

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held On Thursday 14 November 2024

Present: - Kate Homan, Polly Fenwick, Paul Archer,
Nicki Whetstone, Gregory Franco,
Henry Batchelor - County Councillor, Geoff Harvey – District Councillor
Edith Osborn as Clerk

- 1 **Apologies:** Robert Foster-Jones, Robert Enschr
A quorum was present.
- 2 **Minutes** of the Meeting held on 8 August 2024 and 3 September 2024.
Paul Archer proposed that the minutes be approved and Greg Franco seconded the proposal.
- 3 **Declarations of Interest**
No councillor had any new interests to declare.
- 4 **Open forum for public participation**
There were two parishioners present.
It was raised that the ditch at the bottom of the Green Lane had been dug out and the young trees planted along the edge had been removed.
Polly Fenwick advised that the ditch had been cleared by her husband as he had bought the land but had stored the trees pending a new site being found to plant them.
Josephine Roberts had been advised.
- 5 **Administration**
5.1 Training -Planning webinars
The Chair noted that CAPALC had offered recordings of webinars to be downloaded and she had thought session 1 and 2 would be beneficial as they covered planning procedures including developing neighbourhood plans. However, the Clerk had discovered that each webinar cost £45 each.
The Planning Officer has since contacted the Chair regarding a possible Neighbourhood Plan being put in place and therefore it was decided that the council would not pay for the webinars at the current time.

Henry Batchelor and Geoff Harvey arrived.

5.2 Social Media Policy
It was noted that the previous Chairman had circulated information to the village recently. The current Chair advised that this would have been carried out in his own individual capacity as she circulated parish council information. She confirmed that she would check email addresses and consent for holding them on her list.
All councillors agreed that a social media policy would be useful to have in place.
The Clerk will source a template to base a draft policy on.
5.3 Grant Funding – War Memorial
Having read the requirements for this funding, it seemed unlikely that Carlton would be awarded any funds.
5.4 Wadlow Wind Farm Grant
Although Robert Foster-Jones was not at the meeting he had emailed the councillors to say that an application to the Fund for money to buy a new MVAS for the village should be made as the Fund does not receive many applications. It was agreed that an application would be made. This was proposed by Kate Homan and seconded by Greg Franco.

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

5.5 Grass cutting contract – verges

The Clerk advised that the contract with CGM had not been ended and although CGM had not kept to the schedule of cuts, they had made two cuts this season for which they had submitted invoices. McGregor Services had made their agreed four cuts for the current season.

CCC had also contacted the Clerk regarding grass verge cutting as they were looking to streamline maintenance and reduce their carbon footprint. They had provided a map of the verges which CCC thought were cut by Carlton PC. The Clerk will reply to CC with the current situation.

It was decided that a working party should walk the village to decide what verges should be cut by the parish council and thereafter advise a contractor to quote on.

5.6 Tree cutting

It was agreed to create a working party to assess the trees on the Millenium Walkway particularly as some branches are growing through the wires and trim as necessary.

5.7 Domain Name change

The Government is keen that public bodies have website and contact emails ending in gov.uk. The Clerk advised that Narked Designs had suggested costings of £75 to migrate the current email addresses to this suffix and £80 pa to maintain those suffixes. The Clerk is to check the cost of maintaining the current domain name.

As the council had recently changed to a more secure suffix.org.uk, it was decided to postpone the change to .gov.uk for a year.

5.8 Community Chest Grant - birdboxes

Josephine Roberts had requested to submit an application to the Community Chest Grant funding for birdboxes, as part of the Churchyard management program. It was agreed that the parish council bank account could be used for receipt of the funding.

5.9 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chair agreed to arrange a discussion with Greater Cambridge Planning and report to councillors at the next meeting.

5.10 Requests for funding -Marie Curie/Magpas

After some discussion, it was decided that no payment would be made to Marie Curie but Magpas was a possibility. However, a decision would be postponed until the next meeting.

5.11 Cabinet/Parish Council Liaison Report

There was nothing to report, Cllr Batchelor advised that there is usually a guest speaker at these meetings.

5.12 Name change for councillor

It was noted that Robert Foster had changed his name but Narked Designs had had problems setting up the new email address so the old email address was still valid.

5.13 HR Committee

The Chair advised that CAPALC had suggested that a HR Committee needed to be set up and that there should be two meetings per year.

It was agreed that such a Committee would not be set up.

6 County Councillor's report

Cllr Batchelor advised that he had circulated the monthly combined County and District report.

He noted that Capittally Funded Highway Maintenance Schemes were to be discussed later in the meeting. He suggested that the parish council submit any requests they might have. Suggestions will be reviewed but may not be proceeded with.

The Chair suggested that the roadway and drainage outside the Old Rose & Crown could be an issue to put forward.

7 District Councillor's report

Cllr Harvey mentioned the ambition by the previous government to grow Cambridge four times in size. The Labour government still want to increase the size of Cambridge but maybe only by two times. The supply of water is the biggest issue to increasing the size.

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

He also mentioned the Kingsway Solar consultation, a large 500 megawatt site around the Balsham area. The company have another 50 smaller sites under discussion.

Cllr Batchelor and Cllr Harvey left the meeting.

8 Finance

8.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

8.1.1 Thurlow Estate Mgt chq no 442	£ 1.00
8.1.2 Narked Designs chq no 486	£ 498.00
8.1.3 McGregor Services chq 487	£ 180.00

Kate Homan proposed that the above payments together with the two invoices from Nurture Landscapes be approved and Nicki Whetstone seconded the proposal.

8.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 October 2024

Paul Archer proposed that the accounts as at 31 October 2024 be approved and Nicki Whetstone seconded the proposal.

8.3 Precept 2025/26

The proposed budget was reviewed. After discussion Kate Homan proposed that the precept be set at £6,000 and this was seconded by Greg Franco.

9 Planning.

9.1 24/02823/FUL Land south of Willingham Green Road

Greater Cambridge Planning have approved this application with some conditions.

9.2 24/02529/FUL Land adj to Pond Cottage

It was discussed what the significance of Certificate B was in this application. It was noted that it relates to a change of use from agricultural holdings. No decision has been made yet.

9.3 22/03238/CONDB Cromwell Cottage

This application related to the fact that the Cottage is listed and a repair to a wall was taking time to be completed.

10 Environmental

10.1 Flooding on B1052 and Brinkley Road

Kate Homan advised that she had emailed the County Council again about these issues.

10.2 Road surfaces/gulleys

No new issues were noted.

10.3 Footpaths

Kate Homan advised that she had reported the damaged bridge at the bottom of the Green Lane.

10.4 Capitally Funded Highway Maintenance Schemes

It was agreed that renewal of the drainage pipework on Brinkley Road to prevent further flooding would be a job that could be added to this scheme.

10.5 Climate Change issues

No new issues.

10.6 BioDiversity

No new issues.

10.7 Kingsway Solar

Kate Homan advised that she had attended the West Wrating parish council at which they discussed this project. From that meeting it was suggested that a joint meeting of the local parish councils affected be held. The meeting at West Wrating took a vote in favour of a meeting in the first week of December. Residents were advised to lodge their views of this project. All councillors agreed to work with the other parish councils and promote responses from residents in the village.

Kate Homan will email the village residents, Polly Fenwick will send a message via WhatsApp.

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

- 11 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting**
None.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input this evening.

The Meeting closed at 10.10pm.