

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2004
AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Cllr B. Crossland – Town Mayor
Cllr P. Scott – Deputy Mayor (from item 30)

Cllr. Mrs. D.V. Bulley	Cllr. P. Madden
Cllr R. Crapper	Cllr K. Stone
Cllr Mrs. M. Crossland	Cllr. M. Townsend
Cllr. L.H Giles	Cllr. Mrs. L. Walcott
Cllr. D. King	Cllr P. Wesson (from item 23)
Cllr Mrs. A. Madden	

Apologies: Cllr. P.J. Handley, Cllr N. Tully and Cllr. W. Walcott (absent on District Council business).

22. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

23. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that she had confirmed with RAF Brize Norton that serving servicemen and women could be elected or co-opted to local councils provided they stood as independent from any political party and had the agreement of their personnel officer.

The developer had confirmed that any scheme to develop the rear gardens of two properties in Arkell Avenue ought to result in a road of adoptable standard running to the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground. The Area Youth Worker had confirmed that she would be happy to attend the July Council meeting to talk about the work of the Allandale Centre.

(Cllr Wesson joined the meeting during this item.)

24. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he and Cllr Stone had presented a cheque representing some of the proceeds from the St George's Day Dinner, to the British Heart Foundation. He and the Mayoress had attended the Bicester Civic Parade on Sunday 13 June.

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr King declared an interest in the Minutes of the Planning meeting. It was explained that the planting of the site to screen lorries was a District Council planning requirement and the applicant needed to take the matter up with District Planners. Cllr Giles declared an interest in item 25 (6); Cllrs Mrs Bulley, Mrs Crossland, Crossland and Stone declared a prejudicial interest in item 34 (accounts for payment) and Cllr Stone declared an interest in item 36 by virtue of knowing the consultant concerned.

The Clerk reminded those Councillors who had attended the RAF Community Day of the need to complete the gifts and hospitality register.

26. 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'.

27. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

No matters were raised.

28. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 1 June 2004. These were noted.

29. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Administration Committee held on 1 June 2004.

RESOLVED that these be approved and noted that following a tendering exercise the Council's insurance had been renewed with Zurich Municipal.

30. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council considered two requests for funding under s137 outstanding from the previous meeting.

RESOLVED that a payment of £939 be made to the Carers Centre (North and West Oxfordshire) as a contribution towards the Volunteer Respite Service for Carers. The Clerk was asked to check that the organisation's status as a limited company did not prevent their receiving grant aid.

RESOLVED to give a grant of £500 to Carterton Cinema Club towards the cost of purchasing DVD equipment. This grant is given subject to other grant applications being successful. It was noted that the equipment would be used in various locations within the town and also in the surrounding villages.

(Cllr Scott joined the meeting during this item)

31. REVIEW OF TAXI RANKS IN WEST OXFORDSHIRE

Council considered a request from the WODC Licensing Sub-Committee for views on the need and possible location of a taxi rank within the town.

RESOLVED to welcome the suggestion of a taxi rank and to ask the District Council to consult local firms as to the best location and the number of spaces that might be needed.

32. BYELAWS FOR SEALING

The Council received the revised byelaws for Alvescot Road Recreation Ground and Swinbrook Road Recreation Ground and noted that these had been considered in detail by the Recreation Committee.

RESOLVED that the byelaws be signed and sealed by the Mayor on behalf of the Town Council and that they be advertised in accordance with the ODPM' s procedures. One month after the advert has appeared, the byelaws will be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation.

33. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

34. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

35. 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. **NE Carterton Play Area.** Cllr Tully has asked that the Council press for the early installation of the play equipment in time for the summer holidays. I understand that the District has had some contractual problems but that they hope to start installing the work during August. **Council was disappointed by the continuing delay and asked the Clerk to write to the District to express these concerns.**
2. **Underage drinking.** To see the attached letter which Thames Valley Police has sent to local stores selling alcohol and tobacco. **Noted.**
3. **Traffic in Kilkenny Lane** – To see the attached letter from the Allotments Association to the County Council. The Town Council has already taken up this issue with the County Council through Traffic Advisory Committee. **Council reconfirmed its view that urgent action was needed to prevent further accidents.**
4. **Town Hall security** – On the evening of 7 June the lock on the front door of the Town Hall jammed. The lock on the kitchen door was also found to be faulty. We used an emergency locksmith to repair the front lock and to install two new locks on the kitchen door. The total cost was £241. **Noted.**
5. **Town Council website** – The new website is now in place. The address is www.carterton-tc.gov.uk. Anyone going to the old site is automatically redirected to the new one. **Noted.**
6. **The BMX track** - Work is due to start on site on 14 June and to take about 3 weeks to complete. I am talking to the CFF Sports Group about holding a day long 'wheeled sports' competition during the summer holidays. Raleigh has indicated that they would be willing to be involved in such an event. **Council welcomed the proposed event.**
7. **Carterton Town Council Annual Report and Accounts 2003/04** - As a Quality Council we are required to produce an Annual Report and to place copies in the County, District and local libraries. Copies will be available at the meeting. **Noted.**
8. **Dining In** - The Mayor would welcome views on the format for Dining In this year. One suggestion is that we could have a meal at a local pub. This could be on Tuesday 7 December or on Friday 3rd or Friday 17th. (Friday 10 December is pencilled in for a combined Town Council/Rotary Carol Service at St John's.) **Agreed to hold a Christmas Dinner in a local pub one Friday in December.**
9. **University of Gloucestershire Summer Seminars** are being held on 15 and 16 July to discuss a wide range of issues relating to parish councils. The fee for the two days is £150. Could Councillors please let me know if they would be interested in attending? **Noted.**
10. **The Clerk reminded Councillors of the OPFA Awayday to be held on 16 June and asked for volunteers to help at the Schools Swimming Gala on 12 July.**