

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 14th November 2018

Present: I Sarson (Vice Chairman), J H Boston, S J Cooper, W R Sharp (Councillors), I D Ould (County Councillor), M Cook (Borough Councillor), 1 member of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

All present stood in silence for one minute in remembrance of Mr David A Price, who had died on 4th November and who had served as a Parish Councillor for forty years.

1. Administrative matters

a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that an apology from Cllr Tupling be accepted.

b) Declarations of interests (including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) and requests for dispensations in respect of items on the agenda

There were none.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 10th October 2018

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

3. Reports, questions and comments from the following

a) Parish Councillors

Cllr Cooper **was thanked** for the donation of material for the maintenance of the toddlers play equipment.

Cllr Cooper reported that he had been followed by a drone when walking across the golf course. Another walker had also reported being followed.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr I D Ould had no current casework in Carlton, and had submitted a report on local issues and current LCC business. The 153 bus timetable was being revised, but there were no details on the Arriva website. Cllr Ould kindly offered to forward this information so that the changes could be publicised locally.

One of the most difficult and pressing issues for LCC was the cost of caring for orphaned and traumatised child refugees: less than half of the cost was covered by government funding, and the budget for the current year was already £0.5m overspent.

Cllr Ould left the meeting at this point.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr M Cook had no current casework in Carlton, and had submitted a report on local issues and current H&BBC business. Cllr Cook advised that Forward Planning now inclined to the view that the creation of a new settlement of about 1500 dwellings would be the most appropriate way of accommodating the required housing growth. A new consultation would be carried out to identify a suitable site, and this would delay publication of the Site Allocations Document (p.1694/6e refers).

d) Carlton Neighbourhood Watch group

Ms R Yule reported that there had been one vehicle crime in Carlton in September. There had been a lot of vehicle crime in the area, and an increase in burglary.

e) Parish Clerk

Elections – Parish and Borough Council elections will be held on 2nd May 2019.

SID – had been moved from Bosworth Rd to Nailstone Rd on 16th October.

Church path bank – a short section had been re-graded and turfed by the CGG (p.1727/5b refers).

Church matters – the Chairman, Cllr Sarson and the Clerk had met with PCC representatives on 30th October and discussed plans to install a servery and toilet in the church and associated works (p.1727/5 refers). **It had been agreed** that the roots of the dead cherry tree would be removed and the banks to the church path would be re-graded to match the restored section when the services were laid for the new toilet, and that the banks would be cultivated and seeded with grass by the PC and CGG.

Cemetery – spoil from graves had been levelled and sown with grass seed by the CGG.

Market Bosworth Town Centre project – the public consultation event had been attended by the Chairman and Clerk. The proposed scheme involved extending the one-way system to include Main St and the Market Place with the creation of loading bays in Main St and echelon parking in the Market Place, together with carriageway realignments and surfacing works. If approved in principle by Market Bosworth residents and traders, more detailed plans would be drawn up and made available for comment (p.1727/3f refers).

A list of digital communications and reports received would be copied to each Councillor, and copies of any files would be forwarded on request. Additional written documentation would be circulated.

f) Members of the public

There were no questions or comments.

4. PC risk assessments

Cllr Cooper reviewed the position (see Report 2018-02), which was followed by a detailed discussion. The problem was how best to ensure the safety of volunteers working for the benefit of the community under directions from the PC while at the same time creating adequate documentation of the process. Volunteers would be put off by a requirement to sign disclaimers or undertakings at every working party, but in the case of an injury or accident the PC would need to be able to produce evidence that it had behaved responsibly and taken steps to minimise any risks.

A key issue was the use of power tools owned and operated by volunteers. In this context, the Clerk's contract of employment did not require him to carry out any practical grounds maintenance or similar works, so the PC had no obligation as an employer to provide training in the use of equipment for these purposes. When working as a member of the CFG, CGG or KCTG the Clerk was a volunteer the same as everyone else.

Normal working group activities were subject to standing risk assessments, while bespoke risk assessments were prepared for major projects and special jobs. The usual work carried out by volunteers was no different to the gardening and minor repair jobs around a home, and involved the same tools. The PC could advise on suitable clothing and protective gear and might offer some such equipment, but was not in a position to insist on its use. Similarly, Councillors, Clerk and members of working groups were not qualified to offer training in the use of equipment, but could offer advice based on practical experience.

