

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2010
AT 7.45 PM

Present: Cllr N MacRae MBE - Town Mayor
Cllr A Coomber - Deputy Mayor

Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr P Madden
Cllr B Crossland	Cllr N Miah
Cllr Mrs M Crossland	Cllr P Scott
Cllr R W Crapper	Cllr Mrs S E Stone
Cllr A Farmer	Cllr Mrs L Walcott
Cllr Mrs C MacRae	Cllr W O Walcott MBE

Apologies: Cllr E Wearing

69. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 September 2010, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

70. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

71. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Madden's return to the Council following his accident earlier in the summer.

The Mayor reported that with the Mayoress he had attended a play in the newly opened Theatre at RAF Brize Norton, been to the 50th Anniversary of Nigerian Independence, the Lord Lieutenant's Presentations to Cadet and Reserve Forces, and the presentation of a Poppy Appeal cheque by Val Townsend. They had been to the High Sheriff's Law Lecture and the Court Sermon, the Bicester Civic Dinner, the Young Musician Competition in Oxford, the Beating Retreat by the Combined Cadet Force, and attended a service in Christchurch celebrating St Frizewald. With the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor had had a meeting about the Carterton Race Team and had attended the launch of a road safety campaign. The Mayor said he would announce the name of his Cadets at the next meeting. The Mayor and Mayoress had attended the wash up meeting for the Carterton Celebrates weekend. The Mayor asked for the names of the civic guests who did not have allocated seats in church. Cllr Mrs Crossland said the comments had been made to her in confidence and she did not wish to give names. The Mayor asked that she convey his apologies to those concerned.

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Mrs Crossland and Madden declared an interest in planning (Item 78) by virtue of their membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the NAG and the Chamber of Trade and a proximity interest in Planning Applications 48/2010 and 50/2010. The Mayor declared a personal interest in cheque 9700. Cllr Coomber declared a personal interest in Item 80 (application J) as an employee of the RAF. Cllr Madden declared an interest in Item 80 (application B) as a Governor at the Community College. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in the LDF.

73. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

Mrs Jenny McBride thanked the Council on behalf of the U3A for supporting the publication of the book 'Local Heroes: Carterton War Memorial' and presented the Mayor with a copy. She was in touch with a family in Canada who are the descendants of one person commemorated on the memorial. The Mayor thanked Mrs McBride and the U3A History Group for all their work on the project.

Two members of Carterton Youth Council asked if it would be possible for the Council to purchase a gazebo, which the Town Council and the Youth Council might share. Council indicated its agreement and deferred a decision to Item 80.

Graham Speke from Carterton Community College spoke about the Carterton Race Team and the considerable benefits that this project had brought to young people and their families.

74. ADJOURNMENT FOR TVP REPRESENTATIVES TO RAISE ISSUES

PC Rich Barnes reported that the town centre was quiet following the introduction of CCTV. There had been problems in Marigold Square but things had improved in recent weeks. Some problems were being experienced by Hawkins House. There had been a rise in the theft of high-performance cars. TVP, the MOD police and the RAF Police were now having weekly meetings to share information.

75. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Couchman reported that OCC budgets would undergo very significant cuts and that in some cases, parishes would be expected to fill the gaps, although it was not yet clear what these might be. 150 of the 600 managers employed at OCC would be going. He confirmed that a decision was still awaited on the Playbuilder funding.

Cllr Handley reported his concern that youth clubs might close and that he still had not received any replies to his questions relating to the fire station and fire cover on the base. He was concerned that David Cameron MP had had two meetings on issues relating to Carterton and that neither he, nor the Town Council, had been involved in these. The Clerk was asked to take this matter up with the Leader of WODC. Cllr Handley had made a complaint to WODC about poor hygiene at the Leisure Centre and this was being dealt with.

76. 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.

77. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committees held on 21 September and 5 October. These were noted.

78. POLICY COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 5 October 2010.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Henry-Lyons in advance of the meeting on 4 November asking that he bring to that meeting evidence of significant progress on the redevelopment of the town centre site.

It was agreed that the Town Council website should have a link to the TVP non-emergency number and that the Town Council's log of anti-social behaviour should be copied to the NAG. It was also agreed that each Town Councillor should serve on at least one of the Council's Committees.

RESOLVED to accept the recommendations set out in the Minutes.

