

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2011
AT 7.45 PM

Present:	Cllr N MacRae MBE -	Town Mayor
	Cllr A Coomber -	Deputy Mayor
	Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr P Scott
	Cllr R W Crapper	Cllr Mrs S E Stone
	Cllr A Farmer	Cllr Mrs L Walcott
	Cllr E Liston	Cllr W O Walcott MBE
	Cllr P Madden	Cllr E Wearing

Apologies: Cllr Mrs M Crossland, Cllr Mrs C MacRae and Cllr N Miah

157. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 February 2011, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

158. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk confirmed that there had still not been any announcement on Repatriations. A new date was awaited for the Rates Tribunal. There had been no further incidents at the market.

159. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR

The Council received a letter of resignation from Cllr B Crossland. The Clerk was asked to send Cllr Crossland a letter of gratitude for all that he had achieved over his ten years with the Council and it was agreed that a formal vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes. The vacancy created by this resignation will be carried over to the elections.

160. SOLAR FARM AT KENCOT

Council received a presentation on the proposed solar farm at Kencot. The owner /developer had had an encouraging meeting with the District Council. The area to be developed was well screened and would not be very visible. Wild life would be protected. There would be underground cables connecting to the substation by the junction of Upavon Way and Burford Road. In answer to questions, it was confirmed that the solar panels would not cause a problem to aeroplanes. Discussions had taken place with all the parishes within the area. The Mayor thanked Mr Czapski for his presentation.

161. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Caroline Martland spoke on the subject of Community Resilience. There are three stages to preparing a plan. The first is to plan for the emergency, the second to agree what to do in an emergency and the third to practice and review the plan. She asked if a Councillor would like to help oversee the development of a plan in the town. The Council supported the preparation of a plan but it was felt that it would be better to wait until after the Annual Council meeting in May before appointing a Councillor to oversee the production of a plan. Meanwhile it was suggested that Ms Martland should work with the Clerk to start to gather the information needed. The Mayor thanked Ms Martland for her presentation.

162. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he and the Mayoress had opened the extension to the dining hall at Carterton Community College, attended a Guiding Day, the art exhibition at the Community Centre, an ISIS Engineering event and civic events at Bicester and Henley. The Mayor and Mayoress had visited all the schools in the town and had been promoting the Junior Town Criers competition to be held on 6 April. The Mayor had presented the Youth Council with a certificate from CLIC Sargent for funds raised and showed to the Council the salver, which would be presented to the winner of the Young Persons Award. The Mayor reminded Councillors of the St George's Day dinner on 16 April.

163. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Madden declared an interest in planning (Item 169) by virtue of his membership of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and of the NAG. Cllrs MacRae, Mrs Walcott and Walcott declared an interest in allotments. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in the Local Development Framework and in the cemetery. Cllr Coomber declared an interest in NAG and in RAF matters.

164. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

A member of the public spoke about the wish of friends to erect a memorial on grave 232 at Black Bourton Cemetery.

165. ADJOURNMENT FOR TVP REPRESENTATIVES TO RAISE ISSUES

A Police office was present for the first part of the meeting but left to attend an incident.

166. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Apologies were received from Cllr Handley. Cllr Couchman reported on the latest developments concerning the withdrawal of funding from youth provision and the Big Society Fund. He emphasised that funding would be for start up costs rather than revenue costs. In answer to a question Cllr Couchman said he would raise concerns about pothole repairs, particularly on Upavon Way, with OCC Highways.

167. PLOT 232 BLACK BOURTON CEMETERY

The Council received a letter requesting the sale of an exclusive right of burial for plot 232. The Clerk reported legal advice she had received saying that 'no reasonable Council would sell exclusive rights of burial against the wishes of the next of kin'. In this case, the next of kin had withheld her agreement.

Council RESOVLED not to sell the exclusive rights but agreed to work towards a compromise and to consider again in three months time.

168. 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

169. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 15 February and 1 March. These were noted.

170. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the Meeting of the Administration Committee held on 1 March 2011.

Cllr. Scott reported on the meeting. It was agreed that the Council should facilitate a visit to Sweatbox by a group of young people. Expenditure to the end of February and details of reserves were noted. Cllr Farmer reported on his efficiency review. A few areas had been identified for further work and the Clerk would be taking these forward.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Administration Committee meeting be approved.

171. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 28 February, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

172 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Council RESOLVED that the Accounts for the month of March be approved for payment. Cllr Farmer undertook to go back to the supplier on Chq 9842 as he felt that this should be covered by warranty.

173. 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

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

19 April 2011

Town Mayor

1. **Bloor Homes.** The Council is invited to consider the attached letter from Bloor Homes. **Agreed that the Council should meet Bloor Homes.**
2. **Work Club Start Up Funding** – the Council has been awarded a grant of £3,271 from Job Centre Plus to purchase equipment needed to start up a Work Club at the Town Hall. **Noted.**
3. **Youth Steering Group Meeting.** The Council is invited to note the attached record of the first meeting of the Youth Steering Group. This Group will be making recommendations to the Council on issues relating to the Allandale, youth provision and funding. **Noted**
4. **Vandalism at Trefoil Way play area.** On the weekend of 5/6th March vandals covered much of the play equipment with something looking very like vomit. A number of complaints were passed through to the Council and the McCrackens cleaned the equipment on Monday morning. I have reported the incident to the police. **Noted.**
5. **Publications**
 - ICCM Journal Spring Issue.
6. **Forthcoming meetings and events.**
 - Sunday 27 March – Carterton 10K (volunteer helpers needed)
 - Tuesday 5 April – Planning and Recreation Committee (moved from May)
 - Friday 8 April - 11am ARRГ ‘Topping out’ of the new play area
 - Saturday 16 April – St George’s Day Dinner
 - Tuesday 19 April – Planning and Council
 - Tuesday 3 May – Planning
 - Tuesday 17 May – Planning and Annual Council meeting (Mayor Making)
 - Tuesday 24 May – Annual Town Assembly