

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 JULY 2012
AT 7.45 PM

Present:	Cllr Mrs L Little	Deputy Town Mayor
	Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr Mrs C MacRae
	Cllr R W Crapper	Cllr N A MacRae MBE
	Cllr Mrs M Crossland	Cllr P Scott
	Cllr A Farmer	Cllr M Steward
	Cllr H Jobes	Cllr Mrs L Walcott
	Cllr P Madden	Cllr W Walcott MBE

Apologies Cllr A Coomber, Town Mayor

39 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 June 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

40 MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and NAG. Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning matters as a member of the WODC Planning Committee, the LDF and in cheque 10284. Cllr N MacRae declared an interest as a governor of St Joseph's and Gateway Schools. Cllr Mrs MacRae declared an interest as an allotment holder and a governor of St John's School. Cllr Madden declared an interest as a governor of the Community College and a Trustee of Brownes Hall. Cllr Steward declared an interest as a Trustee of Brownes Hall. Cllr Farmer declared an interest in Carterton Football Club. Cllr Crapper declared an interest as a member of the Chamber of Trade. Cllr Mrs Little declared an interest in the Community College.

The Clerk drew attention to advice on the Declaration of Interests forms that had been circulated and also asked anyone needing help with completing their forms to let her know.

42 ACADEMIES IN CARTERTON

The Council received a verbal report from Niall McWilliams and Graham Speke from Carterton Community College. Mr Speke set out the background to the introduction of Academies and said that discussion between the Carterton schools and OCC had begun in early 2012. The Carterton partnership had seen this as a positive opportunity and had set up a steering group to consider the options. The initial idea had been to include all six schools in the Academy but this had now been scaled back. A decision had recently been made for three schools, the Community College, Carterton Primary and Gateway, to join together to form a Multi Academy Trust. There would need to be formal consultation which would include stakeholders in September and conversion might take place in May or June 2013.

In discussion, Mr McWilliams and Mr Speke confirmed that the main benefits of Academy status would be working together to increase capacity and produce economies of scale. Funding would be delegated to schools. The Community College had taken the lead on this

work because it had the capacity but the College had not looked to pressurise the primary schools. Mr McWilliams said that there had been some difficult times for the Community College but that he was committed to continuous improvement. Value added results were amongst the best in the County. The churches had decided that faith schools should not become part of the Academy but might form their own groups. It was not for the College to comment on why the other primary school had decided not to join at this stage.

Councillors offered their support for the Community College and congratulations on recent activities that had taken place. Mr McWilliams invited all Councillors to visit the school. It was agreed that a separate meeting on the subject of Academies would be useful.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Mr McWilliams and Mr Speke for their presentation.

43 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor's announcements would be given at the next meeting. The Clerk briefly reported on a meeting that the Mayor and two other Councillors had attended at Alvescot with representatives from the villages. She said that she would circulate a list of joint projects that she and the CFF Project Manager had suggested might be taken forward.

44 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

WODC Cllr Howard reported on the shortage of funds for phase 2 of the Leisure Centre and suggested the Council might consider a one-off increase in the precept. He also mentioned developments regarding the LDF and urged the Council to adopt a consistent approach.

45. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Couchman reported that a new leader had been appointed at OCC. Cllr Couchman no longer held a position on the Cabinet. He emphasised the problems being caused in the town by the low numbers of pupils in schools. He was investigating the possibility of using his area stewardship funds to provide Road Traffic Orders on Shilton Park but felt that this might just displace the parking problem. He suggested that Cllrs Handley and Seale might be asked to fund the maintenance work needed on the perimeter path.

46 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.

47 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 19 June and 3 July for noting. The Clerk reported that a Planning Training session had been arranged for 6.00 pm on 21 August and that all Councillors were invited to attend this.

48 RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held on 3 July.

Cllr Scott reported that he had received some complaints about the standard of grass cutting in the town. The Clerk confirmed that a number of complaints had been received by the Town Hall. It was partly due to the very wet weather but also to the fact that some new operatives had been taken on. Town Hall staff were in touch with the contractor.

Cllr Farmer mentioned that work was about to start on revising the grounds maintenance contracts. He invited Councillors to contribute to the exercise. Cllr Jobses said he would like to be involved in an evening meeting.

RESOLVED that the recommendations set out in the Minutes of the Recreation Committee be approved.

49 TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 18 June.

The Council considered a recommendation from the Clerk that the TAC should be disbanded and replaced by quarterly meetings with the Area Steward's representatives.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the TAC be noted and that the Clerk advise OCC that the TAC should be disbanded and replaced by a quarterly call in meeting with the Area Steward's representative.

50 QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Jubilee wash-up meeting held on 10 July. Cllr Mrs Little introduced these notes. A number of useful lessons had been learnt. For the future it was suggested that the Recreation Committee be asked to consider whether the pavilion on the ARRG could be upgraded. It was also suggested that an Events Committee could be established as a sub committee of the Recreation Committee and that this group be chaired by Cllr Mrs Little.

RESOLVED that the recommendations made by the Jubilee Committee be accepted.

51 THE PAVILION AT MONAHAN WAY

The Council received a copy of a letter from the MOD to WODC saying that the bid for Community Covenant funding for the pavilion on Monahan Way had not been successful. It was not known why the bid had failed although Cllr Mrs Little had asked the MP to investigate.

The Council went on to discuss the alternative ways of creating more space on the site. The District Council, owners of the building and the land, were not keen on any form of temporary accommodation. Some form of remodelling of the building therefore seemed most likely. Plans and costs were being drawn up. Grant funding would need to be found and the Clerk said she had started work on this.

This report was NOTED.

52 BANK SIGNATORY

RESOLVED that the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Little, be added to the list of bank signatories.

53 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 30 June 2012, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

54 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

55 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 9.40 pm.

18 September 2012

Town Mayor

1. **Localism.** Cllr Mrs Little and Cllr Steward attended a briefing session at the District Council on 4 July. A report prepared by Cllr Steward is attached. **Cllr Mrs Little circulated a report on the police seminar she had attended. Council was concerned about its possible involvement in health issues. Cllr Mrs Crossland said that she was being contacted by a number of people on health issues in her capacity as a district councillor**
2. **The perimeter path.** We have been notified that OCC does not have the funding to maintain the perimeter path this year. They have suggested that Cllr Couchman may fund this from his Area Stewards Fund. I have put the question to Cllr Couchman. **Cllr Couchman suggested that this fell to Cllrs Handley and Seale but asked for details of the cost in case he had any surplus in his stewardship budget.**
3. **Repatriations – tolling the bell.** The Town Council has been asked to nominate a person who would be willing to be on the rota of those able to toll the bell. **Are there any nominees?**
4. **Palliative and Respite Care in Carterton.** To see the attached letter asking for volunteers to help support a new charity in Carterton called Harmony Home Nursing. **The Clerk was asked to obtain more details.**
5. **Swimming Gala.** Grateful thanks to all those who helped with this year's gala. One school did not attend the gala and another was not able to enter all the classes. Peter Norgrove has kindly offered to talk to the schools about any changes that we might make next year which would allow all the schools to take part. **Noted.**
6. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**

6 August	Planning*
21 August	Planning*
4 Sept	Planning and Policy
17 Sep	Planning and Council

*I have asked Phil Shaw if he is able to attend on either of these evenings to give a training session in commenting on planning applications.
Now arranged for 6.00 p.m. on 21 August.