

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2011
AT 7.45 PM

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

Cllr Mrs D V Bulley Cllr Mrs L Little
Cllr R W Crapper Cllr Mrs C MacRae
Cllr Mrs M Crossland Cllr P Madden
(from item 75) Cllr P Scott
Cllr A Farmer Cllr Mrs L Walcott
Cllr H Jobs Cllr W O Walcott MBE

Apologies: Cllr L Garfield

70. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2011, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

71. MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that Mrs Brooks had prepared details of a possible planting scheme for Tower Square, as agreed at the last Policy Committee. Councillors were invited to let the Clerk have any comments in advance of a site meeting. Item 62 – it was noted that Cllrs Mrs Little and Mrs MacRae had been appointed to serve on the Allandale Management Committee for 18 months.

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and the NAG. Cllr MacRae, Cllr Mrs MacRae and Cllr Mrs Walcott declared an interest as allotment holders. Cllr Crapper declared an interest as a member of the Chamber of Trade. Cllr Coomber declared an interest as a serving member of the RAF and as a member of the NAG. He declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the grant application from the cricket club. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in cheque 9921 and Cllr MacRae declared a prejudicial interest in cheque 9926. Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning matters as a member of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Mrs Bulley and Cllr Madden declared an interest in the application for a grant to the RBL Bell Appeal as members of the RBL.

73. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he had that morning greeted a group of youngsters who had cycled from RAF Lyneham to the Memorial Garden. He read a letter that he had received from Chris Smith MP commenting on the local arrangements for repatriations. The Mayor reiterated his and the town's thanks to those volunteers supporting repatriations and said he hoped to recognise their efforts in a more public way before Christmas.

The Mayor noted that work had begun on building the new Aldi store, and said that he had opened the Original Factory Shop. He reminded Councillors of the Musical Reception on 12 November and said that he would leave union flag lapel buttons at the Town Hall.

74. ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES

No issues were raised.

75. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Handley reported on the Stewardship funds being made available for highway improvements. He had fought for a larger share to come to Carterton and would be consulting the Clerk to help to establish priorities. He was due to meet Age Concern later in the week and also to meet the County Solicitor to talk about a Fire Station. He had spoken to a resident who had erected a new fence encroaching on the highway verge and had arranged for an OCC officer to visit the site. Cllr Handley circulated a letter from the Post Office saying that it would not be shutting the Carterton Sorting Office. The Council welcomed this news and thanked Cllr Handley for his efforts.

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' below.

77 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 20 September and 4 October. These were noted.

78. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the Recreation Committee held on 4 October.

The Council RESOLVED to accept the recommendations made by the Recreation Committee concerning car boot sales on the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground. The Council did not accept the recommendation concerning geocaching at Willow Meadows and asked that the resident attend a future meeting of the Council to make a presentation.

79. REQUESTS FOR GRANT AID

The Clerk reported that the Council had set aside £7,000 in the 2011/12 budget. The Council had already agreed to make a grant of £305 to St John the Evangelist School towards the cost of hiring a coach, and had purchased a laptop for the Good Neighbour Scheme on Shilton Park. There was therefore £6,300 left in the budget.

Council RESOLVED to make the following grants:

Organisation	Purpose of grant	Amount requested	Power	Amount awarded
Kilkenny (Carterton) Cricket Club	Purchase of site screens	£2,300	Recreation	£1000
St John's Ambulance (Oxford)	To assist in training Cadets and Badgers in Carterton	£500	s137	£500
Life Education	Delivering Life Education	£500	S137	£500

Centres (Thames Valley)	Programmes in 3 Carterton Schools			
Oxfordshire Association for the Blind	To support their <i>Future Vision</i> project to build a resource centre for local visually impaired people and their carers.	£500	S137	Nothing on this occasion
Gateway Primary School	Financial assistance towards the cost of taking 16 children the school to sing at the Festival for Youth Prom.	£100	S137	£100
RBL	Contribution to the Bell Appeal	Not specified	S137	Nothing on this occasion

Cllr Coomber left the room for the discussion on the cricket club application and Cllr Mrs Bulley and Cllr Madden did not take part in the discussion on the application from the RBL.

80. BUDGET FOR 2012/13

The Clerk explained that the Admin Committee would be having a detailed discussion on the budget in November and would report to Council so that the final precept figure could be agreed before Christmas. In the meanwhile, it would be helpful to know if the Council had any views on what the precept should be.

In 2011/12, the precept was held at £63.06 per band D dwelling but as there was a slight increase in the number of dwellings in the town, this resulted in a slightly higher total precept of £326,690. A contingency sum of just under £20,000 was included in the budget to provide funds to cover some of the services withdrawn by OCC. The contingency sum had been achieved by cutting other budget heads by 5%.

Council discussed the precept and asked the Clerk to produce a budget which would hold the figure per dwelling at the current rate. It was noted that additional expenditure could be funded from the reserves if necessary.

81. JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The Council received an oral report from Cllr Mrs Little. She mentioned that there was a meeting later this week for all the interested parties and that more details, including costings, would be available after that. Celebrations would take place on 2nd and 3rd June 2012 and be held at the Community Centre, Browne's Hall and on the Recreation Ground. Cllr Mrs Little gave details of a range of ideas. She thought that a budget of £3,000 might be needed. Councillors complimented the Jubilee Committee on the suggestions coming forward. The Clerk reminded Cllr Mrs Little of the need to insure the event and the possible licencing requirements. Security might also be an issue.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Mrs Little for her report and looked forward to receiving more details at the next Council meeting.

82. NEW BURIAL GROUND

The Council received a brief report from the Clerk explaining that technical advice had been received from the Environment Agency on suitable ground conditions but that expert input was now needed to take this forward.

Council RESOLVED that a consultant be appointed. The Clerk was asked to contact the new owner of land to the north of the town to see if they would be interested in selling or leasing land for allotments or burials.

83 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'.

84 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

85. 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. **Code of Conduct Training.** WODC is holding a Code of Conduct Training course at 6.30 pm on Thursday 24 November. If anyone would like to attend, please let me know. **Noted.**
2. **Mapping.** A new Public Sector Mapping Agreement came into force last April. This allows parish and town councils to access the OS web site directly (rather than through the District). To sign up with Parish Online there is an initial set up fee of £20 and then a fee of £10 per 1000 head of population making a total cost to us of £180 (excluding VAT). Is the Council willing for us to subscribe to this service? It would certainly be very useful for us to be able to access up to date maps of the town. **Agreed that the Council should subscribe to this service.**
3. **Community Governance Review – transfer of Carterton Football Ground from Shilton to Carterton.** To note the attached letter. **Noted.**
4. **Forthcoming meetings and events**
 - 1 November – Planning and Administration Committees
 - 11 November – a Remembrance event at the Memorial Garden (details to be arranged)
 - 12 November – Mayor's Musical Reception
 - 13 November – Remembrance Service and Parade
 - 15 November – Planning and Town Council
 - 6 December - Planning and Town Council
 - 13 December- Council Christmas Dinner

Carterton Town Council 2011/2012

Current Account

List of Payments greater than £500 made between 01/10/2011 and 18/10/2011

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
04/10/2011	Inland Revenue	9916	£1,778	PAYE & NI - September 2011
04/10/2011	OCC Pension Fund	9917	£1,642	Staff Pensions - September 2011
18/10/2011	Anthony Stiff Associates	9920	£600	Blackthorne Play Consultation
18/10/2011	McCracken & Son	9923	£5,591	Grounds Maintenance: Sept 2011
18/10/2011	WODC	9932	£2,500	CCTV Quarterly Contribution
18/10/2011	Boward Tree Surgery	9934	£756	Heather Close: Tree Works
18/10/2011	DPDS Limited	9935	£738	Town Centre Professional Fees
18/10/2011	Alliance & Leicester	9936	£1,419	Trefoil Play Park: Repairs
18/10/2011	WODC	9938	£160,000	Reinvestment of Part Precept
		Total Payments	<hr/> £175,024 <hr/> <hr/>	