

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held On Thursday 11 November 2025

Present: - Kat Jones, Polly Fenwick, Gregory Franco, Robert Enschede
Henry Batchelor - County Councillor, Geoff Harvey – District Councillor
Edith Osborn as Clerk

- 1 **Apologies:** Robert Foster-Jones
A quorum was present.
- 2 **Minutes** of the Meeting held on 7 August 2025 and 7 October 2025.
Greg Franco proposed that the minutes be approved and Polly Fenwick seconded the proposal.
- 3 **Declarations of Interest**
No councillor had any new interests to declare.
- 4 **Open forum for public participation**
There were no parishioners present.

Henry Batchelor and Robert Enschede arrived.
- 5 **District Councillor's report**
Cllr Harvey referred to the Local Government re-organisation. Central Government have requested a plan for re-organisation is put forward for Government to consider, and of the proposed options, it seems likely that South Cambs and Cambridge City will be grouped together and the other Councils will form a second grouping. Clarification is needed on which Council functions would then be pushed down to parish councils, likely to be a voluntary decision rather than a compulsory decision. There will be a full Council meeting in the next couple of weeks to agree the option to be put forward.
He also mentioned that the next draft of the Local Plan will be released shortly. Housing targets will be met even though Cambridge Waterworks will not be moving to Horningsea which would have released land for housing. Instead, land at Grange Farm has been earmarked as it is near to the proposed travel hub and is sustainable. It was noted that if Kingsway Solar Farm goes ahead, housing will be located one field away from it. Roughly 6k houses would be built on that site.
The process for the proposed solar farm application is that the Secretary of State must agree to all parcels of land in the proposal from Kingsway or reject all parcels. There will be a public consultation for this housing scheme in Dec 25/Jan 26 to consider net zero requirements.
The previous housing proposal for Six Mile Bottom is not included in the Local Plan. Recently two people had proposed a 'Forest City' be built between Newmarket and Haverhill but this is only an idea and has not gone to planning yet.
The Linton Green Way is in progress.
The station at Cambridge South has been delayed until June 2026.
Cllr Harvey and Cllr Batchelor will review the amendment to the planning application for the rural worker's cottage in Willingham Green.
- 6 **County Councillor's report**
Cllr Batchelor advised that he had circulated the monthly combined County and District report.
It was raised with the County and District councillors whether a Conservation area for Carlton would be a good idea, in order to hold back development around the village.

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Henry Batchelor advised that it would be a good time to look at this as the Local Plan is being reviewed. Living within a conservation area would have constraints and would take about a year to put in place. He suggested contacting SCDC in the first place and then consult with residents. He suggested that a Protected Space Order would be easier to obtain.

It was noted that various trenches had been dug on the proposed land for use as a solar farm. The Chair agreed to write to Henry Batchelor and Kingsway regarding permission for access to the land and the outcome of the investigations.

It was noted that Pippa Heylings had met with the Energy Secretary but she had not yet written a report of that meeting. The Land Use Framework needs to be set first by the Government.

Cllr Batchelor and Cllr Harvey then left the meeting.

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Administration

7.1 Village Mailing list

The Chair agreed to email the existing residents' email list to check who would like to remain on the list and update. Many residents are also on WhatsApp as well.

7.2 IT policy

The Clerk advised that at the May meeting the councillors will have to agree to a new assertion on the Annual Return, 'Assertion 10' covering digital and data compliance. By that date the council will require to have an IT policy in place. The Clerk will use the NALC template to draft such a policy.

7.3 War Memorial – cleaning and funding

The Clerk raised the quote for cleaning the War Memorial at a cost of £700.24 plus VAT. It was agreed that as there was no available source of funding, the council would pay for the War Memorial to be cleaned. Polly Fenwick proposed that Brown & Ralph clean the War Memorial and this was seconded by Greg Franco.

7.4 Grass cutting contract – verges

The Clerk had obtained a quote from the existing contractor which had increased by 5% on the previous year.

Greg Franco proposed that McGregor Services be employed to cut the verges for the 2026 season and this was seconded by Robert Ensich.

7.5 Clerk's hours

The Clerk advised that due to extra meetings over the last year, she had carried out an extra 24 hours.

Kat Jones proposed that the Clerk be paid for the hours and Robert Ensich seconded the proposal.

7.6 Requests for funding - Magpas

After some discussion, it was decided that a payment would be made to Magpas. Greg Franco proposed that £50 be offered to Magpas and Kat Jones seconded the proposal. The website will be updated to note the Council's support of this charity.

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Finance

8.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

8.1.1 SLCC chq no 506	£ 80.00
8.1.2 Westcotec Ltd chq no 507	£5,174.40
8.1.3 Thurlow Estate Mgt chq no 508	£ 1.00
8.1.4 Edith Osborn	£ 13.60
8.1.5 McGregor Services	£ 300.00

Robert Ensich proposed that the above payments be approved and Kat Jones seconded the proposal.

8.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 October 2025

Kat Jones proposed that the accounts as at 31 October 2025 be approved and Greg Franco seconded the proposal.

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8.3 Precept 2026/27

The proposed budget was reviewed. After discussion Greg Franco proposed that the precept be set at £6,800 and this was seconded by Kat Jones.

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Planning.

9.1 25/00860/PIP Erection of 1 No. Rural worker's dwelling

This application by Yulong Investments has been approved by the District council.

9.2 25/02267/S73 to remove condition 10 re place of worship

This application has been approved by the District council.

9.3 25/03408/TDC Land south of Willingham Green Road

This application also relates to Yulong Investments and the technical change has been permitted by the District Council.

9.4 25/03471/FUL Land south of Green Park, Brinkley

This application covers land in South Cambs and East Cambs areas for further development of the stud farm which is as yet undecided.

9.5 Kingsway Solar

The Community Action Group is requesting donations from reserves held by the parish councils. It was agreed to not make a monetary contribution but offer time instead. It was agreed to send a link to the parish for residents to donate directly to the Action Group.

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Environmental

10.1 Flooding on B1052 and Brinkley Road

The Chair agreed to follow up these issues.

10.2 Road surfaces/gulleys

Polly Fenwick agreed to follow up with Brinkley Parish Council and the Chair would also contact the family most affected by the lack of ditches on Brinkley Road on the border with East Cambs.

10.3 Footpaths

It was agreed that the Mingay family would be contacted regarding obtaining a quote to repair the edging on the Millenium Walkway.

10.4 Capitally Funded Highway Maintenance Schemes

The Chair agreed to contact Robert Foster-Jones and request that he review maintenance issues which could be put forward to the Council.

10.5 Climate Change issues

No new issues.

10.6 BioDiversity

No new issues.

11 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

- CAPALC AGM – November 2025 Greg Franco agreed to attend
- Conservation area

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input this evening.

The Meeting closed at 10 pm.