## CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 11 May 2017 St PETER'S CHURCH

Present: Stephen Roberts (Chairman), Michael Mann, Hedley Francis, Giles Dobson, Paul Archer, Edith Osborn as Clerk Cllr Andrew Fraser – SCDC Cllr Richard Turner - SCDC Cllr Batchelor - CCC A number of members of the public.

#### 1 Parish Council Report to the Parish

The Chairman gave a warm welcome to those attending the annual meeting. He noted that Carlton was a close knit community within the Balsham ward. Although Carlton had no public buildings people managed to get together.

All of the items in last year's minutes are covered again in this year's minutes. The Chairman proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2016 be approved and Michael seconded the motion. The Chairman mentioned Martin Reynolds who had been Chairman of the Council for many years and also Clerk. During his time on the Council, due to his work and the team around him, they had managed to stop the reservoir being built. He was also involved in many other activities. He had expressed his condolences on behalf of the Parish Council to his wife.

The Chairman then introduced the members of the Council to the parishioners who represented the lowest level of local government on many and varied issues. He also introduced Henry Batchelor who has been voted in as a county councillor for four years from 2014. He also introduced the two councillors on South Cambridgeshire county council.

The Chairman then reported on the Highways Initiative Scheme whereby a bid had been submitted for speed restrictions on the B1052 through Willingham Green supported by all of the population in the hamlet. The Chairman had put forward the case relating to various categories and also mentioning that there had been two deaths during the year on that road. Out of 172 applications, the Council's submission scored third highest in the county.

Carlton Green and Willingham Green have a national speed limit of 60mph.

He then mentioned that this is the second consecutive year that the Council had laid road planings on the Green Road which has made a great improvement to the surface. He thanked Peter and Andrew Coppen for their help with the preparation and spreading of planings. He would like to complete the job this year.

He reported that the Parish Council now own the phone box at the Old School junction as no use was being made of the box for calls.

He thanked various people for their help in moving the broadband access forward.

The accounts for the Council can be found on the website or speak to the Clerk.

He noted that problems with the roads such as potholes and footpaths can be reported on the county council website. The surface of the road at the bend around the Old School House is to be replaced, this will involve a road closure with a 10 week notice period. Potentially the work will be done in June together with other repairs to the roads. The Grit bin will also be sorted out.

The Parish Council had not objected to any of the planning applications this year but provided local knowledge as necessary.

Tree planting continued within the parish, particularly because of ash die-back.

He noted that house security had been to the fore this year as there had been two daytime burglaries so he advised keeping a watchful eye and even take pictures as evidence.

He noted that there are joint parish meetings held once per month to discuss issues that affect the villages. Someone from the planning office at SCDC attends. There have been complaints about speeding which had led to speed indicator devises being installed in the villages.

Communication is by email around the village.

#### 2 Footpaths, Bridleway, Trees and wildflowers

The Chairman noted that Caroline Revitt and Josephine Roberts had been working with CGM so that the damaged trees on the walkway were replaced by CGM and further trees supplied to be planted at the bottom of the bridleway. Many of the wildflowers sewn on the bank are still coming through. The

vegetation around and on the verge waiting area on Brinkley Road had been cut back but the area is only large enough for a car.

The Volunteering Scheme set up by the County Council insures volunteers for litter picking, cutting back of vegetation on footpaths and cleaning street signs.

#### 3 Broadband

The Chairman noted that not every villager was happy with the broadband coverage. Carlton Green have fibre to the house, however, the green cabinet in Carlton Green Road has not been sited correctly to suit BT, and therefore is further away from the houses in the village. Connecting Cambridgeshire require 99% of Cambridgeshire to be connected by 2020 and now they will have to come back to do further work to enable that standard to be achieved. Residents need to contact their ISP to obtain the service and it was noted that the cost is not much more than people are currently paying.

#### 4 Willingham Green Highway Improvements

The Chairman advised that the speed limit on the B1052 is 60mph as this cannot be changed, it has been decided to add SLOW signs as there are so many horses and walkers following the Icknield Way in that area. The scheme to slow the traffic has been approved with a 10% contribution by the parish council approx.. £230, and will be completed in the summer. The feedback from the residents of Willingham Green is that they would like the speed reduced on that road.

### 5 BT phonebox -defibrillator

BT have taken their equipment out of the phonebox and the best use for the box was proposed as holding a n emergency defibrillator which would cost £800-£1,000. Funding for this could be made through the Wadlow Wind Farm and an application would need to be submitted by 1 August.

#### 6 Report by County Councillor

Henry Batchelor introduced himself and advised that he lives in Linton and has been a District Councillor for three years.

He reported that:

- City Deal will boost the economy of Cambridge by improving the infrastructure and later on the building of new housing. £39m has been allocated to improve the A1307
- Devolution should allow local authorities to have more control of what they are spending money on. Mayors have been appointed but he was not sure how this will work out.
- Local Highway Improvements is a good initiative and new projects need to be thought of.
- The reporting portal on the Council's website can be used for all highways matters.
- The Chairman queried where is the funding going to go in the rural areas. Will it be fair across the county?

## 7 Report by the District Councillors

Richard Turner referred to the speed indicator devices and where they will be sited.

The number of District Councillors will be reduced from 57 to 45 despite the population increasing in the Cambridge area. Balsham will be split covering from Haverhill to Carlton. Elections will be every four years. In the Local Plan anticipated to be in place from the beginning of next year, Cambridge City and South Cambs will join together. In the meantime speculative planning applications for housing are being approved. Currently there is not a full compliment of staff in the planning department. Ermine St Housing, set up by the Council, has built 5.5k homes so far and is being shortlisted for a Housing award. Rents for these houses are at market level and provides an income for the Council. The proposal is for 250 social houses to be built annually.

SCDC are working with Cambridge City on rubbish bin collection which will save £700k over 5 years. SCDC are offering Community Chest awards up to £1k per project.

Andrew Fraser referred to the A1307 and the proposals for a P&R near Four Wentways roundabout together with new cycle and walking routes. Haverhill Council want the A1307 upgraded as they are keen to expand the town. A Linton bypass and a possible new railway are suggestions. The Chamber of Commerce employed a company to obtain data by using cameras on the A1307, The results were fed to the City Deal executives. Last year a consultation had recommended a new bus route but the data was flawed as it was not based on actual data.

The combined parishes meeting is useful as there are common comments from parishes and the meetings are beneficial as representatives are there at the meeting.

#### 8 Questions

Malcolm Stennett queried why the village needed SIDs Peter Coppen queried why all the potholes were not filled at the same time? Henry Batchelor advised that each hole is assessed before filling. £16k has been paid out in compensation instead of filling the holes.

9 Conclusion

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm with refreshment being made available to all attending.