

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF CARLTON

Minutes of a meeting held in St Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton
at 19:30 hrs on Wednesday 12th May 2021

All present stood in silence for one minute in remembrance of
HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), J H Boston, S J Cooper, I Sarson, M A Vann
(Councillors), 3 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Minutes of the meeting of 8th May 2019

It was resolved that the minutes be confirmed, and they were signed by the Chairman. There had not been a Parish Meeting in 2020 because of Covid-19 restrictions.

2. Report from the Carlton Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

Carlton NHW is a community group that exists to help Carlton stay safe, increase knowledge of local crime and policing matters and encourage neighbourliness. In 2020 the scheme was verified by Leicestershire Police and can be found on the national database. This may be useful if household insurers require verification.

72 households are currently registered with the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and receive monthly e-mail crime updates and alerts. Information is also shared via Carlton News and the Carlton Villagers Facebook page on an occasional basis.

Neighbourhood Link and Leicestershire Rural Crime are available to all as a text alert service with live updates of local issues. The national NHW circulate regular newsletters and alerts on latest scams. Market Bosworth Police Facebook page and the monthly Police newsletter for Market Bosworth and Villages is a good source of local police news.

2020/21

During the 12 months April 2020 to March 2021 there were 11 reported crimes in Carlton. This is a significant fall on the total of 21 for last year and 28 in 2018/19. Details are as follows and previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison:

- 0 - criminal damage and arson (2)
- 3 - vehicle crime (4)
- 3 - violence and/or sexual offence (7)
- 3 - public order (2)
- 0 - other theft (3)
- 0 - burglary (2)
- 1 - anti-social behaviour (1)
- 1 - other crime (0)

September was our busiest month for reported crime with 6 crimes in Carlton. The much lower annual figure is likely due to lockdown, people being at home, less movement of

vehicles and less social or alcohol related events. 73% of the crime occurred in the more socially open months of August, September and October.

It is very pleasing to see no burglary in Carlton and less car crime. Households have contributed by taking more measures to secure their assets and our community spirit “keeping eyes and ears out” for neighbours always helps.

Violence and/or sexual offence which covers domestic abuse amongst other things remains the largest crime across the wider Bosworth rural area, accounting for 36% of all reported crime. Nationally and locally this % increased as a result of COVID-19 lockdown measures.

Cybercrime is a constant and increasing issue affecting all ages and social demographics. Unfortunately, we have no way of knowing how much this affects Carlton. Scams this year include the payment for delivery request, investment fraud, romance fraud and hackers who try to acquire bank details. Scams arrive by text, landline, post and email and are constant. NHW have continually highlighted the need for vigilance and increased security on passwords and devices.

Outcome rates for crime in our wider area 12 months to March 2021 are below with last year’s figures in brackets:

- 36% Investigation complete, no further action (43%)
- 28% Unable to prosecute suspect (21%)
- 6% Further investigation or action not in the public interest (6%)
- 5% Under investigation (6%)
- 10% Offender dealt with by local resolution /caution / court result unavailable /action by another organization / awaiting court outcome /charged as part of another case (7%)
- 2% Status update unavailable (6%)
- 13% Other (11%)

The 10% where a clear offender outcome is shown may be disappointing for local residents.

Wider Comparisons

In the 12 months to September 2020 (latest available ONS) the crime rate in Hinckley and Bosworth was broadly the same as the crime rate across nationally similar areas and lower than average for the Leicestershire force area. However:

- vehicle crime was much higher than average (2nd worst in the family of 15 most similar groups)
- robbery was significantly lower than average (2nd best in the family of 15 most similar groups)
- possession of weapons was significantly lower than average (3rd best out of 15 most similar)

Leicestershire Police

Our local beat team have been unable to engage on in their regular meetings and drop in sessions this year due to COVID-19 and it has been a testing year with the changing regulations and government guidance which they have been expected to enforce or educate the public about. Our Beat Team recommend signing up to Neighbourhood Link at <https://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk/>. This allows residents to register your details and receive alerts from police about relevant crime in the local area.

Contacts

The Bosworth Beat Team is temporarily expanded:

PC 207 Robert Cross is a dedicated Neighbourhood Officer for Bosworth villages and can be contacted on 101 voicemail no 0207

Sgt 2194 Shaun Wilson heads the local policing unit for Bosworth, Ratby, Groby, Markfield and Stanton and can be contacted by calling 101 and asking for voicemail no 2194

PC 537 Phil Hale, PC 41 Greg Rawisinski, PC 3004 Mike Statt, PCSO 6598 Emma Rickatson-Roe and PCSO 6073 Simon Stevenson make up the rest of the team.

Inspector Jamie Osborne is the Local Policing Commander for Hinckley and Blaby

We thank all local officers for their support over the past year.

