

# 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 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Present:** Franco Onesti (Chairman), Graham Jackson, Jeanette Knappett, John Piggon, Ian Sarson (PC Rep), Stuart & CJ Tupling, Mike Vann, Chris Peat (Secretary).

**Apologies:** Pat Lockwood, Enid Morgan, Keith Scott, Bill & Tania Sharp, Jo Spencer, Abi Wright.

## 1. Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015

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

Franco Onesti **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

The landscaping works in 2015 had been funded directly by the PC and not charged to Group funds.

Carlton Gardening Group Earmarked Fund:

5.3.15	Balance brought forward from previous statement	+	523.00
6.3.15	Crab apple, sweet cherry, pear	-	17.00
13.3.15	2 x crab apple	-	20.00
9.12.15	Box hedging	-	52.00
	Spring bulbs	-	111.50
	Wild daffodil bulbs	-	33.67
28.2.16	<i>Cyclamen coum</i>	-	10.00
5.3.16	Balance carried forward	+	278.83

## 6. Progress since the last meeting

During 2015, members of the CGG provided a total of 187 man-hours of volunteer labour to the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard Project. In addition, Brian and Ben Sutton carried out the first stage of the excavation for the Toddlers Play Area and spread the topsoil on nearby land, and AR Demolition Ltd carried out the second stage of the excavation and removed the subsoil from the site, all free of charge.

The Toddlers Play Area and park bench seat were installed by contractors appointed by the Parish Council. The meadow areas were mowed by a contractor appointed by the Parish Council.

CGG volunteers installed the picnic table, weeded and planted up gaps in the north hedge, planted the final fruit trees, cultivated, levelled and seeded the meadow areas, levelled the car parking area and surfaced it together with the path, planted a box hedge next to the Play Area, built the bug hotel, planted bulbs, imported woodland plants, made and installed entrance signs, and cut the Nailstone Road hedge. The hard landscaping is now complete, and volunteer tasks going forward will comprise grounds maintenance and enhancement of the plantings.

The bulb plantings so far comprise snowdrops, bluebells, aconites, wild daffodils, fritillaries, narcissi, crocuses, and 'Carlton' daffodils in the Nailstone Rd verge.

The woodland plantings so far comprise ferns (3 species), wild garlic, woodruff, wood anemone, violets, celandine, primrose, wood spurge, dog's mercury, gladdon iris, yellow flag, honeysuckle, and geranium.

The Chairman had represented the CGG at the first meeting of the Northfields Liaison Group, where minor grounds maintenance and planting issues had been resolved.

Reports about the project have been published in the February, May, August, and November 2015 issues of Carlton News, and a presentation about the project has been made to the Market Bosworth Natural History Society.

A guided tour of the Orchard had been arranged for 6pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June, when it was hoped that it would be possible to identify the wild flowers in the meadow.

## 7. Forward work programme

It was recognised that there would now be less work for the CGG to do in the CDJO, and **it was resolved** that the CGG would be prepared to undertake grounds maintenance tasks and similar improvement works in other areas in the Parish.

**It was noted** that a s106 developer contribution of £1250.80 was being held by H&BBC in respect of planning application 15/01033/FUL and that this money could only be spent on " .... the provision and/or improvement of formal open space children's equipped play space and informal children's play space ....." at the CDJO and would be returned to the developer if it had not been spent within 5 years.

**It was resolved** that the PC be invited to consider (a) the use of s106 funds for the purchase of 4mm to dust granite and the hire of equipment to level up the wearing surface of the CDJO path and vehicular site entrance; (b) using the existing heap of surplus stone from the path works for the surfacing of Little Lane; and (c) moving the disused concrete water trough from the Cemetery Field to the Main St/Bosworth Rd corner for use as a planter.

The DJO had been inspected on the morning of the meeting. The **wildflower meadow** looked very luxuriant; the wild daffodils had come up, but would probably not flower until next year; there was no sign of the fritillaries. Occasional docks and nettles needed hand weeding or spot treatment with herbicide. The **shrubs** all looked healthy, with buds now bursting; the wood anemones had come up; wild garlic and bluebells were in leaf; wood spurge, yellow flag and primroses looked fine; ferns were still dormant; could not find celandines or woodruff. The **spring bulbs** – snowdrops, aconites, crocuses and dwarf daffodils – had all come up and should now establish and multiply. The **north hedge** was coming into leaf and did not appear to have any significant gaps, but needed weeding or spraying. The **fruit trees** all looked good, but would need pruning to establish clear stems. The **box hedge** looked healthy. The **Nailstone Rd hedge** had not yet been planted by WD. The **Carlton daffodils** in the Nailstone Rd verge had been run over by a lorry, and the ruts filled with soil during the winter. About 1/3 of the clump had not come up (yet) but the remainder were in bud.

