CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 9 MAY 2013 St PETER'S CHURCH

Present: Stephen Roberts (Chairman), Michael Mann, Caroline Revitt, Hedley Francis, Malcolm Stennett, John Coppen, Paul Dean Richard Barrett and Andrew Fraser SCDC, Edith Osborn as Clerk.

A number of members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed parishioners to the meeting.

1 Parish Council Report to the Parish

The Chairman welcomed in particular the new residents to the village and advised them of who the councillors were.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the work carried out by her over the last year.

The Chairman reported that Carlton was a small parish and spread over a large area. The Precept is based on the number of people living in the area. It currently stands at £2,500 and covers costs such as grass cutting and the Clerk's salary. The increase in council tax according to SCDC's valuation band was as follows: an increase of 2.7% for Carlton, 2% increase for CCC and 4.3% increase by SCDC. Carlton has £1,785 in reserves. There have been 5 planning applications in the last year, none were opposed by the Parish Council.

The Localism Bill of 2011 allowed the feasibility of introducing Parish Plans. The Parish Council considered that Carlton may need a Plan in the future.

At the last Parish Meeting a decision was reached that Carlton Green would like to enquire of Anglian Water whether mains drainage could be brought to the hamlet. An application was made but Anglian Water rejected the application on the grounds of cost. The residents can appeal to the Environment Agency or could requistion a sewer but would have to contribute to the cost.

Road safety measures in Carlton Green were also a concern at the last meeting and Paul Dean, subsequent to the meeting, submitted an application which will be reviewed in May 2013.

The residents in Carlton had raised concerns about the drains in Church Road and after talking to the Highways department, the Chairman had contacted the Vesteys who had cleared the ditch at the Old School corner. The water now flowed and the drains could now be flushed out in Church Rd.

The broken sign at Willingham Green Rd had been reported some time ago but had not been repaired. The water running down and across Acre Rd is not an easy problem to resolve. Highways had made investigations but nothing further has been achieved.

The Chairman also reported that there had been two burglaries in the last year but most crime was being targeted in surrounding villages, particularly the theft of heating oil.

He noted that 911 is the new number when reporting a crime to the Police.

Superfast broadband is being rolled out by CCC by 2015 to cover 90% of the population but the Chairman was unsure whether Carlton would be part of that 90%.

The Jubilee Oak had been planted in the Churchyard and the Chairman suggested that the Parish Council liaise with the PCC about a plaque.

The Chairman thanked Robin and Andy Wylie for their tremendous service and devotion as Church Wardens, fifty years and twenty years respectively.

2 Payment of Public Open Space and Community Facilities Contributions

The Chairman reported that when there is new development in the community, a S106 agreement is usually put in place. SCDC had implemented supplementary planning documents in 2009 and 2010 to assist in their decision making processes for new developments. Contributions under these planning documents relied on conditions being met. On larger developments the contributions are used for access roads but in Carlton only one house has been built so the contribution from SCDC amounted to $\pounds 3,104.38$ and $\pounds 513.04$. This amounts to 145% of the precept received as extra income.

Wind turbine – funding for local projects

Wadlow Wind Farm is set to generate 26 mega watts of power which will run 15,000 houses, 29% of houses in South Cambridgeshire. The Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund administered by the Cambridge Community Foundation offers an annual payment of £39,000 towards local projects. In

order to qualify for this funding one of the conditions is that the people proposing the project live within 5km of the site. Carlton village falls outside the limit but Willingham Green is within the limit. The Chairman of the Wind Farm has stated that the limit does not preclude projects outwith the limit but it must benefit residents within the area.

4 Village survey

Caroline Revitt advised that the Parish Council has reviewed Neighbourhood plans and Parish plans and had decided that they were not suitable for Carlton but a survey of residents would be useful. With potential funding, as noted above, she felt it was exciting to consider what could be achieved. She planned to base the survey on one used by West Wickham and councillors would meet the residents face to face to find out what issues they had and what they would like to do with the monies. The survey will contain questions on utilities, transport, village facilities, planings on the bridleway, footpaths and repairing the Millenium Walkway. Other things to consider would be that there is no community centre in Carlton, would the Church be suitable to use as a dual purpose facility, possibly by having removable chairs?

The Chairman advised that he had spoken to Rev Pauline, and the Diosese were keen to promote multifunction use so would be keen to support this type of proposal.

This idea could be added to the survey, together with affordable housing, the development of the Gowing site, education, sport in Brinkley, environment and communication.

5 Footpaths, Bridleway, Trees and wildflowers

Caroline Revitt advised that the problem with the footpath at the back of Acre Rd had been dealt with by the County Council. The Enforcement Officer had been out to the site and work had now started on the stile. She noted that it had been difficult to walk the fields due to the rain. She also noted that there was Rights of Way website.

She noted that Josephine and Stephen had started on the wildflower beds on the Millenium Walkway. Perenial seeds had been broadcast and a tray of cornflowers and rudbeckia had also been sown. Aconites had also been added to the bank.. The idea is to spread the wildflowers over the length of the bank of the Millenium Walkway. Mr Blackford suggested that the wildflower bank may take 3 years to establish.

The Ecology Officer had advised which seeds to use.

The Farm Manager had agreed not to spray over the beds.

6 Councillors' Reports on Broader District and County Matters

Councillor Barrett introduced Andrew Fraser as the newly elected District Councillor for Balsham at SCDC.

Councillor Barrett reported on the following:-

- SCDC were finding their financial position tough which had lead to a reduction in staff
- SCDC had a 99% record of collecting Council Tax
- The Community Chest Budget was only available up to £1,000 for help with one-off costs for a project or activity
- SCDC are looking into sharing of services with other local authorities
- SCDC are looking at building 1-2 bedroom houses on old garage sites, 100 villages had built houses in this way already
- SCDC's refuge collection is one of the best, the contents of the blue bins are completely recycled. As the main recycling machine at Waterbeach is still broken, the contractors are standing the cost of the black bins going to landfill.
- Cllr Barrett noted that Cllr Hickford could not attend this meeting

7 Questions

Mr Blackford raised the issue of dog fouling the footpaths and byways. It has been a legal requirement since 1996 to clear up dog mess. Stephen Roberts agreed to place an article in Village Voice to alert the parishioners to this requirement. He had also contacted SCDC and they had advised that they can provide bins and empty them free of charge.

Josephine Roberts advised that the village pond at the top of the Green Lane was reliant on water coming off the field. Michael Mann is to repair the sluice.

Michael Mann was thanked for repairing the village noticeboard by the Church.

It was noted again that the grass verges and edges of the roads were being torn up. This matter would be taken up with the new County Councillor and the Highways department.

It was also noted that the speed of lorries and cars through the village was an issue.

A feasibility study for conversion of the Church into a community use building would be carried out.

8	Conclusion The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm with refreshment being made available to all attending.