Rosi Yule Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator
Tel: 292212 Email: chalkstorm@btopenworld.com

3. Report from the Chairman of Carlton Parish Council

This time last year, I was reporting how the end of the year had been affected by the Covid pandemic and how our community had adapted to the requirements and restrictions introduced to minimise infections. We all hoped that by the autumn, life would be returning to normal but sadly the second wave saw even tighter restrictions which even affected our Christmas celebrations.

However, the business of the Parish Council must continue so we considered online meetings via zoom but it was felt that there were too many problems linked with poor or no internet access so the number of meetings was reduced to four socially distanced within the church with one councillor attending via an audio link.

I would like to thank all of you for pulling together in providing help to your neighbours and it was particularly encouraging to see so many residents out walking and cycling and enjoying the countryside. I have endeavored to summarise the main items affecting the normal working of the Parish below.

Council

Council meetings may not be the most exciting event in the calendar, but I would invite you to attend a meeting to see first hand how local issues are handled; alternatively please free to contact myself or any Councillor. Attendance this year was: Tupling 3; Boston 4; Cooper 3; Sarson 4; Vann 4; Clerk 4. Parish Council meetings were attended by 4 members of the public. The PC considered 6 planning applications and 2 appeals, and also commented on the Station Rd Market Bosworth Masterplan.

Parish Council meetings will in the foreseeable future be held bi-monthly unless further restrictions are introduced. The Parish Council's accounts for the financial year 2020-21 are summarised on the back page of this report; more details and supporting documentation have been published on the Council's website at www.carltonpc.co.uk. All financial records for this year will be open to public inspection from 14th June to 23rd July. These accounts will be exempt from external audit unless objections to them are raised by a member of the public.

Traffic Problems

Our Speed Indicator Device (SID) is mounted on street lighting columns under a licence

issued by the County Council. These have to be tested regularly and the SID is currently in storage and will be re-deployed when the licence has been renewed.

The Police have been asked to operate a radar speed trap in the village. In addition to speeding issues, parking on pavements creates a dangerous hazard forcing pedestrians onto the road. As a matter of common sense and courtesy for all please ask any workmen or visitors to comply and remember it is an offence to drive on or block the pavement.

Church plans

The Parochial Church Council has now obtained funding to build a small extension to the rear of the church tower to house a disabled toilet and kitchen with building work expected to start in the summer. The Parish Council are in consultation and fully support this development.

Ash die-back disease

Roadside trees in the Parish have been surveyed for the past two years, and the disease appears to be spreading. In 2019, 59% of the trees surveyed were assessed as healthy - this had declined to 46% in 2020. We strongly support the planting of trees within the Parish to enhance the environment; advice or assistance can be provided by our tree warden Chris Peat on 290934.

English elm tree

An English elm tree, kindly donated by Goscote Nurseries, has been planted at the side of the footpath half way between Manor House Farm and Barton in the Beans. The tree, *Ulmus procera* 'Upper Swell' has been propagated from a wild tree found to be resistant to Dutch Elm Disease.

Miscellaneous

The stability of the churchyard wall continues to be monitored with fluctuations in seasonal movement. It has been agreed that no action is required at this stage. The Carlton Parish Plan Group has been working by email and has reviewed progress since the last Parish Plan in 2011. Physical meetings will begin when Covid restrictions are lifted and the Group is on track to issue questionnaires in the Autumn. Three new kissing gates have been installed on local footpaths, thanks to a grant from the County Council, joint working with Nailstone Parish Council and support from local landowners.

Carlton Charity Lands

This year the Trustees have been able to grant 5 educational awards totaling £938.45. The trust has been designed to provide educational support in the form of monetary grants to students aged 16 to 23. For further information please contact Ian Sarson at madrailfan@aol.com

The Gate Hangs Well – Public House

The Gate plays a key role in the community and following the Covid lockdown we hope they will soon be able to return to normality. Regular events are held plus the weekly coffee mornings on Fridays at 11am which provide a useful forum and meeting place for all parishioners.

Thanks to

- Ivan Ould OBE, who will retire in May 2021 having served as our County Councillor since 1997. Ivan regularly attended our Parish Council meetings and ably represented our interests.
- Internal Auditor, Carlton News, Carlton Footpath Group, Carlton Gardening Group, Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group, Keep Carlton Tidy Group, Carlton Youth Champions, Heritage and Tree Warden, Parochial Church Council, Village Fete and Horticultural Show organisers; Borough Councillor Maureen Cook; our local Police Officers and supporting authorities.
- as always, my thanks go to the army of volunteers who have given their time, expertise and equipment to keep the Parish running smoothly.
- finally, my thanks go to my fellow Councillors Judith Boston, Simon Cooper, Ian Sarson, Mick Vann and your Parish Clerk Chris Peat whose support make all of this possible.

Stuart Tupling Chairman

The meeting closed at 19:40 hrs.

Signed _____

Date _____