

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in St Peter's Church Carlton On Thursday 7 November 2013

Present: - Stephen Roberts, Hedley Francis, Malcolm Stennett, Michael Mann, Caroline Revitt, Roger Hickford - County Councillor, Andrew Fraser – District Councillor
Edith Osborn as Clerk

1 **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Paul Dean and Richard Barrett - District Councillor

2 **Declarations of Interest**

No councillor had any new interests to declare.

3 **Minutes** of the Meeting held on 12 September 2013.

Further to the above minutes, the Chairman advised that the meeting on 8 November 2013 with the Vicar and Scilla Latham to discuss the change of use for the Church had been postponed.

Caroline Revitt proposed that the minutes be accepted and Michael Mann seconded the proposal.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2013 were approved.

4 **Administration**

4.1 Annual Risk Assessment

The Clerk advised that the risk assessment had not been altered since last year as the risks remained the same.

Councillor Hickford advised that SCDC had £40k to spend within South Cambridgeshire and that the Parish Council should make a bid for some of that money if for example they wanted to replace the bus shelter.

The Risk Assessment was approved.

4.2 Grass cutting contract

The Clerk advised that the three year term with CGM Landscapes had come to an end but she had heard nothing from them about proposed charges for the next season's contract. It was decided that the Parish Council would wait and see what CGM proposed before going out to tender.

5 **Finance**

5.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

5.1.1 CGM Ltd chq249	£ 72.00
5.1.2 CGM Ltd	£ 72.00
5.1.3 Clerk's expenses	£ 4.35

The payments were authorised.

5.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 October 2013

Malcolm Stennett proposed that the accounts as at 31 October 2013 be approved and Caroline Revitt seconded the proposal.

5.3 Precept 2014/15 as attached

The Clerk reviewed the proposed precept which she had set at £2,800 for the coming year.

Councillor Hickford advised that consideration should be given to the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. He explained that if a family is receiving benefits such as family support or job seekers' allowance, the family does not pay council tax. The Government only granted 92% to the District Council in this financial year but SCDC still paid to the Parish Council the remaining 8%. However, SCDC may not make that reimbursement in the current year and the Government may reduce the percentage to

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75%. Consideration should also be given to other families who may start receiving benefits which will impact the Support Scheme.

After some discussion, it was decided to reduce the proposed maintenance to £50 and the proposed precept to £2,700.

The Chairman proposed that the precept be £2,700 and this was seconded by Hedley Francis, Caroline Revitt and Michael Mann.

6 Planning.

6.1 The Clerk advised that there had been no further planning applications.

7 Environmental

7.1 Village Survey update

Caroline Revitt advised that there were more surveys still to be received, currently 62% had been returned.

7.2 Footpaths

The Chairman advised that he had submitted a note to the Village Voice about the horses walking on the Millenium Walkway. He had had no feedback on his remarks. Councillor Hickford requested whether he could have access to Village Voice and it was decided to ask Trish Bull to email him a copy.

It was noted that the willow tree at the bottom of the Green Lane had split in two.

There was no further news on the bridge at the back of Acre Lane.

7.3 Blocked drains

It was decided to wait and see how much water continued to lie at the Old School corner before taking action again.

7.4 Car speed through Carlton Green

Councillor Hickford advised that he had reviewed the Appeal documentation prepared by Paul Dean and he noticed that various good reasons for the Appeal had not been included. He confirmed that he would re-work the Appeal wording and advise Paul.

7.5 Sewerage at Carlton Green update

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

7.6 Village pond

Michael Mann had cleared the pond earlier in the year and the pond was now filling up.

Councillor Hickford advised that it would be a good idea to find out who owned the ponds on the Green Lane and whose responsibility it was to maintain them.

It was decided that the Chairman would contact the Land Registry to ascertain the cost of the relevant searches.

7.7 Dog Bin

The Council had completed the site visit and the best place for the dog bin would be next to the signpost. It would be emptied weekly by SCDC.

No date for installation had been advised.

7.8 Mobile Warden Scheme

The Chairman advised that a note had appeared in the Village Voice which included Carlton where the service could be offered.

Councillor Fraser advised that there was only one person covering the four villages.

The cost to the Parish Council will be £25.

Councillor Hickford stated that it was a service to the community.

It was proposed to support this scheme. All councillors voted in favour of supporting the Scheme.

7.9 War Memorial Cleaning

The Clerk advised that she had sent out requests for three quotations for the cleaning of the War Memorial but as yet had received no replies.

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7.10 Trees – new planting

Caroline Revitt advised that one of the results of the Village Survey was that people like living in this wooded area but within ten years the skyline will have changed due to ash dieback, for example.

Councillor Fraser advised that there was a scheme to notify about ash dieback, starting in the spring of 2014.

Caroline Revitt advised that free trees were on offer, provided that an application had been submitted by January 2014. It was decided to make an application for 30 saplings.

8 District Councillor's report

Cllr Fraser raised a number of issues:

- A review of polling districts is underway as some areas had had significant new building
- Superfast broadband is to come to this area between June and September 2015
- Complaints had been received about the amount of time it takes to get through to SCDC's call centre. New staff are being employed to alleviate this problem

9 County Councillor's report

Cllr Hickford reported on the major issues affecting the County Council:

- Since the leader of the A1307 Steering Group had left, no further action had been taken. There had been no major incidents recently. It is the seventh busiest road in Cambridgeshire.
- The contract for the No 19 Bus service which does not serve Carlton was awarded to GoRider
- The Community Infrastructure Levy will replace S106 in 2015. It will be based on a charge per house and 15% of the charge will be passed to the Parish Council
- A new proposal has been submitted to the Government for the A14 tolling: local people should not pay of just pay a flat fee. £500m is the proposed cost of the whole scheme

10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

The items mentioned previously.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 7 February 2013 at 8pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm.