

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19 JULY 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 C MacRae
Cllr R W Crapper	Cllr P Madden
Cllr Mrs M Crossland	Cllr N Miah
Cllr A Farmer	Cllr P Scott
Cllr H Jobes	Cllr Mrs L Walcott
Cllr Mrs L Little	Cllr W O Walcott MBE

Apologies: Cllr L Garfield

33. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 June 2011, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record, and signed by the Mayor.

34. MATTERS ARISING

The Mayor reported that Brian Crossland DL had been co-opted to the Town Council Diamond Jubilee Working Group in a non-political role.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and the NAG and in planning application 45/2011. Cllr MacRae and Cllr Mrs MacRae declared an interest in cheque 9795 and 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. Cllr Farmer declared a prejudicial interest in the Local Development Framework (LDF). Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning matters as a member of the WODC Planning Committee. All Town Councillors who also serve as District Councillors declared an interest in the LDF. All Town Councillors who also serve as Directors of the Community Centre declared an interest in item 44.

36. ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES

Cllr Howard suggested that WODC might be asked to fund the relocation of the basketball hoop from the rear of the Allandale. He also suggested that pitch fees charged to charities on the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground might be used to defray organisers costs. This point was reiterated by a representative from Save the Children who also asked that consideration be given to their booking the Recreation Ground for their May Day Fair next year. A resident from the North East Carterton Estate raised concerns about the boilers that had been installed in houses there and the Clerk was asked to speak to Building Regulations at WODC.

37. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Mayor reminded Town Councillors who also serve as District Councillors of the need not to prejudge the issue.

Terry Gashe of DPDS Consulting presented his report to the Council. He reminded Councillors of its response to the Core Strategy earlier in the year and its commitment to growth to:

- reduce the dependence of the town on RAF Brize Norton
- mitigate the impact of continued growth at Witney on services, facilities and the retail offer
- help balance the comparative shortfall of both larger houses and affordable housing
- help in attracting and retaining retailers to the town centre
- improve the existing highway network which does not provide high quality access to the strategic network.

A development of some 1,000 new dwellings could be justified because it would equate to the size of 'neighbourhood' as defined in many planning proposals for new or expanded settlements. It also lies within the broad scale of growth that supports a new primary school.

Mr Gashe summarised the case put forward by the developers promoting the sites to the east, the west and the north. He also reported on the further studies from the District Council which include demographic projections, an Affordable Housing Viability Study, a Green Infrastructure Study and a study of Housing Land Supply.

In conclusion Mr Gashe advised that based on the analysis and on the earlier decisions of the Town Council, he would recommend that the Town Council:

- i) reiterate the support for an allocation at Carterton of about 1,000 new dwellings;
- ii) note that this support is based upon the Town Council's assessment that this scale of growth will support and sustain local services, facilities and infrastructure and is irrespective of District-wide housing targets;
- iii) note that the Town Council considers that it is essential to plan strategically and to consider longer term growth needs beyond this current planning period;
- iv) reiterate the Town Council's commitment to support development, which will help to maintain the vitality and viability of the Town Centre, and to make it a "first choice destination" for residents of the Town. The choice of location for strategic housing must reflect this ambition.
- v) considers that all of the options for strategic housing growth have merits and disadvantages. It remains of the view that, subject to there being no over-riding technical objections or issues, and taking into account its concerns and aspirations, the western option remains its preferred location.

It was RESOLVED that the Town Council should accept the recommendations set out above. Cllrs Coomber, Jobs and Miah asked that it be noted that they abstained from this vote. Cllr Farmer left the room before the vote was taken.

37 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he and the Mayoress had visited the Gateway School fete, St Joseph's School fete, St John's School Play, Carterton Community College Art Exhibition, the ATC, the Cubs, the Air Tattoo at Fairford and the Chipping Norton Civic Service.

The Mayor asked that any concerns about the noise created by the C-130s should be passed to the Clerk. If necessary, the RAF would be willing to address the Council. The Mayor asked Councillors to give some thought to the best time for meetings taking place outside the Council meeting cycle. He

also asked Councillors to give consideration to whether there is more that the Town Council might do to help people find employment. Suggestions should be passed to Catherine Chater.

38. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Jim Couchman reported that Cabinet had that afternoon agreed to the Town Council's bid to take over the Allandale Youth House under the Big Society Fund. The Mayor thanked Cllr Couchman for this excellent news and for his support.

39 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.

40 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 21 June and 5 July. These were noted.

41. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of Items 8 and 9 of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 5 July.

Council RESOLVED that Carolyn Place should be asked to scope the project for a new play area at Blackthorn Avenue and quote the fees that she would charge.

Council RESOLVED to consider re-locating the basketball hoop from the rear of the Allandale to a new site.

42. TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee held on 27 June. Town Hall staff are asked to publicise the OCC email address for reporting potholes. It was agreed that OCC staff working on Highway planning issues should be invited to visit Carterton.

43. EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

The Council received an application from the Carterton Schools Partnership to fund a part-time educational psychologist post. There was also a covering report from the Clerk explaining that as the RAF Benevolent Fund was to employ one full time and two part-time youth workers, there was spare funding in the Town Council's contingency fund. Whilst it was recognised that the Educational Psychologist would fulfil an important role in the town, it was felt that this was a County Council responsibility. Council RESOLVED not to fund this post.

44. CARTERTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Council received an application from Carterton Community Centre for an s137 grant to contribute to the costs of carrying out repairs to the heating system.

Council RESOLVED not to make a grant to the Community Centre on this occasion.

45. TREE CONDITION SURVEY

Council received a quotation of £580 for carrying out a survey of trees in its ownership on the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground and at Willow Meadows.

Council RESOLVED that this quotation be accepted and that trees on Swinbrook Road Recreation Ground should also be included in the survey.

46. TRANSFER OF LAND TO SHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Council received a letter from WODC seeking comments on a proposal from Shilton Parish Council that an area of land to the west of Upavon Way be transferred from Carterton Parish to Shilton Parish.

The Town Council had already demonstrated that it could manage areas as wildlife reserves and the argument that steps could be taken to reduce flooding was nonsensical as this area was downstream of Shilton. It was felt that this proposal was a deliberate attempt to stop any future development to the west of the town.

Council RESOLVED that this request should be strongly opposed.

47. MAYOR'S CADET MEDALS

It was RESOLVED that two medals should be purchased for the Mayor's Cadets. These medals would be returned to the Council at the end of each appointment.

48 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 30 June 2011, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

49 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

SITTING AS TRUSTEES OF ALVESCOT ROAD RECREATION GROUND

50 RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Trustees considered items 7, 10 and 11 of the Minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting dated 5 July.

The Trustees noted the report on the project to refurbish the play area on the Recreation Ground and to add a performing space. The Trustees also noted that nets might be needed at the western end of the Ground if footballs became a problem for residents.

The Trustees RESOLVED that locally based charities should continue to have free use of the Recreation Ground and that charging other charities for pitches should be left to the discretion of the organising charity.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

20 September 2011

Town Mayor

1. **Carterton Pumping Station** – to see attached further information from Thames Water. **Noted.**
2. **Street Trading Controls in Carterton and Brize Norton** – to consider the attached consultation document. **Noted**
3. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**

Tuesday 2 August:	Planning
Tuesday 16 August:	Planning
Thursday 1 September:	Ceremony to mark the transfer of the flag from Wootton Bassett
Tuesday 6 September:	Planning and Policy Committee
Sunday 18 September:	Civic Service
Tuesday 20 September:	Planning and Council

Council is asked to agree that two Councillors be given delegated authority to sign the cheques drawn up in August. **Cllrs Mrs Bulley and Mrs Crossland were given delegated authority to sign the cheques during August.**

Carterton Town Council 2011/2012

Annex C

Current Account

List of Payments made between 01/07/2011 and 19/07/2011

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
01/07/2011	WODC	Std Ord	607.00	Town Hall Rates
05/07/2011	Inland Revenue	9782	1,773.96	PAYE & NI - June 2011
05/07/2011	OCC Pension Fund	9784	1,642.33	Staff Pensions - June 2011
19/07/2011	West Oxon CAB	9788	1,500.00	s137 Grant
19/07/2011	Complete Weed Control	9789	864.00	Weed Killing - June 2011
19/07/2011	McCracken & Son Limited	9790	8,204.52	Grounds Maintenance Jun
2011				
19/07/2011	Foddy Bros Plant Hire	9792	550.00	Xmas Lights Storage to Dec
11				
19/07/2011	Oxfordshire County Council	9794	3,000.00	Allandale Staffing Grant
19/07/2011	WODC	9800	3,208.90	Play Inspections June 2011
Total Payments			<u>21,350.71</u>	