

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2008  
AT 7.45 P.M.

Present: Cllr P Scott – Town Mayor  
Cllr Mrs M Crossland - Deputy Mayor

Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr P Madden
Cllr R W Crapper	Cllr Mrs S E Stone
Cllr B Crossland	Cllr Mrs L Walcott
Cllr A Farmer	Cllr W O Walcott MBE
Cllr S Lodge	

Apologies: Cllr A D Coomber, Cllr E Liston; Cllr N A MacRae MBE, Cllr Mrs N Miah and Cllr E Wearing

182. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 March 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

183. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that she had had one meeting with WODC to discuss CCTV and it looked as if it would be possible to reduce the annual revenue cost to the town.

Item 174. It was noted that the date should read 10 October rather than 12 October.

184 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Angie Alford attended the meeting in the absence of Insp Myatt. She reported that crimes had fallen from 322 offences to 245 offences in the first quarter of this year compared with the same period last year. She confirmed that there had been no change to the way the crimes are being recorded. She said that the team was now up to full strength and that the recent incidents of violent crime appeared to be isolated incidents. The Mayor thanked PCSO Alford for attending the meeting.

185 PRESENTATION FROM HEAD OF STRATEGY, COTTSWAY HOUSING

Kate Clemmow gave some background detail on the work of Cottsway Housing. The organisation owns 3,600 homes in West Oxfordshire and is planning to build 140 new homes each year. A CAB tenancy support worker helps to ensure that all relevant benefits are claimed and housing benefit advice is also available. Head of Strategic Support was a newly created post, which was, amongst other things, looking at developing community involvement. Projects underway include furniture recycling, a mobile office, rural transport, large scale procurement and outreach training. Kate was hoping to raise awareness of Cottsway's activities; promote partnership working and networking.

In answer to questions, Kate said that Cottsway was a not for profit organisation. She explained that Right to Buy sales were still taking place but had tailed off over the years. There was a waiting list but Kate agreed that the actual number of people in need of housing was rather lower than the total number on the list. The Deputy Mayor said she would contact Kate at a later date to discuss youth initiatives. The Mayor thanked Kate Clemmow for her presentation.

186. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he had attended a lunch at RAF Brize Norton to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RAF and a dinner at Bicester Garrison. He had unveiled a plaque on the northeast Carterton estate to mark the topping out of the development and a ceremony at RAF Brize Norton to mark the arrival of the 5<sup>th</sup> C17 aircraft. He had attended the Traffic Advisory Committee.

187. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Madden declared an interest in planning (item 191) by virtue of his membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in item 192, Local Development Framework, as a landowner.

188. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

No issues were raised

189. ADJOURNMENT FOR THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR TO RAISE MATTERS

No issues were raised.

190. 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.

191. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 18 March and 1 April 2008. These were noted.

192. POLICY COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 1 April 2008.

It was noted that the Committee had RESOLVED to pass a vote of no confidence in the Nathaniel Lichfield Retail Needs Assessment Report.

The Council RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Committee.

193. COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The note of the Community Centre Management Committee held on 2 April was received. It was explained that in the first instance there would not be a permanent bar in the Centre but that the management committee would keep this under review.

194. TOWN HALL AND WAR MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE

Council received a report from the Town Clerk on various maintenance issues relating to the Town Hall and the War Memorial.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should obtain quotes for replacing the tiles and redecorating the kitchen, and redecorating the main hall. In addition it was agreed that the blinds in the hall should be replaced. It was agreed that, at a later date, the hall floor should be stripped and resurfaced.

It was RESOLVED that the War Memorial should be cleaned, the post and chains repainted and the broken paving slabs replaced.

195. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 March 2008, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

196. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

197. 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. **Gypsy Sites.** Please see the attached letter from Andrew Tucker. This is one of a number of items on the agenda for a meeting between Town and District Councillors and David Neudegg, Chief Executive WODC on 30 April. I would be grateful if Town Councillors could let me know whether they are able to attend that meeting. **Council felt that the letter from WODC did not help clarify the issues and it was agreed that this needs further discussion at the meeting on 30 April.**
2. **S106 Agreements in Carterton.** I recently had an interesting meeting with officers from OCC to discuss s106 agreements. There are currently 11 agreements in force in Carterton and we have been promised summary details of all of these, together with sums available, in the next couple of months. We are asked to include s106 priorities when commenting on all large planning applications. **The Council discussed the pedestrian links to the new estate and the bus link. The Clerk was asked to enlist the help of Cllr Jim Couchman and it was agreed that the matter should be raised at the meeting on 30 April with a view to enlisting help from WODC.**
3. **PFI contract with Air Tanker Ltd** – to see attached letter from the Ministry of Defence. **Noted.**
4. **Corporate Homicide and Corporate Manslaughter Act 2007.** Please note that this Act applies to Parish and Town Councils and that our insurers will be increasing our cover to provide defence costs of up to £5m (see attached). **Noted.**
5. **Training:**
  - WODC is holding training on the Code of Conduct on various dates in May and June. Please note that if you did not attend training last year, you are urged to do so this year.
  - OPFA is holding two courses. A seminar looking at Play and Sports facility provision and management on 14 May in Steeple Aston and a Roadshow looking at basic inspection and management play areas. Please let me know if you are interested in attending either.
6. **Publications:**

The South East England Regional Assembly – The Regions Housing Needs  
OCC Primary Capital Programme: A draft Strategy for Change
7. **Forthcoming Meetings/Events**

23 April	–	St George’s Day Reception
6 May	–	Planning Committee
11 May	–	10K Road Run
13 May	–	Annual Town Assembly
18 May	–	Civic Service
20 May	–	Planning Committee and Annual Town Council Meeting
8. **Cllr Farmer gave details of the Football Club’s Centenary celebrations**
9. **It was agreed that the Clerk and two or three Councillors should have a site meeting with officers from WODC to try to find an alternative site for recycling bins at the northern end of the town.**