

# CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrew's Community Hub, Main Street,  
Carlton at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022

All present stood in silence for one minute in remembrance of  
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

**Present:** S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, S J Cooper, I Sarson (Councillors), M Cook (Borough Councillor), 2 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

## 1. Administrative matters

### a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

It was resolved that an apology from Cllr Vann 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 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022

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

## 3. Reports, questions and comments from the following

### a) Parish Councillors

The Chairman **congratulated** the Church Fete Committee on a very enjoyable and successful event which had raised £3,807 for church funds.

The Chairman reported that court action had been initiated to evict the occupiers of *Willowfield*. The horses being kept in the adjacent field (numbers ranged from 4 to 12) had repeatedly escaped onto the road and into nearby fields.

Cllrs reported incidents of dangerous and inconsiderate driving and speeding in Main St, particularly at school times. A Hermes/Evri delivery van had been written off following a collision. On 25<sup>th</sup> July a Fiat 500 travelling at speed had attempted to undertake another vehicle, lost control and run into the garden wall of no.62. Children at this house had been about to leave to go swimming.

Cllr Cooper reported finding 12 large dog poos as well as plastic bags of poo along footpath S77. **It was resolved** that additional *Clean Up* notices be placed on the kissing gates at each end of this path.

Cllr Vann had reported parking on the grass verge around the water trough, particularly when parking outside the Gate Hangs Well was limited. **It was resolved** that temporary wooden bollards be sought and installed.

**b) Leicestershire County Council**

Cllr B Harrison-Rushton had forwarded publicity material from LCC.

**c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council**

Cllr M Cook **was thanked** for a report on Borough Council business and local issues.

**d) Carlton Neighbourhood Watch group**

Ms R Yule had reported that there had been no reported crime in May, but 1 other theft and 1 violence and/or sexual offence in June.

**e) Horticultural & Produce Show**

Mr W R Sharp reported that this year there had been 100 entries from 16 parishioners, compared with 121 entries from 29 parishioners in 2021 (p.1841/3e refers), and 87 entries from 17 parishioners in 2020 (but during Covid-19 restrictions; p.1810/3a refers).

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>£.p</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>£.p</u>
Brought forward	35.72	Prize money	46.00
Grant from PC (p.1822/11b)	40.00	Schedule printing	20.00
Entry money	50.00	Judge's gift	20.00
Donations	26.00	Envelopes	3.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>151.72</b>		<b>89.49</b>
Balance	62.23		

The show had been held in the Community Hub and had attracted 103 visitors compared with 140 visitors in 2021 (when the show had been held in a tent on the East Green), 70 in 2020 (during Covid) and 105 in 2019.

Mr Sharp and the Clerk **were thanked** for organising the show and making report. **It was resolved** that the balance of £62.23 be carried forward to 2023.

**f) Parish Clerk**

**Audit** - no objections had been made to the PC's accounts for 2021-22 and the audit was now complete (p.1867/7i refers).

**Dog fouling** – a parishioner had witnessed dog fouling on footpath S77; the report of the incident had been submitted to H&BBC with a request to issue a fine.

**Main St** – the bent post had been removed by H&BBC (p.1842/3f refers).

**West Green** – the damaged area had been levelled up and re-seeded (p.1869/3a refers).

**Playground inspection course** – had been postponed to 17<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Vann was still able to attend (p.1871/4 refers).

**Bulb plantings** – 3 verge plantings had been requested by householders, the bulbs had been supplied at a total cost of £175.00 excl VAT, and all except 2 drifts had been planted by volunteers (p.1872/11 refers). **It was resolved** that this expenditure be charged to the PAF. Jeff Hawksworth and Lee Matson **were thanked** for the loan of specialist planting tools and Tania Sharp **was thanked** for the donation of grape hyacinth corms.

**LCC Members Highways Fund** – additional funding was available, and extra stiles had been suggested for replacement by kissing gates (p.1870/3e refers).

**CFG** – John Piggon had resigned as Chairman, having served since 2011, and **was thanked** for his work for walkers in the area.

**Churchyard wall** – had been monitored on 21<sup>st</sup> August and had shown the least deviation from the vertical measured so far, no doubt due to the summer drought. The deviation at the centre of the bulge in the wall was 82mm. The maximum deviation measured so far had been 97mm in February 2021.

**Northfields** – 35% shared ownership of no.6 had been offered for sale to a person with a local connection for £89,950.

**Cemetery** – permission had been granted for the erection of a memorial to Frank Mephram.

**TPA** – plastic bird spikes had been installed on the cross bar over the swings to prevent birds landing and their droppings fouling the seats.

**H&BBC Parishes Forum** – the Clerk had represented the PC at a meeting at Newbold Verdon on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

**Local Plan** – submission and examination had been scheduled for March 2023, but had now been postponed until later in the year due to changes in Government policy and methodology and uncertainties over the number of houses required in the Borough.

**Neighbourhood Watch** – questionnaire had been forwarded to all Councillors.

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

#### **g) Members of the public**

A parishioner complained that the PC was failing to carry forward the recommendations of the Parish Plan and engage with the community regarding reducing traffic speeds, in view of the response from LCC Highways (item 10 below). It was suggested that costings be obtained and public subscriptions invited to pay for the installation of physical traffic calming measures and a 20 mph zone. Cllr Cook advised that the cost of the necessary investigations and design work for a scheme would be very expensive ( and probably prohibitively so).

