painting.

2) Little Lane

Footpath very well used; new rowan and crab apple trees growing on well; overhanging branches of bird cherries on west side of path cut back April 2015. New close boarded fence along part of west side erected by adjacent landowner – weed treatment may be needed along base. Brambles near northern end of path spot treated with Roundup April 2014 and most have died back – repeat treatment required to eliminate remaining roots. Holly (which is not affected by Roundup) is now growing on well without the competition from the brambles. New hedge along east side (planted and managed by adjacent landowner) growing on well. Evidence of dumping of soil containing grit, possibly from large planters. Geocache logbook continues to attract one entry a month.

3) Cemetery

Fence in good condition. Sunken areas to south and west of path to be levelled up with spoil as new graves are dug. Several recent graves need further levelling up and seeding; heap of spoil needs levelling out and seeding; topsoil store needs rebuilding.

4) Churchyard

Overflow pipe for water butt to be installed. Back of retaining wall along Main St to be exposed to allow examination of pointing to see whether repair is necessary. Retaining wall to west of gate has slight bulge – to be monitored. Three bird boxes installed 2005 removed and awaiting repair.

Brambles removed from shrubs next to Stone House Farm, and shrubs trimmed 2012. Existing drains at east end of church building to be investigated and 2 memorial yew trees killed by waterlogging to be replaced. Horse chestnut tree found to be diseased and felled Nov 2014; base of trunk carved into seat. *Viburnum* near church door needs to be kept trimmed. Last large low branch of copper beech to S of church removed to raise crown: no further surgery envisaged for this tree. Rowan near telephone kiosk is diseased and needs checking, but holes in trunk and branches are good for wildlife and should be retained if possible.

5) Bus shelters

Both shelters creosoted October 2008 and in good condition. Barton Rd shelter roof re-felted November 2008.

6) Parish Information Kiosk

Kiosk refurbished and in reasonable condition. Community defibrillator installed 2010 – managed by Carlton Defibrillator Group under written agreement.

7) Parish seats and benches

Steel seats on E Green and in churchyard last painted 1998 and need cleaning and repainting. Leicester Mercury seat at E end of Main St repaired 2008 and in good condition; raised by 3" 2013 so as to be suitable for use by older parishioners. Rustic wooden bench seats at Harry's Grave and in Little Lane repaired 2013 and in good condition. New park bench seat and picnic table installed in Diamond Jubilee Orchard April 2015.

8) Parish notice board

In poor condition: design for replacement agreed and grant applied for.

9) Parish Council's gates and stiles

Kissing gate at NE corner churchyard in good condition. Steel kissing gate at south end of cemetery path in excellent condition; wooden kissing gate at north end of Little Lane in good condition.

10) Parish mile post

Old repair cracking and showing rust; parishioner had volunteered to examine and weld if appropriate, but work still not carried out.

11. Millennium avenues

The condition of the Millennium Trees was reviewed in May 2008 (p.1208-9/14j), and before that in June 2003 (p.901/2g). 2 hedgerow trees on Nailstone Rd crown raised May 2010 to avoid highway obstruction. Millennium trees on Barton Rd tagged and crowns raised, and all hedges next to trees trimmed spring 2013.

12. Millennium notice board

Installed on verge at N end Shackerstone Walk in Feb 2000; in good condition. Overhanging hedge cut back and sign cleaned April 2015.

13. Golden Jubilee sign

Installed on highway verge under licence agreement with LCC on 25th May 2002; unveiled 3rd June 2002. Post in good condition, with small area of rot in softwood near cap; varnish peeling and to be stripped off and wood oiled late summer 2015.

14. Diamond Jubilee tree

Quercus petraea planted June 2012 on verge near Main St / Barton Rd junction. Healthy and growing on well; stakes removed and mower guard installed 2014. Latter must be monitored as tree grows and removed before it cuts into the trunk.

15. Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard

Site acquired July 2014 and managed by the Carlton Gardening Group. New path laid, site levelled, groundworks completed, picnic table and park bench seat installed, and primary tree and hedge plantings now complete. Wild flower areas to be cultivated and sown May 2015. Toddlers play equipment to be installed July 2015, to be funded by s106 developer contributions.

16. Statement of tenancies

That part of the Cemetery Field which was not in use for burials was rented on an annual agreement for £1.00 pa plus the cutting of the boundary hedges.

C J Peat 16th April 2015