

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 AUGUST 2004
AT 7.45 P.M.

Present: Cllr B. Crossland – Town Mayor
Cllr P. Scott – Deputy Mayor

Cllr. Mrs. D.V. Bulley	Cllr K. Stone
Cllr R. Crapper	Cllr N. Tully
Cllr Mrs. M. Crossland	Cllr. M. Townsend
Cllr. L.H Giles	Cllr. Mrs. L. Walcott
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. W. Walcott
Cllr Mrs. A. Madden	Cllr P. Wesson
Cllr. P. Madden	

Apologies: Cllr. P.J. Handley

50. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 July 2004, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

51. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

52. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he and the Mayoress had attended a reception at Blenheim Palace. The Mayor and Mayoress, together with a number of other Councillors had attended the Xtreme Wheels Day at The Dell. The event had proved very popular with the youngsters and the Mayor thanked all those who had been involved. The Mayor had also attended a meeting with members and officers from WODC to consider how best to develop the Council's Quality Status. It had been agreed that the Town Council might act as a small scale One Stop Shop for the town and the Clerk would be having more detailed discussions with District Council Officers.

53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Walcott declared an interest in Item 56 (Planning) by virtue of his membership of the District Planning Committee. Cllrs Crossland, Mrs Crossland and Stone declared a prejudicial interest in Item 62 (Accounts for Payment) and Cllr Wesson declared an interest in Item 59 as a Non-Executive Director of the Primary Care Trust.

54. 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'.

55. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

Councillors raised a number of issues which the Clerk said she would pass on to Highways.

56. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20 July 2004. These were noted.

57. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 27 July 2004.

RESOLVED that this report and its recommendations should be accepted.

58. ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2004

The Clerk presented the Annual Return. She reported that there had been some minor adjustments to the figures following internal audit. She explained Section 2 of the Return to the Council and emphasised the fact that Councillors were being asked to approve the Statement of Assurance. The Clerk also explained that Section 4 of the Return had been completed by the internal auditor and that this recorded that no weaknesses had been found.

RESOLVED that the Mayor should sign the Statement of Assurance and the Annual Return for the year ending 2004 on behalf of the Town Council.

59. NHS OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

Cllr Mrs Crossland reported on a public meeting that she had attended on 28 July to discuss the arrangements for the new Out of Hours Service. Although she had been promised a copy of the notes of this meeting, the PCT had subsequently refused to make these available.

In brief, a new out of hours service will be introduced from September. A call centre will answer phone queries and these will be emailed to a doctor in Abingdon. A practice in Scotland will provide additional cover. The doctor will phone the patient and agree if a home visit is needed. Home visits are to be provided by a paramedic and a nurse. Witney Hospital will remain open until 11.00 pm. It had been confirmed that paramedics and nurses could confirm deaths which would allow undertakers to be called in.

Cllr Wesson explained that this was a change that had been driven by central government and that alterations had had to be introduced as local doctors were not prepared to provide out of hours cover for the money on offer. The practice in Scotland had been chosen as they would provide some continuity. He emphasised that a lot of the out of hours calls were for relatively trivial matters. In the case of serious illness or injury, the emergency services should be contacted. Emergency cases would be taken to the Oxford hospitals as was the case at present.

Councillors thanked Cllr Wesson for his detailed explanation. Their main concern was that a small number of medical people would be covering a large area. It was also noted that it was getting harder for patients to get appointments later in the day or on Saturdays.

RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the SW Oxfordshire PCT to express the Council's dismay at their unwillingness to release minutes of a public meeting as promised at that meeting.

60. THE DELL BMX TRACK

The Clerk presented the ROSPA report of the new BMX track. The inspection had found the track to be well designed and constructed although there was one area that was flooding. It was noted that signs and barriers needed to be installed as a matter of urgency and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should be given delegated powers to carry out this work.

61. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 July 2004, set out at Annex ' B' and previously circulated, was received.

62. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Council RESOLVED that the Accounts set out at Annex 'C' be approved for payment subject to an amount being retained on payment 7548 for the BMX track.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm.

21 September 2004

Town Mayor

1. **Fire Cover in Carterton** – to see the attached letter from the Chief Fire Officer. **Noted. The Clerk reported that the Fire Service had published its Integrated Risk Management Report and that it identified the need to carry out a further study into fire cover in West Oxfordshire. This was to be completed by March 2005.**
2. **Licensing Act 2003** - has now come into force. The Act transfers the responsibility for licensing for the sale and supply of alcohol from the Magistrates to the District Council from February 2005. There are four main requirements: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children. Copies of the Act and Guidance are available from the District Council. **It was confirmed that an expanded Licensing Committee would be set up to deal with this work.**
3. **Mayor's Coffee Morning** – 20 August. This event will be combined with the formal announcement of our grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. **Cllr Mrs Crossland gave brief details of the three separate projects being taken forward under the LHI and invited Councillors to contact her if they would like to be involved.**
4. **NE Carterton Community Facility** – the District has confirmed that the provision of this facility should be a joint District/Town Partnership project. Detailed arrangements will need to be worked out, but meanwhile I have made an application for Wren funding. **Noted.**
5. **Council Christmas Dinner** – has been booked for the evening of Wednesday 8 December at the Merrymouth Inn. **Noted.**
6. **OCC had asked for views on proposals to erect a signpost in Burford Road opposite Arkell Avenue indicating the way to St Joseph's School and Church.**
7. **The Clerk reported that she had given Cllr Handley permission to park in the Swinbrook Road car park over the coming weekend.**