79. SECTION 137 GRANTS

The Council received a report summarising grants already given in the financial year and noted that £8,000 was left in the budget. The Council considered the applications received and RESOLVED to make the following awards:

	Organisation	Purpose of grant	Amount requested	Amount awarded
A	Extended Schools Co-ordinator	Get Stuck In 2011	£1,500	£1,000
B	Carterton Community College	The Carterton Race Team	£1,000	£1,000
C	Save the Children	To cover the costs of the May Day Event	£400	Not on this occasion
D	Community College Play Unit	Contribution to all weather surface	Not specified	Further information required
E	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind	Contribution to building a new resource centre in Oxford	£500	Not on this occasion
F	West Oxfordshire Citizen's Advice Bureau	Grant towards running costs	£1,500	£1,500
G	Oxfordshire County Council	Public Transport Guide	Not specified.	CTC to download information
H	Friends of St Josephs School	To create raised beds for vegetables	£450	£450
I	Acting Community Thingummybogs	Support for pantomime production	£400	Not on this occasion
J	Air Training Corps	New minibus – total cost £10,000	£2,000	£2,000
K	Open Gardens Committee	Pots and seeds for schools	£75	£75
L	Carterton Youth Council	Purchase of a gazebo	£250	To the value of £250

80. REVIEWS OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Council received a report of two reviews currently underway. The first is a review of the size of the County Council, being carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC). It was agreed that the town needed to have two county councillors but that these should be unique to Carterton and not cover another town.

The second review is being carried out by WODC into polling districts and polling places. It was agreed that a request should be made to redraw the town boundary to include the Country Park, the Football Club and Willow Meadows within the parish. It was felt that the

polling station at Brownes Hall was under used and that money could be saved by relocating this to another nearby polling station.

RESOLVED that the Clerk should make representations to the LGBC and WODC as agreed.

81. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2011/12

The Council received a paper seeking reviews on the level of the precept for 2011/12. It was noted that property numbers were falling and that this would have an adverse impact on the level of precept.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should prepare three budgets for the Administration Committee to consider. These should be based on the precept remaining as in the current year, assuming a reduction of 200 dwellings, and assuming a reduction of 10%.

82. WODC/CTC MEETING

The Council received a note of the meeting held between Town Councillors and WODC officers on 5 October. This was noted.

83. THE MAPLES PLAY AREA

The Council received a report on the sand pit at the newly refurbished play area at The Maples. There had been a number of complaints about cat mess in the sand. The Council had promised to review the position after 6 months.

It was RESOLVED that the sand should be removed and replaced with matting. The Clerk was asked to establish the cost of turfing the area under the matting rather than seeding it, given the time of year.

84. REPORT OF EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Council received the report of the External Auditor and noted the comment that the figures did not add up by £1. It was felt that the difference of £1, which was due to rounding, was not material.

85. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 30 September, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'. Cllr Farmer asked that an additional column be added to show the previous month's figures.

86. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

87. 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. **The Continental Market.** The Town Council was asked by the District Council to remove the posters that were put up to advertise the market. Most of these were displayed by Traditional Markets Ltd who have been told they may be fined. Council is invited to consider whether the market should be invited to visit the town next year and if so, where it should be located. **The Clerk was asked to find out details of the French Market in Burford and make a further report to the Council.**
2. **Draft Local Transport Plan 3 2011 – 2030 Consultation.** This is taking place now and runs until 9 January. There are further details on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltp I would be grateful if Councillors could let me have any comments so that I can submit the views of the Town Council. You can also comment as individuals. **Noted.**
3. **Area Stewardship – Oxfordshire County Council Highways and Transport.** Please see the attached email giving details of the new arrangements that are being introduced at OCC to deal with Highway issues. **Noted.**
4. **Good Neighbour Scheme.** A Good Neighbour Scheme is being launched on Shilton Park on 24 November. **Noted**
5. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**
 - 26 October 2010 – Admin Committee (**please note change of date**)
 - 2 November 2010 – Planning (**12 noon**)
 - 14 November 2010 - Remembrance Service and Parade
 - 23 November 2010 - Planning and Council
 - 7 December 2010 - Council Christmas Dinner
 - 14 December 2010 - Planning and Council

A meeting has been arranged at 1.00 p.m. on 4 November with Mr Henry-Lyons to discuss the redevelopment of the town centre.