

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2010  
AT 7.45 P.M.

Present:	Cllr N A MacRae MBE	- Town Mayor
	Cllr A D Coomber	- Deputy Town Mayor
	Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr Mrs N Miah
	Cllr B Crossland	Cllr Mrs C MacRae
	Cllr Mrs M Crossland	Cllr P Scott
	Cllr A Farmer	Cllr Mrs S E Stone

Apologies: Cllr R W Crapper, Cllr Mrs L Walcott, Cllr W O Walcott MBE and Cllr E Wearing.

20. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2010, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record, and signed by the Mayor.

21. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Coomber asked that it be noted that he is a member of RAF Brize Norton Transformation Team rather than Future Brize. The Mayor reported that he had arranged a meeting with OCC Highways to discuss issues relating to NE Carterton estate. Cllr Mrs Bulley reported that she had represented the Town Council at a meeting at Clanfield on sand and gravel extraction. She had told the meeting that the Campaign Group could apply to the Town Council for s137 funding but had not given any commitment. Cllr Coomber asked if the Council could consider developing a policy requiring matched funding for s137 grants and it was agreed this be referred to Policy Committee.

22. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Accompanied by the Mayoress, the Mayor had been to many civic functions in the area, including the opening of The Maples Play Area, the introduction of the CCTV system for the town and the 6-aside football tournament for youths. He thanked the organisers of the tournament.

The Mayor said he had been considering ways to raise the profile of the town. The Clerk would bring a paper on town twinning to the July meeting of the Administration Committee. The award of the Freedom of the Town to an RAF Squadron was on the agenda for discussion. The Mayor said he would create a Young Citizens Award Scheme and would provide a trophy and funding for tokens for four years.

In this, the Town Council's Silver Jubilee year, the Mayor asked the Council's agreement to his funding a civic robe for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The Council agreed this proposal. The Mayor proposed offering the police a regular slot on the agenda and this was agreed. The Mayor asked Councillors to support a number of forthcoming events, which are listed on the Clerks report.

It was RESOLVED that in the absence of both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor in July, Cllr Mrs Bulley should chair the Council meeting.

## 23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning (Item 28) by virtue of her membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllrs MacRae and Mrs MacRae declared an interest in allotments, Cllr Coomber declared an interest in RAF Brize Norton as a member of the Transformation Team and in the NAG as a member of that Group. Cllr Scott declared an interest as the Chairman of the NAG and of the Chamber of Trade. The Directors of the Community Centre declared an interest in cheque 9522. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in the WODC Core Strategy and a non-prejudicial interest in cheque 9555.

## 24. WODC CORE STRATEGY

The Council received a presentation from Terry Gashe on his report to WODC on its Core Strategy. He explained that an additional 1,000 properties would result in a population increase of about 2,900. This would support a new primary school and help the case for post 16 education at the Community College. Additional spending of about £5m a year would encourage some new small retailers. Approximately 5 hectares of employment land would be needed. A development of 1,000 new homes would result in some transport and highway improvements but would not be enough to generate a new link road to the A40.

Mr Gashe explained that WODC had put the Core Strategy on hold pending clarification from central government and that the Community Infrastructure Levy would impact on new development. In summary, he said that the town had a strong case for promoting 1,000 new houses (in addition to those already identified in the local plan) and that such growth could be accommodated and would help to sustain existing services.

The final section of the report set out a method of assessing the relative merits of the different sites that were being promoted. A number of assessment criteria had been suggested including sustainability, quality of life, capacity and physical and policy constraints. Mr Gashe suggested that the Town Council should consult on these criteria to produce a list which developers would then be invited to complete. The Town Council could set up a panel including representatives from outside the Council who could add weight to each element and score the returns.

The Council agreed that this was a good way to proceed. It was noted that there was now more time to carry out this exercise but that it was important to make progress. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk and the CFF Project Manager should work with Mr Gashe to consult on the criteria and set up a panel. The Mayor thanked Mr Gashe for his presentation and for the work he had done to date.