#### **4. Cemetery plan**

**It was resolved** that a revised plan of the Cemetery be adopted.

#### **5. Grounds maintenance specifications for 2023-2025**

The plan of the CDJO had been updated, and draft specifications had been copied to Councillors in August. **It was resolved** that (i) a single contract would be awarded for the three areas - Carlton Green & Little Lane; Saint Andrew's Churchyard & Carlton Parish Cemetery; and the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard; (ii) the draft grounds maintenance specifications and other documentation **be approved** with minor modifications; (iii) the contract would be for the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025, with an option to renew at a *pro rata* price for 2026 and 2027; (iv) a fixed-price quotation be invited from local contractors who had asked to be considered for this kind of work since the current contracts had been awarded; (v) the closing date and time for the receipt of quotations would be noon on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November; and (vi) quotations would be considered at the PC meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **6. Repair of the church gate and replacement of the lamp**

Local farrier and blacksmith Ed Robinson had volunteered to repair the church gate free of charge. **It was resolved** that this kind offer be accepted.

A specification and suggested design for a replacement lamp had been approved by Councillors and were being considered by local blacksmiths. The final design would depend on the availability of materials and the preferred approach to construction. **It was resolved** that two quotations be sought for consideration at the next meeting as a project for P&CIF funding.

## **7. Christmas illuminations in the churchyard**

**It was resolved** that (i) the lighting event would be arranged jointly with the FoSACC and the Carlton Rock Choir; (ii) the PC would be responsible for the installation of the lights; (iii) the FoSACC would be responsible for running the event; (iii) the PC would make a bucket collection and the donations would be split equally between the FoSACC and the Rock Choir charities; (iv) the lights would be switched on at the sixth stroke of the church clock on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

The Clerk held the baubles and fairy lights used previously to decorate the Christmas tree, and a plan had been drawn showing the size and location of the trees on the northern and western sides of the church building. In the church there was a 13a socket in the clock chamber, and numerous 13a sockets in the Community Hub. Overhead supply cables could be run from a window opening at the top of the ladder to the clock chamber to a yew tree on the west side of the church tower, and from a louvre window in the Hub via a rainwater downpipe to a yew tree on the northern side of the church.

**It was resolved** that (i) new LED lights would be acquired for this event; (ii) Councillors would form a working party to draw up specifications and investigate suppliers; (iii) the working party would be authorised to order equipment up to the agreed budget of £360 (p.1855/5 refers).

## **8. Report 2022-16: Survey of roadside ash trees**

**It was resolved** that Report 2022-16 be approved.

## **9. H&BBC Community Governance Review**

Draft recommendations had been published in July. The proposals put forward by the PC (p.1867/12 refers) had not been supported by the H&BBC Governance Review Working Group, nor by Market Bosworth PC. It was recognised that the PC's proposals stood no chance of adoption without strong support from Market Bosworth PC.

**It was resolved** that no further action be taken.

## **10. Responses from Leicestershire County Council**

In view of recommendations made in the Carlton Parish Plan 2021, the PC had asked LCC Highways to (a) impose a 20 mph speed limit in the village, and (b) assess the Main St/Barton Rd junction with a view to constructing a pedestrian refuge in the middle of Main St at this point (p.1871/6a, 6b refer).

### **a) 20 mph speed limit in the village**

LCC Highways had advised that 20mph speed signage would not be effective if the average

speed in the area was more than 24mph (DfT guidance). Speed surveys using two wires across the road had been carried out for 1 week in September near the eastern and western ends of Main Street:

#### **Site A - East of Congerstone Lane**

	Mean speed	85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speed
All traffic (both directions)	27.2 mph	32.8 mph
Northeastbound traffic	25.8 mph	31.1 mph
Southwestbound traffic	28.5 mph	34.1 mph

#### **Site B – West of Barton Road**

All traffic (both directions)	26.1 mph	31.5 mph
Northeastbound traffic	25.4 mph	31.3 mph
Westbound traffic	26.8 mph	31.9 mph

These surveys showed that the majority of drivers were complying with the 30 mph speed limit. There had been no reported physical injury accidents in the previous 5 years along the full length of Main St. These facts were a good indication that motorists were aware of the prevailing environment and were driving accordingly. In this situation a blanket 20 mph zone would be unlikely to result in any reduction in speed, unless associated with physical traffic calming measures.

**It was resolved** that LCC Highways **be thanked** for their comprehensive appraisal and analysis.

#### **b) Pedestrian refuge in Main St at the junction with Barton Road**

LCC Highways had advised that pedestrian refuge islands were not for traffic calming, and a refuge could not be considered because of the low level of footfall in the village. Even if justified by a crossing survey, the construction of a refuge would require a complete re-design of the junction and would be very expensive.

**It was resolved** that no further action be taken.

With regard to both proposals, **it was resolved** that the response and analysis from LCC Highways be published on the PC website and summarised in the next issue of Carlton News.

In view of the level of public concern about speeding traffic **it was resolved** that an invitation to local residents to volunteer to form a Community Speedwatch Group be publicised in the next issue of Carlton News.

### **11. Planning matters**

#### **a) Planning applications and appeals 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).

**22/00167/OUT Outline planning application for the erection of up to 125 dwellings.**

Land north of Shenton Lane, Market Bosworth. PC objected on grounds that the site (i) is not allocated for development in the Market Bosworth Neighbourhood Plan or the draft Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan; and (ii) has totally inadequate transport links to Market Bosworth town centre and local services via Shenton Lane and Warwick Lane, both of which are narrow, already congested, lack adequate footways and have substandard junction geometries.

**c) Planning applications and appeals determined****d) Enforcement matters**

There were none.

**12. Next meeting**

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Saint Andrew's Community Hub, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 21:20 hrs.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abbreviations used in these minutes**

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
CFG	Carlton Footpath Group
FoSACC	Friends of Saint Andrew's Church Carlton
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
LED	Light-emitting diode
LRALC	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
PAF	Parish Amenities Fund
PC	Parish Council
P&CIF	Parish & Community Initiative Fund
TPA	Toddlers Play Area