

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in St Peter's Church Carlton On Thursday 12 February 2015

Present: - Stephen Roberts, Hedley Francis, Michael Mann, Paul Dean, Richard Barrett - District Councillor
Edith Osborn as Clerk

1 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Caroline Revitt, Roger Hickford - County Councillor, Andrew Fraser – District Councillor

A quorum was present.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 November 2014.

The Chairman referred to some items from the previous minutes; the Clerk advised that she had not provided feedback to CAPALC regarding the proposed membership fees as they had voted on the issue shortly after the meeting and qualified their decision by saying that although some small councils would pay more, the new calculation was fairer to more parish councils. Road safety measures would be picked up on later.

Paul Dean arrived. The Chairman had contacted Thurlow Estate regarding the ditch in Acre Road and found out that Mr Bennett of Carlton Green rods the drain at the bottom of the field on an annual basis. The ditch has now been cleared out near the village pump and it was noted that the problems are partially caused by a broken drain. The ditch will now be monitored and if there is no improvement, the Highways department will be contacted.

The Chairman had received an update from Connecting Cambridgeshire regarding broadband provision but he had no confirmation of speed provided and where the boxes would be sited.

Michael Mann proposed that the minutes be accepted and Hedley Francis seconded the proposal.

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2014 were approved.

3 Declarations of Interest

No councillor had any new interests to declare.

4 Administration

4.1 Risk assessment

The draft Risk Assessment was reviewed and it was noted that the bus shelter was a concern but would be discussed later, grass cutting was in hand, the War Memorial would be discussed later and the Chairman confirmed that the replacement of the electrics in the Church had been approved and that the contractor would be starting as soon as possible.

Stephen Roberts proposed that the Risk Assessment be approved and Hedley Francis seconded the proposal.

4.2 Village website and communication

The Chairman stated that he had tended to rely on the oil syndicate listing for the distribution of emails around the village but as that was not being kept up to date, some other form of communication would be needed. He suggested having a database or a website upgrade. Hedley Francis advised that he was reviewing the options for a website which the Clerk could access and keep up to date. He agreed to also look into a group email option.

5 Finance

5.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

5.1.1 St Peter's Church

£ 150.75

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

5.1.2 Clerk's salary £ 1,321.99

5.1.3 Clerk's expenses £ 29.60

The Chairman proposed that the payments be authorised and Paul Dean seconded the proposal.

5.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 January 2015

Stephen Roberts proposed that the accounts as at 31 January 2015 be approved and Michael Mann seconded the proposal.

6 Planning.

6.1 S/2924/14/FL – Four Winds – extension to garage

6.2 S/2991/14/FL – Carlton House-side and rear extension

Both planning applications had been approved by the District Council.

7 Environmental

7.1 Anglian Water - Carlton Green Sewerage Scheme

Paul Dean had received a reply from Anglian Water suggesting that if the residents shared the costs of installation then the sewerage scheme may be viable. The costs are high as new pipework needs to be laid for 1.2km to connect to the main sewer and there would need to be a number of environmental surveys. He advised that he would chase Anglian Water again about their suggestion of shared costs. He noted that all the residents at Carlton Green have different sewerage systems which work in different ways.

7.2 S106 monies

It was discussed whether the money could be used for the replacement bus shelter or whether it was still better to make an application to Wadlow Wind Farm as there had only been one application recently which was not favoured, so new applications are required. It was suggested that it might be a good idea to have a signboard indicating where the local walks were and what interesting wildlife could be seen at various points, similar to one at Milton Country Park.

The Clerk agreed to contact the District Council to discuss approval for use of the money.

7.3 Footpaths

Caroline Revitt had provided a report to Stephen Roberts .She thanked everyone for their efforts on New Year's Day for planting the hedging and trees which she had obtained from the Woodland Trust. If further trees are obtained, Peter Coppen had suggested planting them on the byway at the bottom on the left. No new trees have been planted at Carlton Green. Would the residents be interested? Paul Dean suggested planning along the roadside between Carlton and Carlton Green as there are no hedges.

Ash saplings are worth planting in case the current ash trees are diseased.

The Chairman had had a complaint about the footpath between the Old School and the woods. Caroline Revitt had agreed to contact the various land owners to ask that they re-instate the footpaths.

Both bridges, discussed previously, had been completed. The one near the Stour and kissing gate is now a metal bridge, and the one near the ford on the byroad, the treads had been replaced,

7.4 Roadways/Speed restriction applications

Paul Dean referred to the details of the assessment at Carlton Green. Roger Hickford is to offer advice on the next application.

Paul Dean attended the Panel Meeting during the previous week and reported that the results of the traffic survey on the A1307 were discussed. Many motorists were avoiding the A1307 and therefore there were a number of rat runs used which were causing a problem. It was decided at the meeting that the A1307 was not fit for purpose as Haverhill was growing. Suggestions offered were to increase public transport but the conclusion was to build another road between Haverhill and Four Wentways. The City Deal which is a combination of SCDC, Cambridge City, Cambridge County Council and Suffolk County Council have a pot of money available to spend on the stretch of road between the A11 and Cambridge which

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

might include a new Park & Ride site. However, there is no money set aside for an upgrade of the A1307. Development in Saffron Walden means that motorists are driving through Hadstock and joining the A1307 at Linton so increasing the traffic. It was felt that the problem was the volume of traffic not road safety issues.

7.5 War Memorial quotations

The Clerk was asked to get quotes for replacing the lettering on the War Memorial.

7.6 Bus Shelter

As discussed above. Paul Dean had been researching buildings which would fit the concrete base which is there currently.

7.7 Grass cutting contract

Stephen Roberts proposed that the number of cuts per year remained at four and this was seconded by Michael Mann.

8 District Councillor's report

Cllr Barrett reported on a number of issues:

- Finance – Council Tax is to increase to the maximum allowed which is 1.98%. It is anticipated that by 2020, SCDC will receive no money from central government. Changes in the level of population make no difference to what is provided currently to SCDC which is 1.1%.
- The boundary review is in progress. 1,800 electors per ward currently but this could change after the review as there is the possibility of reducing the number of councillors. There are 120 councillors currently but that number could reduce to 100 councillors. Unitary authorities are being discussed in other parts of the country but not so much in the Cambridgeshire area. Cllr Cllr Barrett advised that there were fewer staff at SCDC to support the councillors now so a rapid response on issues is unlikely.
- The Chairman advised that there is still concern about the site at Willingham Green and SCDC planning policies. Cllr Barrett confirmed that SCDC's planning policies were not up to date but they were working with Cambridge City on this. SCDC has sites for proposed building over a period of 15 years but not within the Government's required 5 year term unlike Cambridge City. The Government's inspectors had not accepted this situation.
- Green bins – only one pick up per month over the winter period. Cllr Barrett said that it had worked well and he had had no complaints.
- SCDC magazine - Some residents had not received the December issue.

9 County Councillor's report

There was no report on issues affecting the County Council.

10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting (formerly AOB)

The Chairman referred to the email he had received about the Peter and Ruth Lloyd Trust and which he intended passing on to Village Voice for insertion into the next newsletter.

Paul Dean advised that there was still one resident in Carlton Green who was unhappy about the new telephone mast.

11 Parish Meeting Agenda – items to be included

The Chairman reminded the meeting that speakers would need to be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting in May. He could provide an update on broadband. There were still two vacancies on the Council to be filled.

The Chairman was expecting final permission to be given in the next day or two for the electrical contractors to start work on the Church. Heating will be by convection and the Church will be completely re-wired.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 14 May 2015 at 7.30pm.

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting closed at 9.25pm.