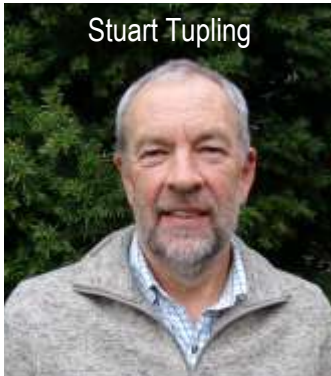


Carlton Parish Council

Annual Report - May 2024

The Parish of Carlton is in the Borough of Hinckley & Bosworth and the County of Leicestershire. In January 2024 there were 160 occupied dwellings in the parish, and 300 registered electors. The parish element of the Band D Council tax in 2023-24 was £47.61.



Stuart Tupling

Chairman's Report 2023-24

This report covers the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

I am frequently asked 'What is a Parish Council and what does it do?' I shall try to provide a simple answer. A Parish Council is an elected body of local government with statutory powers. It has the legal right to take action but has fewer duties. The wide range of powers includes cemeteries and burials, roadside seats, litter bins, street lighting and leisure facilities such as play areas,

open space, footpaths and liaison with the police and other bodies. The Parish Council is consulted on planning matters but can only provide an opinion, not a decision.

Councillors are unpaid volunteers whereas the Clerk is the employed 'proper officer' of the Council in law; all are subject to a Code of Conduct. Council meetings are open to the public but run under certain legal rules and everyone is welcome to attend. Hopefully I have provided you with a brief and simplified answer.

Carlton Parish Council held six meetings last year in Saint Andrew's Community Hub. All meetings were open to the public and were advertised on the Parish notice board, in Carlton News and on the Council's website -www.carltonpc.co.uk. Everyone is welcome and if any of you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact myself or any Councillor.

Attendance this year was: Tupling 6; Arnold 5; Boston 5; Sarson 5; Vann 6; Clerk 6; members of the public 16. The Parish Council considered 18 planning applications and was represented at 5 meetings of other bodies.



Judith Boston



Robin Arnold



Ian Sarson



Mick Vann

The Parish Council's accounts for the financial year 2023-24 are summarised on the back page of this report; more details and supporting documentation has been published on the Council's website. All financial records for this year will be open to public inspection from 3rd June to 12th July. These accounts are exempt from external audit unless objections to them are raised by a member of the public.



The year began with the well-attended Coronation Party at 'The Gate' and my thanks go to the hardworking organisers. The Coronation was also celebrated by the planting of an *Amelanchier* specimen tree in the churchyard by Claire Harris who was a member of the Carlton Brownie Pack which planted trees for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

The Carlton Gardening Group had a busy year. In addition to regular duties, further bulb plantings provided a stunning display of daffodils this spring; tree surgery was carried out in Little Lane; soil was removed from behind the churchyard wall and additional playbark and a planted trough were provided in the Jubilee Orchard. The 'RHS It's Your Neighbourhood' scheme congratulated the Gardening Group with a Level 4 award for the Jubilee Orchard.

Carlton Fete continued its annual success, raising over £3,700 for the church, and the Horticultural Show benefitted from increased entries.

The Christmas light's switch-on was well attended and included a performance by the Carlton Rock Choir raising over £250 for worthwhile causes. In addition thanks go to several residents who with the Parish Council's permission erected an illuminated tree on the East Green.



For those walkers in the village, the majority of the remaining stiles have been replaced with kissing gates and our thanks go to the landowners, County Council members and their funding allocations for their support.

Hinckley and Bosworth Council in conjunction with the Rural Community Council held several public advisory meetings in The Hub and the Police have been providing community liaison sessions in The Gate at the Friday coffee mornings.

All companies and organisations assume that everybody is fully conversant with and has access to the internet and mobile technology. Clearly this is not the case and if anybody would like assistance in viewing documents and reports please contact myself, the Clerk or any Councillor and we will be happy to help.

Good ways of keeping up to date with village activities are Carlton News, the Parish Council website, Facebook or indeed word of mouth particularly at the weekly Friday coffee mornings in The Gate.

Thanks to

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, The Friends of Saint Andrews and the Village Fete and Horticultural Show organisers and the Jubilee Committee, Borough and County Councillors Maureen Cook & Bertie Harrison-Rushton, 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, Robin Arnold, Judith Boston, Ian Sarson, Mick Vann and your Parish Clerk Chris Peat whose support make all of this possible.

Stuart Tupling Chairman

May 2024

Parish Councillors

Stuart Tupling, Bufton Lodge, Barton Road (01455-290301) tupling@carltonpc.co.uk

Robin Arnold, 53 Main Street (01455-293663) robin.arnold@carltonpc.co.uk

Judith Boston, 64 Main Street (01455-291880) boston@carltonpc.co.uk

Ian Sarson, 74 Main Street (01455-290733) ian.sarson@carltonpc.co.uk

Mick Vann, 91 Main Street (01455-290976) michael.vann@carltonpc.co.uk

Clerk

Chris Peat, 7 Main Street, Carlton, Nuneaton, Warks, CV13 0BZ

01455-290934 clerk@carltonpc.co.uk

Financial summary for 2023-24

RECURRENT PAYMENTS		£
Clerk's salary		1800
Cemetery & churchyard maintenance		1398
Transfer to Fixed Asset Fund		650
Clerk - reimbursement of costs		559
Insurance		389
Carlton Greens & Little Lane maintenance		517
Diamond Jubilee Orchard maintenance		374
Donations (First Responders & Horticultural Show)		290
Annual subscriptions (LRALC, NALC, ICO)		255
Play equipment annual inspection & repairs		242
Payroll administration		132
Room hires		130
Bank charges		129
Audit		85
Defibrillator kiosk		70
Training		50
Christmas lighting		40
Administration / miscellaneous		24
NON-RECURRENT PAYMENTS		
Playbark for toddlers play area		1200
Church clock repair grant		200
Street light column testing		576
Pensions Regulator declaration		120
H&BBC election recharge		77
New gatepost for Jubilee Orchard		58
Trough for Jubilee Orchard		60
QR Code signs		50
Total VAT on payments		554
RECEIPTS		£
Precept on H&BBC	8575	
Bank interest	678	
Fee income	650	
Grants & financial contributions	465	
VAT refunds	198	
PAYE refund	14	
Rents	1	
Total receipts	10581	
Brought forward at start of financial year	46148	
Total of receipts and balances	56729	
Total payments		10029
END OF YEAR BALANCE		46700

The figures above have been rounded, and in some cases simplified: more detail can be found in Report 2024-05 and on the Finance pages of the PC's website. The PC also runs five earmarked funds, which are not included in the figures above - one is the Parish Amenities Fund which is supported by public donations and which pays for things like printing Carlton News. Details of these funds can be found in Report 2024-07. I am happy to answer questions about the accounts at any time.

Chris Peat (Responsible Financial Officer)