## 25. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

A resident expressed concern about anti-social behaviour on the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground. The Mayor explained that the introduction of CCTV should help and Cllr Scott outlined some of the measures put in place by the NAG and the local police.

## 26. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Couchman explained that OCC had to find an additional £10.8m savings in the current year. There would be major cuts in the transport budget and in the children, young people and families budget. He would protect the carers budget. The schools budget was protected but the support to Carterton Community College was not sustainable over any length of time.

27. 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.

28. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 18 May and 1 June 2010. These were noted.

29. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 1 June 2010.

Cllr Coomber reported that the Committee had carried out a site visit to Pampas Close. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain estimates for planting the boundary walls, creating a new gate and replacing the front boundary wall with a fence.

There had been a meeting with the residents of Whittington Place. In the longer term they supported the creation of a community garden or allotments. The Clerk was asked to obtain costs for converting the area to such uses. In the meantime it was agreed that the area should be given a thorough clean and treated with weed killer.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting be approved.

30. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2010

The Council received the completed Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2010. Councillors considered the annual governance statement in detail and agreed the Council had acted in accordance with the requirements set out therein. The Town Hall staff were thanked for their work on the annual audit.

RESOLVED that the Mayor should sign off the Annual Return for forwarding to the external auditor.

It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate off site back up of the accounts.

31. MARIGOLD SQUARE – NOTICE BOARD

RESOLVED that a new noticeboard should be purchased for Marigold Square at a cost of £1,800 for supply and delivery.

32. FREEDOM OF CARTERTON

The Clerk explained that a Lords amendment in late 2009 had given Town Councils the power to create Freedoms. It was suggested that to mark the Town Council's Silver Jubilee, a Freedom be awarded to a Unit from RAF Brize Norton. The Station Commander had suggested that the Air Delivery Wing should be the recipient. A scroll would be presented at the Civic Service in September.

RESOLVED that a special Council meeting be convened in July to confirm the Freedom and that a scroll be purchased for presentation in September.

33. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 May 2010, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

34. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

20 July 2010

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Town Mayor

1. **Nursery site** – an initial meeting took place at the Community Centre on 8 June to discuss the possible uses for a new building on the nursery site. Some 30 people attended (including a number of Councillors). Two more workshops are planned for June and July. **Noted. Cllr Farmer asked that consideration be given to extending the existing Community Centre rather than building a new separate resource centre.**
2. **Temporary Parking** – a planning application for a temporary car park on the nursery site will be submitted shortly. **Noted.**
3. **‘Get Stuck In’** - Claire Crossley, Extended Schools Co-ordinator, is planning two weeks of events aimed at children between 8 and 16 between 16 and 27<sup>th</sup> August. The Town Council’s grant to the Play Rangers is supporting this event. Activities include climbing, street dance, drumming, sports, cookery, archery, bowling, drama, arts and crafts and table tennis. Advance publicity will start week beginning 21 June. **Council welcomed this initiative.**
4. **The Continental Market** would like to return to Carterton on Sunday 26 September. This fits in with visits to other towns in the area. I have provisionally confirmed this date with them and said that I would try to find a town centre site for this visit (the aim would be to alternate between the town centre and Marigold Square). Should I seek WODC agreement to using one of their car parks? **The Clerk was asked to see if the car park to the rear of Tower Square could be used for the market.**
5. **Meetings and events:**
  - 21 June - 11.00 a.m. - short ceremony at the War Memorial to mark the start of Armed Forces week
  - 26/27 June - Open Gardens
  - 6 July - Planning & Administration Committees
  - 9 July - Mayor’s Reception at the Town Hall
  - 12 July - 9.30 a.m. - Swimming Gala at Carterton Leisure Centre – all help welcome.
  - 20 July - Planning & Town Council