It was resolved that all current risk assessments be reviewed, and that the discussion on PC policy and documentation be continued by email, with a view to preparing proposals for consideration as part of the annual review of risk management at the next meeting.

5. Installation of gateway features on approaches to the village

Report 2018-19: Highway approaches to the settlement of Carlton had revealed significant differences between the location and relative position of the village nameplates and 30 mph signage on each road, and had identified a limited number of sites where gateways might be installed. Any installations in the highway would require a licence from the Highway Authority, insurance and maintenance.

Analysis of data from the SID on Bosworth Road had shown that this sign had only had a very small effect on the speed of traffic approaching the village over a five-week period. The consensus view was that if a new sign which flashed up the vehicle speed or '*SLOW DOWN*' had such a small effect, a static gateway would be very unlikely to influence vehicle speeds.

The installation of false gateways had been considered in 2012 (p.1436/18; 1439-40/6) when an Officer from LCC Traffic Management had advised that 30 mph signs associated with *dragons teeth* road markings and *30 roundels* should be enough to notify drivers that they needed to slow down.

It was resolved that no additional gateway or other structures would be erected by the PC along the roads leading into Carlton.

It was resolved that the feasibility of moving the 30 mph signage and dragons teeth markings on Bosworth Road to the southern curtilage of Park View Farm, and of moving the village nameplate to the southern end of the dragons teeth markings be investigated.

6. Installation of a seat in the Diamond Jubilee Orchard

It was resolved that a park bench seat of the same design as *Bob's Seat* and on a concrete plinth to also accommodate a wheelchair be installed at the eastern side of the CDJO at an estimated total cost of £940, providing that the project was supported by a 50% grant.

The Clerk noted that H&BBC was holding s106 funding of £424.55 for play & open space provision, which could be used for this project, leaving a balance of about £50 chargeable to precept income.

It was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to obtain the necessary quotations, prepare an application to the H&BBC P&CIF 2018, and make appropriate provision in the budget.

7. Replacement planting for the cherry tree in the churchyard

It was resolved that the dead cherry tree be removed but not replaced for the time being, and that the PCC be consulted and consideration be given to the installation of fairy lights in trees in the churchyard at Christmas in future, instead of installing a temporary illuminated Christmas tree on Carlton Green as at present.

8. Replacement of the three dead *Quercus petraea* hedgerow trees

The Clerk reported on the commercial availability and cost of container-grown oak trees of suitable size; a potential local private source would also be investigated.

It was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to replace the dead trees on Bosworth Rd and at Harry's Grave with *Q.robur* and the dead tree on Barton Rd with *Q.petraea*, all to be container-grown, at the best possible price, but not to exceed £225.

9. Reorganisation of local government in Leicestershire

LCC was advocating the creation of a new unitary authority, had predicted that this would save £30m pa, and had invited comments on the proposal. Draft comments had been copied to Councillors before the meeting.

It was resolved that the PC would not support the creation of a new unitary authority on the grounds that (i) the projected savings of £30m are not significant in the context of total local government expenditure in Leicestershire, and are unlikely to be realised in full; (ii) the current 3-tier structure could be developed to encourage a more diverse, flexible, responsive and resilient structuring of local government in Leicestershire; (iii) improving and developing the existing 3-tier system could begin immediately, would build incrementally on current best practice, and would eliminate the inevitable disruption and cost of creating a unitary authority; (iv) the proposal would result in a loss of local democratic accountability and local knowledge; and (v) the PC does not have the resources to take on additional functions.

It was resolved that revised comments be prepared and copied to Councillors, and that a final version be submitted by the Chairman and Clerk.

10. Draft budget for 2019-20

Preliminary financial estimates for 2019-20 were considered (Report 2018-20). **It was resolved** that these estimates be approved, and that in addition the budget include an allocation of £150 to the CGG to cover the cost of replacing the dead holly plants and fruit tree in the CDJO, and seeding the church path bank. The longitudinal cracks in the Cemetery path were discussed, and **it was resolved** that resurfacing was not justified and that the cracks be filled with bitumen at an estimated cost of £50. **It was resolved** that £3k be allocated to extending the 30mph speed limit and signage on Bosworth Rd; that an extra £300 be allocated to the church drainage investigation; and that an increased allocation be made to the Recreational Land Reserve.

