

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2005
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. M. Townsend
Cllr Mrs. M. Crossland	Cllr N Tully
Cllr. P.J. Handley	Cllr P Wesson
Cllr. P. Madden	

Apologies: Cllr. W. Walcott and Cllr. Mrs. L. Walcott (on District Council business), Cllr. L.H Giles, Cllr. D. King and Cllr Mrs. A. Madden

PART I

143. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 February 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor subject to clarification that the Mayoress was not able to attend the funeral of a former Councillor.

144. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Handley said that he was having discussions with the Leader of WODC about the NE Carterton s106 funding.

OCC Transport Network Review (item 137). The Clerk was asked to establish whether it was proposed to widen the link road before upgrading it to A status and also to add to the Council's response an additional comment about public transport.

145. DISCUSSION WITH THE YOUTH SERVICE AREA MANAGER

The Mayor welcomed Anthony Sayle, Youth Service Area Manager, to the meeting. Mr Sayle said that he was concerned to learn that the Youth Service might have lost its connection with the Council and that he hoped that this could be re-established. He explained that youth clubs were not as popular as they had been. Some of the resources had been redirected into outreach work and over a period of 24 evenings some 700 boys and 400 girls had been contacted.

There was detailed discussion on how to regenerate the Allandale and make it a more appealing place. There needed to be a mix between fun activities and sex and drug education and it was noted that different groups of youngsters wanted different things. There were staffing shortages which it was hoped could be resolved by Easter. It was agreed that better use might be made of the building and that youngsters might also access the Community College and the RAF facilities. Various taster sessions might be offered but qualified instructors would be needed and they were expensive. The Council's grant of £6,000 was not enough to keep the centre open two evenings a week as each evening cost £3,500.

Councillors suggested increasing the grant to £10,000 to allow the centre to open two nights a week and to provide money for taster sessions. Mr Sayle welcomed this proposal but warned that without staff it might be difficult to achieve this level of activity. The Clerk reported that there was only £6,000 in the 2005/06 budget and it was agreed that £4,000 be transferred from the s137 head or from the general reserve. It was agreed that Mr Sayle should work up proposals and report back to the Council in the summer.

RESOLVED that the Allandale be awarded a grant of up to £10,000 in 2005/06 subject to the Youth Service providing confirmation of staffing levels and a detailed programme of events. Money should be transferred from the s137 head or from the general reserve to cover the £4,000 not included in the original budget.

146. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported that he had presented a cheque to Macmillan Nurses for £1203 being the proceeds from the Mayor's Walk. He and the Mayoress had attended the Guides and Brownies Thinking Day Service and had hosted a group of children from St Joseph's School on a visit to the Town Hall. He had represented the town at a Beacon Town Conference. The Mayor and the Mayoress had attended the District Council Chairman's Reception at Chipping Norton Theatre and the opening of the new Oxfordshire Centre for Music.

The Mayor reminded the Council of the Launch of the Community Cinema, the Carterton History Day, the Town Assembly and St George's Day Dinner.

147. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Handley declared an interest in Item 135 (Planning) by virtue of his membership of the District Planning Committee.

148. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

There were none.

149. 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'.

150. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 15 February and 1 March 2005. These were noted.

151. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Administration Committee held on 1 March 2005.

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Administration Committee be approved. Cllr Townsend asked that his vote against the recommendation in item 22 (Pay) be recorded.

152. REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAND

The Council considered a request from a resident that he be allowed to purchase a small piece of land adjacent to his property in Pampas Close.

RESOLVED not to sell this land. The Clerk was asked to try to establish who was tipping rubbish and waste on the area and take action against them.

153. COUNCIL DEBIT CARD

The Council considered a request from the Clerk that she be authorised to arrange a debit card with the bank which could be used for purchasing items over the internet such as anti-virus software and land registry searches. The limit on the debit card would be £500 and expenditure incurred on it would be reported monthly.

RESOLVED that the Council obtain a debit card with a limit of £500.

154. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 28 February, set out at Annex ' B' and previously circulated, was received.

155. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

PART II

As Trustees of the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground

156. PLAY EQUIPMENT

The Clerk reported that the ROSPA inspection had advised that the Wendy House was in urgent need of repair. Cotswold Playgrounds had been asked to carry out this work but had advised that the damage was too great to repair. The options were therefore to remove the Wendy House and fill in the safer surfacing or to replace the equipment with something of a similar footprint and circulation area. Cotswold Playgrounds had costed the provision and installation of a basic Playhouse at £1,380. This was a reduced price as it would be supplied on the back of the Kompan contract for the NEAP on the NE Carterton development.

RESOLVED to install a new playhouse at a cost of £1,380.

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

20 April 2005

Town Mayor

1. **Thames Valley Police re-structuring.** To see the attached letter from Chief Inspector Evernden. **Noted. Whilst welcoming the idea of Police Community Support Officers, Councillors expressed concern about the long term funding of these posts**
2. **Standards Board Review of the Code of Conduct.** The Standards Board is inviting comments on which areas of the Code would benefit from amendment. Several copies of a consultation questionnaire have been forwarded to Town and Parish Councils and these will be available at the meeting. **Noted.**
3. **Kebab Van.** We have been informed by the owners that they will have a kebab van outside Carterton Building Supplies between 6.00 p.m. and 1.00 a.m. 7 nights a week. As this is private property no licence is needed until November when the laws change. **Noted.**
4. **NTL Box, Stirling Close.** A resident sought permission to paint the NTL box at Stirling Close to obliterate the graffiti. NTL confirmed that they had no objection to this. **Noted.**
5. **Community Cinema Launch** – ‘Cold Mountain’ 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. at Carterton Football Club on Wednesday 16 March. Then Wednesday 6th April and Thursday 28th April – films to be advised. **Noted.**
6. **Town Assembly and Carterton Partnership meeting** – Tuesday 29 March at 7.00 p.m. in the Town Hall. To include workshop sessions on the town centre and the community facility. **Noted.**