

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 7TH JULY 2015
COMMENCING AT 7.45 PM

Present: Cllr M Brennan - Chairman
Cllr Mrs N Miah - Vice Chairman

Cllr R Brooks Cllr Mrs L Little
Cllr Mrs D V Bulley Cllr D Melvin
Cllr Mrs C Delaney Cllr Mrs C Wilson

Apologies: Cllr R Crapper

Officer: Teresa Whitford

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 June 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

12 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

The members of the public present did not wish to speak.

13 NEW PUBLIC SEATING FOR CARTERTON

The Officer gave a verbal update to the Committee. She had contacted the supplier (Glasdon) following the previous meeting to ask if a discount would be available for a bulk purchase. Glasdon confirmed they would deduct 10% from the catalogue price for 15 benches. Members RESOLVED to purchase 15 benches on this basis.

14 MARKET SQUARE IMPROVEMENTS

The Chairman asked the Committee to put forward any suggestions for improvements to the Market Square. The Chairman said he felt the Square should be used 7 days a week. Other ideas put forward were:

- Carol Service (as was the case last Christmas)
- European/Continental Market
- Information days
- Stage events (music and/or plays)
- PR

It was agreed to publicise its availability as soon as possible using our Website, Facebook and the Community Magazine. All the local schools will also be contacted to let them know of its availability.

Cllr Mrs Little informed the Committee of several occasions when the Market Square was being misused by residents to park their vehicles. She recommended a bollard be installed at the southern end as soon as possible to discourage this. It was felt a sunken bollard would be the best option as it would be the least intrusive for pedestrians.

The Officer told the Committee she had been informed that the Town Council would be required to plant 6 trees along the eastern edge of the Square to conform to the original planning agreement. One tree could be used as a natural deterrent to vehicles driving onto the square if strategically placed.

Ideas were put forward for furnishing the Square but Cllr Mrs Miah felt this would be best left until an overall design was produced in order that the whole area was aesthetically pleasing and not piecemeal.

15 CARTER'S WALK

The Officer gave a verbal update to the Committee. The painting of the gable end should be completed by the end of the week. Three more hanging baskets will be installed and are on order from the Thursday market. Improvements have been made to the leg and foot of the Mr Carter statue to reduce the chances of it being a trip hazard. The lighting has been agreed with the contractor but is still waiting to be scheduled for installation.

16 TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

Cllr Brennan suggested that the overall look of the town centre would be improved by replacing the existing wooden bollards and also extending the new replacements into the other three roads (Brize Norton Road, Burford Road and Black Bourton Road) which meet at the crossroads.

Concerns from the public had been raised with Councillors regarding vacant shops, business types and empty sites within the Town. It was clarified to everyone present that Carterton Town Council and West Oxfordshire District Council have absolutely no influence over businesses either leaving or setting up in Carterton and Councillors were asked to pass this information on to any residents who asked. Cllr Mrs Little had raised these issues with the Prime Minister during his recent visit.

18 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. Confidential item follows.

19 SCHOLARS ACRE – RANSOM STRIP

The Meeting finished at 9.00pm

Chairman