

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in St Peter's Church Carlton On Thursday 28 July 2016

Present: - Michael Mann, Giles Dobson, Stephen Roberts, Stan Richardson, Kate Homan, Paul Archer, Edith Osborn as Clerk, Andrew Fraser – District Councillor,

A quorum was established.

1 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Roger Hickford - County Councillor and Richard Turner - District Councillor
Hedley Francis did not attend.

2 Minutes of Meeting held 12 May 2016.

Further to the minutes of last meeting, the Chairman queried whether a letter of thanks had been sent to Caroline Revitt. The clerk confirmed that the letter had been sent.

Kate Homan noted that her name had been omitted from those attending the last meeting. Stephen Roberts proposed that the minutes be approved, including the amendment, and this proposal was seconded by Michael Mann.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no new Declarations of Interest

4 Administration

4.1 Co-option of councillor

The Chairman advised that following the request for new councillors, Paul Archer in Carlton had put his name forward. Stephen Roberts proposed that he be appointed to the Council and Michael Mann seconded the proposal.

All voted in favour.

4.2 Bank account and signatories

The Clerk advised that the internal auditor had suggested that the parish council look for a bank account paying interest, even if only a small amount. The Clerk had researched the options and found no bank account paying interest but only accounts where charges were levied so there was no need to change accounts at this time.

As Caroline Revitt was a signatory to the bank account, a new signatory was required. Stan Richardson offered to be a signatory and there were no objections. The Clerk would now action the changes via the Bank's online facility.

4.3 Audit

The internal auditor had suggested that he stand down from the position as he had been in place for approximately ten years. Councillor Fraser advised that he would forward a list of appropriate people who could audit parish council accounts.

4.4 NALC pay scales 2016-17 – approval of Clerk's salary

The Chairman noted that NALC had agreed new pay scales for 2016-17, effective from 1 April 2016, the new minimum rate is £8.717 per hour. Stephen Roberts proposed that the council approve the new rate effective from 1 April 2016 and Giles Dobson seconded the proposal.

4.5 Date of next year's AGM and Parish Meeting

After some discussion it was decided to retain both meetings on the same day and have the AGM start at 7.15pm as those timings worked well this year.

5 Finance

5.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

5.1.1 CGM Ltd	£ 96.00
5.1.2 Clerk's expenses	£ 41.16
5.1.3 Stephen Roberts	£ 32.75

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Michael Mann proposed that the payments be approved and Giles Dobson seconded the motion.

5.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 30 June 2016.

The receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 30 June 2016 were proposed for acceptance by Giles Dobson and seconded by Kate Homan.

6 Planning.

6.1 There were no new planning issues to discuss.

7 Environment

7.1 Broadband

The Chairman referred to the email which he had circulated noting two options available to the village. He had received 22 responses from the villagers and most had preferred option 1 which was to have the box sited on Carlton Green Road and the broadband installation be completed by December 2016. However, the houses on the periphery in Brinkley Road and Acre Road would have a lower speed broadband service as a result. The cabinet would have to be future proofed for the infrastructure.

The Connecting Cambridgeshire website relating to Carlton now reads:

Premises in Carlton and Carlton Green are included in the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme to improve the broadband infrastructure to enable as many homes and businesses as possible to receive superfast broadband speeds (min 24 Mbps).

Revised solutions for the complex engineering task of bringing high speed fibre broadband to both communities are underway. These will include a new fibre cabinet serving premises in Carlton village and an additional solution to ensure the small number of premises in Carlton Green don't miss out.

BT has confirmed that premises in Carlton will receive fibre broadband by the end of December 2016, and anticipate that premises in Carlton Green will be receive fibre broadband by the end of June 2017. Survey work will be undertaken during June and July 2016, and civil engineering work is expected to begin in Autumn 2016.

Connecting Cambridgeshire and BT are working with Carlton Parish Council to keep the community informed of progress and we will update these pages when we have more details.

One of the email responses Stephen Roberts obtained was a query from a Carlton Green resident about whether premises located there would be better served by use of the existing West Wrating exchange. Stephen Roberts said that he would pursue this query with Connecting Cambridgeshire.

