

CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Saint Andrew's Community Hub, Main Street, Carlton at 7pm on Wednesday 9th July 2025

Present: S G Tupling (Chairman), R G Arnold, J H Boston, I Sarson, M A Vann (Councillors), M A Cook (Borough Councillor), 2 members of the public, C J Peat (Clerk).

1. Administrative matters

a) Apologies for absence from Councillors

There were none.

b) Declarations of interests (including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) and requests for dispensations in respect of items on the agenda

There were none.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 14th May 2025

It was resolved that the minutes be confirmed and they were signed by the Chairman.

3. Reports, questions and comments from the following

a) Parish Councillors

The Chairman drew attention to the long tailbacks of articulated lorries from Palletways eastwards along Victoria Road and West Lane in the evenings. This was also the lorry route between the new Aldi hub at Nailstone and the M1 and would be expected to carry much more lorry traffic in future. **It was resolved** that this matter be drawn to the attention of LCC Highways, with a copy to the Police.

Cllr Sarson noted that a short section of footway in front of 59 Main St had been marked out for repair, but the adjacent sections of footway were in equally poor condition. **It was resolved** that LCC Highways be asked to consider extending the section for repair.

Cllr Arnold reported that a sleeper bridge on footpath S68 needed repair. **It was resolved** that this be reported to LCC RoW.

Cllr Vann reported on the Parishes Forum. Following a petition about the Bull in the Oak junction, LCC proposed to carry out a feasibility study into installing a roundabout or traffic lights.

b) Leicestershire County Council

Cllr J Melen **was thanked** for a report on LCC business and local highway issues.

c) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Cllr M A Cook **was thanked** for a report on H&BBC business, proposed planning reforms, action taken over local parking issues and other local matters.

d) Carlton Neighbourhood Watch Group

Ms R Yule had reported that in April there had been 1 violent and/or sexual offence and 1 vehicle crime in Carlton. The name given to this class of offences gave rise to much concern, but it included a very wide range of actions from relatively minor to very serious. Many of the offences reported under this heading were domestic or neighbour disputes. The Police were obliged to use this heading which had been specified by the government.

e) Parish Clerk

Congerstone Road – would be closed on 29/7 for up to 4 days to allow carriageway patching near Lineage Farm.

Shackerstone Walk – the collapsed drain had been replaced (p.1968/3e refers).

Congerstone Lane – damaged guard rails had been reported to LCC Highways.

Noticeboard – PC nameplate had been installed (p.1977/5e refers).

Turnpike milepost – had been cleaned and re-painted (p.1978/8 refers).

Information kiosk – new signage had been installed (p.1969/8 refers).

CDJO swing – a replacement leg had been supplied by Wicksteed under their guarantee and had been fitted on 26/6 by CGG volunteers. It had been necessary to hire a breaker to remove the original leg from the concrete base fixing (p.1962/4 refers).

Footpath S69 – remedial work carried out and decaying sleeper in bridge reported to LCC RoW 8/7.

Playing Field Project – a landowner had been approached about a potential site, but had advised that the land was not for sale.

H&BBC Parishes Forum – the PC had been represented by Cllr Vann at a meeting on 19/6.

LCC Parishes Liaison Event – PC had been represented by the Clerk on 7/7. LRALC had promoted the *Parish Council Awards* scheme, and the Clerk had asked about the possibility of the CGG managing the wide verge on the western side of Congerstone Road near the railway bridge. **It was resolved** that the Clerk attend a free LRALC training course on the PC Award Scheme.

HSBC – had advised that the £8 monthly account fee would not be applied after July.

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Scheme 2025 – the CDJO had been entered, and an inspection had been carried out on 1/7.

Help telephone directory – had been delivered to selected households in the Parish, and advertised on the PC website. Additional printed copies were available from the Clerk. This directory had been prepared by Hinckley & Bosworth Lions for people who had difficulty using the internet.

LC12 bus service – would replace the No.7 bus service between Measham and Atherstone from 14/7. Although not shown on the publicity material, Carlton was in Zone 9 and parishioners would be able to use the new FoxConnect service from 14/7. Details had been posted on the PC website and in each bus shelter; LCC Transport reps planned to attend the coffee morning at The Gate Hangs Well on 15/8.

A list of digital communications and reports received would be copied to each Councillor, and copies of any files would be forwarded on request. Additional written documentation would be circulated.

f) Members of the public

Members of the public complained of speeding, long skid marks on the road, inconsiderate driving and an increased volume of traffic in Main Street. Councillors had also received similar complaints. The increase in traffic was attributed to the major road works taking place

in Market Bosworth, but there were concerns that this scheme would lead to long term changes in driver behaviour (see p.1957/6). Local residents were already known to be using Carlton Road instead of Bosworth Road in order to avoid the new one-way system around Park Street and Rectory Lane. **It was resolved** that the SID be used to monitor westbound traffic in Main Street after the school holidays.