Self-set holly plants for the hedge facing the electricity transformer had been kindly offered by John Piggon and Mick Pointon, and would be transplanted in the next day or so.

A draft forward work programme had been copied to all members before the meeting, and **it was resolved** that this be adopted with minor changes to accord with the discussion minuted above. A copy is 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.

The meeting closed at 2015 hrs.

**Signed**

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**Date**

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**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
PCC	Parochial Church Council
RCC	Rural Community Council
WD	William Davis Ltd

**Group membership on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

**a) Executive Committee**

Graham Jackson, Jeanette Knappett, Franco Onesti, Chris Peat, Ian Sarson  
(*Carlton PC member*), Bill Sharp

**b) Members**

Liz Alun-Jones	Tom Alun-Jones
Judith Boston	David Branson
Douglas Kinghorn	Dave Knappett
Pat Lockwood	Enid Morgan
John Piggon	Keith Scott
Tania Sharp	Jo Spencer
Stuart Tupling	C J Tupling
Michael Vann	

# Carlton Gardening Group

## Forward work programme

### 2015

**Completed work:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March – initial excavation of Toddlers Play Area  
3<sup>rd</sup> March – weeding of north hedge  
6<sup>th</sup> March – planting of trees  
7<sup>th</sup> March – planting of whips in gaps in north hedge  
11<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> March – weeding of Barton Rd meadow area  
25<sup>th</sup> March - fixing picnic table, weed treatment of north hedge line  
25<sup>th</sup> March - installation of park bench seat by contractor  
1<sup>st</sup> April – levelling Barton Rd meadow area  
20<sup>th</sup> April-1<sup>st</sup> May – cultivation and levelling of Nailstone Rd meadow area  
2<sup>nd</sup> May – final excavation of play area  
9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> June – sowing of meadow areas  
13<sup>th</sup> July - completion of Toddlers Play Area by contractor  
9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July – making good path next to Toddlers Play Area  
12<sup>th</sup> July – digging border for hedge next to Toddlers Play Area  
11<sup>th</sup> August – levelling of car parking area  
15<sup>th</sup> August – construction of bug hotel  
1<sup>st</sup> Sept – planting of native daffodils  
14<sup>th</sup> September – planting of bulbs  
15<sup>th</sup> October – laying wearing surface on path  
4<sup>th</sup> November – erection of welcome signs, planting of box hedge  
11<sup>th</sup> November – cutting Nailstone Rd hedge  
2<sup>nd</sup> January – importing woodland plants

### 2016

#### February

Adjust position of chestnut logs near picnic table  
Survey and clean Barton Rd and north hedges, order extra whips and shrubs and plant  
Plant feature holly at S end Barton Rd hedge  
Plant hedge facing electricity transformer  
WD/NCHA to plant hedge along Nailstone Rd frontage

#### March

Import additional woodland plants and ferns  
Agree fence plantings with residents and NCHA and implement  
Review bulb plantings, spot treat or dig out weeds as necessary  
Review all tree and shrub plantings, replace any dead trees  
Spray out weeds around all trees, and in path and parking areas

#### April

PC to enter project in RCC Village Achievement Awards competition  
PC to investigate s106 funding for path and vehicular access surfacing  
If available, use remaining stone to surface Little Lane  
Wildflowers in meadow flower April – June  
Consider repair of Nailstone Rd reptile & amphibian refuge  
Inspect path with a view to making up any holes or hollows and rolling

## **May**

Level and surface path and vehicular access if s106 funding available  
Spray around shrub and fruit trees  
Maintain weed-free environment along north hedge  
Repeat spray around shrubs and fruit trees as necessary  
Consider removal of stakes and ties from trees planted in 2013 (T1, T2, T3, T6, T7)

## **June**

10<sup>th</sup> June – guided walk around site and identification of wildflowers  
Spray out weeds around all trees  
Treat park bench seat timbers with tung oil  
? treat picnic table with oil/preservative

## **July**

First cut of wildflower meadows by contractor. CGG to rake up first clippings.  
After this, meadow will be maintained by contractor at 25mm height for rest of season,  
with clippings removed to compost bins.

## **August**

Consider ordering additional bulbs  
Inspect and weed if necessary, maintain weed-free environment round all trees  
? pick first fruit and ?enter in Horticultural Show

## **September**

Survey and decide on replacement of any dead trees and shrubs  
Result of RCA Village Achievement Awards competition

## **October**

Review hedgerow management – northern hedge to be trimmed or let grow with view to layering after 5 years or so  
? final cut of wildflower meadow to 25mm by contractor

## **November**

Trim Nailstone Rd and north hedges

## **December**

C J Peat  
Secretary - Carlton Gardening Group  
April 2016