It was noted that the broadband speed in Weston Colville and Balsham is still pretty poor even after their existing cabinets had been upgraded. People in West Wickham are obtaining faster speeds when using the satellite option of broadband provision.

7.2 S106 monies – proposal for use

In May 2016, three lorry loads of planings were spread onto the Green Lane, but due to the recent heavy rain, a small proportion of this first batch had been washed off the path into the surrounding foliage as well as into the adjacent stream. However, another three lorry loads will be delivered on Saturday and a small part of this will be used to replace the lost material. The majority is to be used to renovate the surface of the stretch of the Green Lane running from the ford and up the hill towards Weston Colville. This section of the path is extensively used by residents of the village as it forms part of a circular route for walkers.

Another option was to spend S106 money on the Millenium Walkway. The Chairman had received a letter from Tim Barling of Thurlow Estate who had referred to the trees on the Walkway in regards to liability if they fall over and the maintenance

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thereof. The Clerk had searched the council's files for back up papers but there were none which explained any agreement with the Estate on these issues.

Councillor Fraser advised that there had been a court ruling in which the developer had claimed back unused S106 monies after five years rather than ten years so the council need to find a use for the monies.

7.3 Salt Bin

The Chairman confirmed that the damaged sign and salt bin had been reported to SCDC and CCC respectively but nothing further had happened. He would chase both councils. (The dead tree on Acre Road had been reported to the tree officer.)

7.4 Footpaths

The Chairman was not aware of any issues with the footpaths but he would check with Caroline Revitt regarding contact telephone numbers at SCDC. He noted that Carlton's footpaths were in better order than the footpaths in surrounding villages.

7.5 Carlton Green/speed restriction works

The work at Carlton Green to make the road safer had been completed and the residents are pleased with the work. The invoice from CCC had not yet been received.

7.6 Grass cutting contract

It was noted that there had been a few problems this year. The grass had been growing quickly but the grass cutters had not managed to alter their schedule to keep up with the growth and complaints from villagers ensued. Some of the new trees on the Millenium Walkway had been damaged by the grasscutters. Safety on the bends was another consideration. The contract is up for renewal at the end of this season and it was agreed to continue with four cuts per year in spite of overgrown verges at some points in the season.

7.7 Grass verges

The Chairman had received a reply from Tim Barling which he would email to everyone. There was no further information under S106 regarding movements in and out of the grainstore.

He noted that the Farrants had positioned stakes around the edge of the verge to stop vehicles driving on the grass as they come round the bend at the Church corner. He had emailed Roger Hickford about the problem and had heard nothing from him or the Highways department.

Andrew Fraser suggested that the council could apply for a grant under the Highways Improvement Scheme to complete works similar to the work done at Corner Cottage. An application would need to be made by the end of October. It was queried whether lorries should be driving to the grainstore through the village and not just from the grainstore but evidence of movements would be needed.

7.8 WWF grants

The deadline for making the next application to Wadlow Wind Farm is 1 August.

There have not been enough applications so far but no scheme could be suggested to be submitted.

8 District Councillor's report

Councillor Fraser referred to :

- shared services: a director of planning has been appointed to cover Cambridge City Council and SCDC. There has been a lot of complaints at the speed of response to requests and going to appeal costs money so he will be looking at the officers' decisions to better improve the service.

- legal services: a new director should be in place by the end of August and a number of officers' posts have been filled.

- Community Chest: there is still some money available

- Training headed by Jane Green can provide help with specific needs such as planning procedures.

- Devolution: It was proposed that Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire join to create a combined authority but that will not happen. There is synergy between Huntingdon and Cambridge so talks will continue. The downside of these proposals is the elected mayor so the talks are working to try and decrease the amount of authority which the

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position will command. He noted that South Cambs has three quarters of £100m ringfenced for housing. The consultation ends on 23 August and can be accessed: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/devolutionsurvey. All views will be considered. The councils will approve at the end of September/October.

9 County Councillor's report

No report was available.

10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:
Gravel on the Millenium Walkway

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 10 November 2016 at 8pm

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm.