

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2012  
AT 7.45 PM

Present:            Cllr A Coomber -            Town Mayor  
                      Cllr Mrs L Little -        Deputy Town Mayor

                      Cllr Mrs D Bulley        Cllr P Madden  
                      Cllr R Crapper            Cllr P Scott  
                      Cllr Mrs M Crossland    Cllr M Steward  
                      Cllr A Farmer

Apologies: Cllrs Jobes, Mrs MacRae, MacRae and Miah.

The Council observed a minute's silence for Barry Calcutt who had died the previous week.

The Clerk announced that she had received the resignations from the Council of Cllr Mrs Loretta Walcott and Cllr Joe Walcott MBE. It was noted that Mr Walcott had served on the Council since 1995 and had been Mayor in the Millennium year. The Clerk was asked to send letters to both Mr and Mrs Walcott to thank them for their considerable contribution.

93        MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 November 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

94        MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Crapper reported that he had attended the Highways surgery and had found it very useful.

95        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Clerk advised that a legal opinion was awaited on whether or not the Council needed to grant itself a dispensation to allow it to discuss the precept. Until the position was clarified, she advised that the Council would be advised to grant itself a dispensation.

RESOLVED that the Council should award itself a dispensation to allow it to discuss the precept (item 101 below).

Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade, the NAG and in Planning Application 12/1658. Cllr Farmer declared an interest in Carterton Football Club. Cllr Mrs Little declared an interest as a Governor of Edith Moorhouse School and in the Community College. Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in the discussions on the LDF as a member of WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Coomber declared an interest in RAF/MOD matters as a member of the armed services and in cheque 10385. Cllr Mrs Bulley declared an interest in cheque 10375.

96        TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had received a cheque from the charity Hopeful Notes towards the cost of the adaptations to the Monahan Way Pavilion and had attended a briefing meeting on s106 hosted by Filkins Parish Council. He thanked those who had been involved in the Remembrance Observance. The Deputy Mayor had met with representatives of Heart2Heart who were doing a charity walk to raise funds for computers for schools.

## 97 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

No issues were raised.

## 98 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Handley said that he had had discussions with the Head of the Community College about the catchment area and said that OCC would be looking at their transport policies. The closure of a primary school remained a possibility. Central Government has suggested that the County Council should contribute to the introduction of Broadband across the county. An independent body had been brought in to carry out the Fire Review and it was noted that there had been a serious fire in the town a few weeks earlier. A new stretch of footpath had been constructed in Brize Norton Road. Cllr Handley was pressing the police to open one police station in the area out of hours.

## 99 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.

## 100 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 16 October and 6 November 2012. These were noted

## 101 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Administration Committee meeting held on 6 November. They noted expenditure as at the end of September 2012 and projected reserves. Council discussed the budget for 2013/14 and noted that, as grounds maintenance tenders would not be received until mid December, the Clerk had left a sum in the contingency budget to cover additional costs.

RESOLVED that the precept for 2013/14 should be set at £388,000 and that the other items included in the minutes of the Administration minutes should be noted.

## 102 CONSULTATION ON WODC DRAFT LOCAL PLAN

The Council received a report on the WODC draft Local Plan consultation document. It was noted that the Council was looking for growth as a means of improving infrastructure. The Council had preferred development to the west but WODC had favoured development to the east and 400 additional private houses on REEMA central. The Council received details of policies which the various working groups had considered, and a list of projects that might be funded by developer funding.

The Clerk circulated a draft Town Crier which asked residents to comment on the priorities that had been identified by the Town Council, and Councillors suggested some minor drafting amendments. It was agreed that this should be distributed and that the Council would consider responses at its next meeting, rescheduled for 18 December.

## 103 REQUESTS FOR GRANT AID

The Council received a request from Carterton Day Centre for funding. Cllr Mrs Crossland circulated additional information which suggested that OCC would be supporting a very

similar provision at another location in the town. It was noted that the Council did a great deal to support young people in the town and that the older generation also needed support. The Day Centre had provided a valuable service which was used by a number of our more vulnerable residents. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact OCC to see if it was possible to establish whether the clients currently using the Day Centre would be offered places at the new location.

#### 104 CARTERTON YOUTH COUNCIL

The Council received a report from the Mayor on discussions he had had with various people involved in youth provision. It was recognised that many youth groups already existed and that the Council did not wish to replicate these. It was therefore suggested that there should be a youth forum, drawn from other groups, which would meet to discuss specific issues. This group would be mentored by adults from the parent organisations.

Councillors felt that this was a very excellent suggestion and it was agreed that the Mayor should take this idea forward.

#### 105 CARTERTON FAST FORWARD PROGRESS REPORT

The Council received a progress report from Catherine Chater, the Fast Forward Project Manager. It was noted that she was progressing a number of different projects all of which were adding value to the work of the Council. It was agreed that the Mayor should write to Ms Chater to congratulate her on her contribution.

#### 106 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 October set out at Annex 'B' was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

#### 107 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

18 December 2012

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Town Mayor

1. **West Oxon LPA.** Please see the attached letter from Chief Inspector Paine. **Noted. The Clerk was asked to write to Chief Inspector Paine to thank him for his contribution to policing in Carterton.**
2. **Car Boot sales.** To see the attached request from the Lions to be allowed to use the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground for Car Boot Sales. **Agreed subject to monitoring ground conditions.**
3. **Dog Bins.** A resident has requested that dog waste bins be installed by the Iron Bridge and on Burford Road near the bus stop. The Town Council would need to fund both the installation and the emptying costs. **Deferred until Councillors have had an opportunity to visit both sites.**
4. The Council has received thank you letters from Browne's Hall Management Committee for resurfacing the car park and Relate for the grant. **Noted.**
5. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**

30 November 2012	Christmas Lights
4 December 2012	Planning
11 December 2012	Christmas Dinner
18 December 2012	Planning and Council (Rescheduled)
8 January 2013	Planning and Recreation
15 January 2013	Planning and Council
6. **The Clerk reported that the 2010 Rate Assessment for the Town Hall had been successfully challenged and would be reduced from £14,250 to £9,000 with effect from 1 April 2010.**