11. Planning matters**a) Planning applications submitted**

There were none.

b) Comments submitted under delegated powers

It was noted that the following comments had been submitted by the Clerk under delegated powers after consultation with Members and the Chairman (p.1472/10a refers).

18/00732/FUL Erection of multi-functional recreational building, the erection of a golf simulator building, the erection of a golf buggy garage, formation of a new car parking areas and new access roads and the proposed erection of 15 golf holiday homes and all associated ancillary works and landscaping (Resubmission). Kyngs Golf and Country Club Station Road Market Bosworth. PC objected to proposal to construct 9 holiday cabins in a prominent position near the top of Godson's Hill: (i) unacceptable intrusion of linear built development into an area of attractive open countryside; (ii) not of a design and at a scale appropriate to minimise impact and assimilate well with the character of the surrounding area; (iii) would obstruct a valued view of the local landscape and of St Peter's Church on the approach to Market Bosworth along public footpath S70; (iv) would result in the loss of developing habitat of wildlife value.

18/00734/FUL Two storey side extension to existing Public House including ancillary microbrewery. Gate Hangs Well, Barton Rd. PC had no objection. Noted that application would increase capacity of the Gate and would be likely to increase on-road parking at busy times; that inconsiderate parking already created difficulties for nearby residents from time to time; benefits to community were likely to outweigh inconvenience caused by parking.

18/00800/CONDIT Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission reference 14/01219/FUL to enable the development for the erection of one dwelling, modification to existing access and proposed new access to be implemented in accordance with amended plans. Windhover House, 69 Main St. (See also 18/00183/CLUE; 14/01219/FUL; 09/00455/OUT). PC objected on grounds of (i) overbearing effect on 71 Main Street, (ii) small area of garden; requested conditions that access drives be surfaced with bound materials, any access gates be set back at least 5m from the highway boundary and fitted so as to open inwards only. Noted that development would probably lead to removal of significant trees on adjoining land; suggested that proposal could be made more acceptable if new dwelling was sited 5m further to west.

18/00972/TPO Works to trees. Holly Cottage, 9 Barton Rd. PC had no objection to lopping of trees but could not reconcile submitted drawings with elm trees on site; requested inspection by Arboricultural Officer and appropriate conditions.

18/01002/HOU Two storey side extension including balcony. New House Farm, Bosworth Rd. PC had no objections.

c) Planning applications determined

18/00732/FUL Erection of multi-functional recreational building, the erection of a golf simulator building, the erection of a golf buggy garage, formation of a new car parking areas and new access roads and the proposed erection of 15 golf holiday homes and all associated ancillary works and landscaping (Resubmission). Kyngs Golf and Country Club Station Road Market Bosworth. Refused.

18/00734/FUL Two storey side extension to existing Public House including ancillary microbrewery. Gate Hangs Well, Barton Rd. Permitted.

18/00800/CONDIT Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission reference 14/01219/FUL to enable the development for the erection of one dwelling, modification to existing access and proposed new access to be implemented in accordance with amended plans. Windhover House, 69 Main St. Permitted.

d) Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange

A public consultation event had been attended by the Clerk (p.1727/3f refers), and a report and draft comments had been copied to Councillors. **It was resolved** that the PC object on the grounds that the proposal (a) is not necessary, given the number and scale of similar developments in the area; (b) does not meet the criteria for a SRFI set out in the National Policy Statement for National Networks 2014; (c) does not improve the connectivity of the local highway network or reduce congestion in Hinckley by linking Junction 2 of the M69 to the A47 north of Hinckley; (d) the harm to local recreational amenity would not be outweighed by the benefits of the scheme.

12. Next meeting and calendar of meetings for 2019

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at Saint Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton.

It was resolved that meetings in 2019 be held on the following dates: 13th February, 13th March, 10th April, 8th May (Annual Meeting), 12th June, 31st July, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, 8th January 2020.

The meeting closed at 21:15 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CFG	Carlton Footpath Group
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
KCTG	Keep Carlton Tidy Group
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council
P&CIF	Parish & Community Initiatives Fund
SID	Speed Indicator Device
TPA	Toddlers Play Area