4. Play bark for the Toddlers Play Area

The prices of softwood bark chips to BS EN 1177 had been reviewed, and Gravelmaster remained the cheapest supplier. **It was resolved** that 12 x 1,000 litre bags be ordered at an estimated total cost of £1,296 including VAT & delivery.

5. New batteries for the SID

It was resolved that two replacement batteries be ordered from Westcotec for the SID at a cost of £175.50 + VAT.

6. Provision of an additional defibrillator

The Carlton Defibrillator Group was not prepared to monitor an additional defibrillator; the Carlton Charity Lands had indicated that they would offer a grant when the cost was known; a draft agreement had been copied to Councillors before the meeting (p.1967/7 refers).

It was resolved that the PC would manage the defibrillator, and that it should be a fully automatic model and housed in an external lockable cabinet with electricity supply.

Potential models and estimated annual running costs were: Zoll AED Plus (£1,050/£30), IPAD SP1 (£1,110/£50), Lifepak CR2 (£1,134/£78), Cardiac Science Power heart G5 (£1,230/£70), Zoll AED 3 (£1,560/£50). All prices include VAT. The British Heart Foundation had strongly recommended the IPAD SP1 for the Gate Hangs Well site.

It was resolved that (i) an IPAD SDP1 with pads and a DefibSafe2 locked external defibrillator cabinet be ordered at a total estimated cost of £1,677.99 inc VAT; (ii) applications for grant funding be made to the H&BBC Community Equipment grant fund and the Carlton Charity Lands; (iii) the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign the agreement with the Gate Hangs Well and to arrange for the installation of the cabinet and connection to the electricity supply; (iv) the Clerk be authorised to agree site signage with the landlord and order at an estimated cost of £120.

7. LCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2025-35

An assessment of this plan had been copied to Councillors before the meeting; there were no comments. **It was resolved** that the plan be supported.

8. H&BBC Heritage Strategy & Action Plan

Draft comments had been copied to Councillors before the meeting, and additional comments were considered. **It was resolved** that revised comments be copied to Councillors and the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to submit updated comments before the closure date.

9. Land for a picnic site and nature reserve

Westfields Farm had been offered for sale by tender as a whole or in 5 lots. Lot 4 was a 1.71 acre triangular field off Carlton Road between the brook and the canal with a guide price of £40-50k. It had been suggested that this field might be acquired by the PC and developed as a picnic area and/or nature reserve.

The view of the meeting was that this site was some distance from the village, would not attract enough use to justify the cost of purchase, that use as a picnic site was likely to lead to problems with litter, and that long term maintenance would be expensive.

It was resolved that no action be taken.

10. Financial matters

a) Report 2025-12: Quarterly financial statement April-June 2025

The monthly current account statements had been checked and signed as required (p.1515/9c refers), and the reconciliations for all accounts were checked against the relevant statements. **It was resolved** that Report 2025-12 be approved.

b) Replacement for unpresented cheque no 100894

T&M Services had advised that this cheque had not been received, and it was now out of date (See Reports 2025-01, 04 & 12). **It was resolved** that a replacement cheque be issued.

c) Reimbursement of costs incurred by the Clerk

The Clerk presented his record of costs for examination, and **it was resolved** that costs of £384.95 be reimbursed, comprising £60 contribution towards broadband subscription, £286.30 general costs, and £38.65 VAT. The general costs included £60 for postcrete, paint and sealant, £45.00 for the noticeboard nameplate, and £44.00 for the hire of a breaker.

11. Planning matters

a) Planning applications and appeals submitted

There were none.

b) Comments submitted under delegated powers

25/00245/CLE Certificate of existing lawful development relating to the change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden land. Westfield Cottage, Carlton Road. PC had no objections.

c) Planning applications and appeals determined,

25/00245/CLE Certificate of existing lawful development relating to the change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden land. Westfield Cottage, Carlton Road. Certificate issued.

d) Planning enforcement matters

There were none.

12. Next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at 7pm on Wednesday 10th September 2025 in Saint Andrew’s Community Hub, Main Street, Carlton.

The meeting closed at 20:20 hrs.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Abbreviations used in these minutes

CDJO	Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard
CGG	Carlton Gardening Group
H&BBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
LRALC	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
PC	Parish Council
RoW	Rights of Way
SID	Speed Indicator Device
TPA	Toddlers Play Area