

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 2009
AT 7.45 P.M.

Present: Cllr Mrs Maxine Crossland - Town Mayor
Cllr N MacRae MBE Deputy Town Mayor

Cllr Mrs D V Bulley Cllr N Miah (From item 146 to 155)
Cllr A D Coomber Cllr Mrs S E Stone
Cllr B Crossland Cllr Mrs L Walcott
Cllr A Farmer Cllr W Walcott MBE
Cllr S Lodge Cllr E Wearing
Cllr P Madden

Apologies: Cllr R Crapper and Cllr P Scott

Before the Meeting the Mayor introduced her second cadet, Flt. Sgt. Jenny Young, from the ATC.

144. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 December 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

145. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Farmer said that he would be willing to help with considering the options for a second market on the square in the centre of the NE Carterton development. Cllr Farmer thanked the Council for its donation in memory of his late father.

146. DISCUSSIONS WITH CHIEF INSPECTOR MALHI TVP

The Mayor welcomed Chief Inspector Malhi and Sgt Mags Turner to the meeting. The discussion began with the Chief Inspector outlining details about the increase in manning levels, which would allow more cover at weekends. He explained that there was now an officer dedicated to reducing anti-social behaviour. He noted that speeding was still seen as an issue and agreed that Bill Butcher should be asked to make Shilton Road a priority. The Chief Inspector also agreed to see if he could speed up OCC progress on providing a Vehicle Activated Sign for the town.

Council briefly discussed CCTV and it was agreed that a mix of fixed and mobile cameras would probably be needed. In answer to a question on illegal raves, the Chief Inspector emphasised that intelligence was key. Sgt Turner reported that shops and pubs were to have radios free for a period of 12 months, which would enable them to call for police assistance.

It was noted that despite concerns, the town remained an area of low crime and benefited from a very strong partnership with all the agencies working closely together.

The Mayor thanked the Chief Inspector and Sgt Turner for an informative discussion.

147. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor had attended the Lions Carol Concert, Jack Timms 100th birthday party, and the Mayor of Abingdon's Christmas Reception. She had hosted the Mayor's Walk on 1st January and attended a presentation of awards at Carterton Community College.

The Mayor said that attendance at the New Year's Day Walk had been disappointing and that only a small amount of sponsorship money had been raised. Council agreed that in 2010 the walk should be replaced by a different event and the Mayor asked Councillors to let her have any ideas.

The Mayor reported on preparations for St George's Day. The colouring competition would still be held for the under 6s but primary school children would take part in a challenge to make a mechanical dragon. It was RESOLVED that the Council should sponsor a prize to the value of £500 to the winning school, this coming from the s137 budget.

The Mayor reported that the Air Ambulance team would be marking the launch of a new ambulance on the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground on February 24th.

148. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Madden declared an interest in planning (item 152) by virtue of his membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllrs Coomber, Crossland, Mrs Crossland, Lodge, Madden and Mrs Stone declared an interest in payments made in relation to the Carterton Community Centre as Directors and Trustees of the CCC. Cllr Coomber declared an interest in item 146 as a member of the NAG, and Cllr MacRae declared an interest in allotments and land at Black Bourton. He left the room during item 158.

149. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

None were present.

150. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Apologies had been received from both Councillors.

151. 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'. See below.

152. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 9 December 2008 and 6 January 2009. These were noted.

153. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 6 January 2009.

Council agreed that there should be further investigation of a possible pump track and that WODC had promised to look into the possibility of siting it in the Country Park. Council noted the need to make quick progress on the refurbishment of one or more play areas to meet the deadline for submitting an application for Playbuilder funding. It was noted that a new funding source had been identified which could fund the publication of a walks leaflet and also other environmental/recreational information. The Clerk was asked to raise with the Tree Officer the possibility of TPO orders on the old market site.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Recreation Committee be approved.

154. CARTERTON COMMUNITY CENTRE – ROYAL OPENING

Councillors received invitations to the Opening on 13 February together with of the latest draft programme. It was noted that there was to be a rehearsal for the event on 10 February at the Centre between 4 pm and 6pm. The Town Hall staff were thanked for the work that they had put in to organising the event.

155. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

156. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

157. 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. **Quality Status.** I have been given advance notice that the Council has gained re-accreditation as Quality Council. OALC have forwarded the following comment:

'Just positive feedback! Good examples of community involvement and engagement. And the evidence was well presented. Once I've got the formal response from NALC, new Certificate, etc., we could issue a press release adapted from the first one. I was also going to put something on the OALC website and in the next Update for Members'.

Council was pleased to note this success and thanked the Town Hall staff for their hard work in support of the application.

2. **CCTV** - WODC recently received a report on CCTV in Carterton and Chipping Norton. The Council agreed that the necessary capital investment be made and that a feasibility study be undertaken. I expect to be invited to a meeting at WODC shortly to begin discussing details. **Noted.**

3. **WODC Final Flood Report** is available in hard copy and on the WODC website www.westoxon.gov.uk/floodreports **Noted.**

4. **Road Closure** The Minster Lovell Road from the new roundabout to the A40 junction will be closed on Sunday 1 February to allow carriage resurfacing to be undertaken. **Noted.**

5. **Power of Well Being** – to note the attached briefing note. **It was agreed that the Council would like to qualify as eligible to exercise the Power of Wellbeing and asked the Clerk to investigate training opportunities.**

6. Forthcoming meetings and events:

27 January -	a workshop for Town Councillors on play provision at 7 pm
3 February –	Planning Committee
13 February –	Carterton Community Centre – Royal Opening
17 February –	Planning Committee and Council
3 March –	Planning Committee and Policy Committee