

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2006
AT 7.45 P.M.

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

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

Apologies: Cllr K. Stone

164. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 March 2006, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

165. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that a representative from David Wilson Homes was in discussion with the Head Teacher at St John's School about temporary parking while the local centre is being developed. The Clerk reported that she had had a message from the Football Club thanking the Council for its financial support and saying that the girls' teams had performed well in Holland.

166. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported that he and the Mayoress had attended civic dinners at Henley and Chipping Norton and receptions hosted by the Mayor of Witney and the High Sheriff. The Mayor had attended an informal dinner with the leader of OCC. The Mayor and Mayoress had hosted a reception for the Deputy Town Clerk to mark her retirement and had opened an extension to Bounce. The Mayor and Mayoress had been at the Carterton 10K race on 26 March and had attended a meeting of the Over 60s Club to answer questions about developments in the town. The Mayor reminded Councillors about the St George's Day Dinner on 22 April. The Mayor ended by thanking Councillors and Town Hall staff for their support over the last two years. He also thanked the Mayoress for her unstinting support.

167. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Handley and Walcott declared an interest in Item 170 (Planning) by virtue of their membership of the District Planning Committee. Cllr Scott declared an interest in planning applications 05/1513, 05/2204, 06/0469, 06/0123 and 06/0404. Cllrs Crossland and Mrs Crossland declared an interest in Accounts for Payment and planning application 06/0469. Cllr King declared an interest in planning application 06/0493. Cllr Walcott declared an interest in item 169 (Licensing).

168. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

No matters were raised.

169. 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' below.

170. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 21 March and 4 April 2006. These were noted.

171. FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Fire Advisory Committee held on 3 April 2006. These were noted. Council welcomed the establishment of this Committee and noted that a representative from the Fire service would be attending Council meetings on a quarterly basis.

172. BLACK BOURTON CEMETERY ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG

The Council received a letter from John Moore Archaeological Service giving details of the proposed dig at Black Bourton Cemetery. It was noted that it was a requirement of the planning consent that the dig be carried out before the ground was used for burials. A grant had been received which would cover the bulk of the cost and the Clerk hoped that she could achieve savings by hiring a JCB locally.

RESOLVED that John Moore be appointed to carry out the dig and that the Council allocate up to £1,000 to meet additional costs.

173. PHASE 2 OF THE LEISURE CENTRE

The Council received a letter from the Head of Leisure at WODC confirming that changes in grant schemes meant that it now looked very unlikely that phase 2 of the Leisure Centre would be progressed. Council was disappointed by this news but recognised that finding funding would be difficult.

174. ROAD CLOSURE

The Council received a request from Carterton Fast Forward to make a formal application to the County Council for the closure of the top end of Black Bourton Road for a six month experimental period. The proposal formed part of the work to develop the south west part of Carterton Town Centre with the pedestrian area making a natural link between new shops and the Co-op superstore. In addition it could provide a new site for the market stallholders if needed.

RESOLVED that the Town Council should make a formal approach to the County Council asking for a road closure.

175. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

The Clerk advised that expenditure at the end of the financial year was some £38,000 below budget but this was largely due to grants being received in advance of expenditure. She said

that, with the agreement of Council, she would not be putting a financial statement to the May meeting as the Council would be transferring its accounts to a computerised system during that month. A financial statement would be presented to the Council in June.

176. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

177. 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. **Land off Swinbrook Road.** This is now on the market with offers by 23 May. **Noted.**
2. **Whittington Place** – a resident has asked to meet a small group of Councillors on the site during the day to discuss various concerns. Would one or two Councillors be willing to join the Mayor and the Clerk at this meeting? **It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Bulley would join the Mayor and the Clerk.**
3. **Review of subsidised bus services.** The County Council has written to give advance notice that a review is about to start. A formal consultation letter will be issued in mid May and there will be a public meeting in Witney on Wednesday 7 June (2.30 to 4.30 pm and 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm). New contracts start in December. The Carterton services under review are the 64 (Carterton to Swindon), the 113 (Carterton, Shilton, Fulbrook) and the Carterton Town Services. **Noted. It was suggested that the District Council might be asked to submit an article to the Community Magazine on the changes in the discretionary bus scheme. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the police about dangerous parking by the building site in Swinbrook Road.**
4. **Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.** – a summary is attached. **Noted.**
5. **Training for Councillors**
 - WODC – Code of Conduct 6.30 pm Monday 15 May and Tuesday 23 May at Woodgreen
 - OALC – Getting to grips with Finance. Didcot - 24 May
6. **Publications**
 - Parish Link
 - Burial Law and Policy in the 21st Century
7. **Future meetings**
 - May 2 – Planning and Policy
 - May 9 – Town Assembly
 - May 16 – Annual meeting of the Town Council
8. **The Clerk reported that Chic-o-Land had submitted a licensing application for approval to stay open until 02.00 am over Bank Holidays and 05.00 am on New Year's Day. RESOLVED that the Council oppose any opening after midnight on grounds of prevention of public nuisance. Councillors were mindful of the fact that there are residential flats immediately above the premises. Cllr Handley asked that it be recorded that he opposed this resolution.**

