

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2008
AT 7.45 P.M.

Present: Cllr Mrs Maxine Crossland - Town Mayor
Cllr N A MacRae MBE - Deputy Town Mayor

Cllr Mrs D V Bulley Cllr S Lodge
Cllr A D Coomber Cllr P Madden
Cllr R W Crapper Cllr Mrs S E Stone
Cllr B Crossland
Cllr A Farmer

Apologies: Cllr E Liston; Cllr Mrs N Miah; Cllr P Scott; Cllr Mrs L Walcott; Cllr W O Walcott MBE and Cllr E Wearing

24. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 May 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

25. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Crapper offered his support in re-establishing the Scouting movement in the town. Cllrs Mrs Crossland and Coomber noted that their names had been omitted from the list of members of the Tower Square Working Group. It was noted that a meeting with officers from WODC had been arranged for 3 pm on 28 October.

The Mayor reported that revised tenders had been received for Tower Square and that the project was now back on track. She said that the Council would be consulting the public to establish which of two possible mosaic designs was favoured.

Cllr Coomber said that demolition of the MOD housing was due to start by the end of the week and would take 10 weeks to complete. There would be no need for road closures.

Cllr Couchman was asked to comment on flood prevention and gully cleaning. He said that there was very little money available for what was a large programme of work.

26. CARTERTON YOUTH COUNCIL

Carterton Youth Councillor, Matty Yallop, put forward a number of proposals for amending the constitution of the Youth Council. These included allowing those Youth Councillors who had made a significant contribution to serve for a second year; to have meetings every month; to have Vice positions and to disqualify those Youth Councillors who did not attend meetings for three months and failed to send apologies.

Youth Cllr Matty also outlined proposals for an end of year celebration, which was estimated to cost £15 per person plus coach hire.

The Council supported the amendments as being improvements to the constitution. It was RESOLVED to accept these and to agree to the end of year event.

27. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Crossland, had attended the Carterton Football Club Centenary, the opening of the new public toilets, the presentation of the Stainforth Trophy at RAF Brize Norton, the Annual RAF Reception at Brize Norton, the Civic Service at Bicester, the Red Cross AGM, the Clean up Carterton event, the Minster Lovell Scout Group and the launch of the Carterton U3A. The Deputy Mayor had represented the town at the 40th Anniversary of Thames Valley Police and at a civic event in Banbury.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Farmer for all that he had done to support the Football Club. Cllr Farmer gave a brief summary of what had been achieved over the last year. It was noted with sadness that Gordon Maxwell had died. The Mayor said she would represent the Council at his funeral.

The Mayor also thanked Cllr Coomber for his efforts in organising the Clean Up Carterton Day, which had been an enormous success.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Madden declared an interest in planning (item 32) by virtue of his membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr MacRae declared an interest in anything to do with Allotments; Cllr Farmer declared an interest as a the owner of land adjacent to Willow Meadows and Cllrs Crossland, Mrs Crossland and Mrs Bulley declared a prejudicial interest in accounts for payment (cheques 8878 and 8869)

29. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

Shelley Maxfield gave the Council a copy of the Annual Report for the Allandale and invited Councillors to visit between 7.30 and 10.30 on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

30. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Couchman reported on a number of developments. OCC would be moving from acting as providers of care for the elderly to being enablers. The County Museum at Woodstock was to be extended to house the collection of material relating to the army in Oxfordshire. A new Director of Music had been appointed, and the Registration Service had been acknowledged as one of the best in the country.

31. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's Report, copies of which had previously been circulated, was received. The decisions taken on the Report are recorded at Annex 'A'.

32. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 20 May and 3 June 2008. These were noted.

33. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 3 June 2008.

It was reported that additional sessions with the play rangers would cost £325 per two-hour session. It was felt that this was very expensive and the Clerk was asked to obtain a breakdown of the costs.

It was agreed that seats should be provided on the Swinbrook Road Recreation Ground and that Members of the Committee would consider the location when they carried out their inspection of the open spaces.

Cllr Farmer mentioned that the Squash Club was reported to be seeking CASC status and the Clerk was asked to look into this.

The Minutes of the Recreation Committee were approved.

34. COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The note of the Community Centre Management Committee meeting held on 4 June 2008 was received.

Cllr B Crossland gave a brief report on the funding position. It was noted that the hall and the shops were due to open at about the same time and concerns were again expressed about the adequacy of parking. Cllr MacRae confirmed that the District Council was to take powers to have traffic wardens.

The Minutes of the Community Centre Management Committee were noted.

35. QUALITY COUNCIL SCHEME

The Council received a briefing paper on the Quality Council scheme. It was noted that CTC had been awarded Quality Status in March 2004 and was the first Council in Oxfordshire to have achieved this status. The award lasts for 3 years but had run on pending a major review of the scheme by government. If the Council wishes to seek reaccreditation, it needs to achieve this by 31 December 2008.

The Council complied with most of the updated scheme although a statement of intent for training both Councillors and staff would be needed. It was felt that there had been little benefit to obtaining Quality Status, although it did demonstrate to the public that the Council had been officially recognised as demonstrating best practice in a number of areas.

RESOLVED that the Council should seek reaccreditation by 31 December. Cllr MacRae abstained from this vote.

36. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 May 2008, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

37. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Council RESOLVED that the Accounts set out at Annex 'C' be approved for payment.

38. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting.

1. **Meeting between Carterton Councillors and senior officers from WODC** – this has been arranged for 3 pm on 28 October. **Noted.**

2. **Dog bin Kilkenny Lane.** We have received requests for a dog bin at the top end of Kilkenny Lane. This would be for the District Council to provide and empty but they now make a charge for this. The bin costs £144 and each empty is charged at £1.96, which would be £101 p.a. assuming a once weekly emptying. Does the Council consider this to be a priority? **Agreed to ask the WODC to provide one dog bin and to empty this once a week.**

3. **Chernobyl children.** The Town Mayor has made contact with the families who host Chernobyl children each year and is making plans for them to have an afternoon of films and swimming on 29 July. The event will be funded by a donation from the Lions and other sources. One of the Mayor's main priorities for the year will be young people and she will be working closely with the Youth Council and Cllr Coomber (who she has asked to be the Youth Council Mentor) over the coming months. **Noted.**

4. **Thanks.** Carterton Football Club has written to thank the Town Council for supporting its centenary weekend. Jo Smith has sent a message of appreciation for the s137 grant awarded at the last meeting. **Noted.**

5. **Publications.**

The following will be available at the meeting:

- WODC Parish Flood Defence Report
- Carterton Community College – Enginuity - the newsletter reporting on the Engineering specialism
- Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan newsletter
- Looking Out – the community safety newsletter
- The SE Regional Sustainability Framework document
- The Review of the Sub-Regional Allocation of Primary Land-won aggregates in the SE

6. **Meetings**

- 1 July – Planning and Admin Committee
- 15 July – Planning and Council
- 22 July – Recreation Committee

- **10 July – Public Meeting NE Carterton estates**
- **14 July – Schools Swimming Gala**

7. **Details of the road closure for the painting of the Iron Bridge (28 July – 10 August 2008 on the Brize Norton Road between the Abingdon Road and Wycombe Way turnoffs) were tabled.**