

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2012
AT 7.45 PM

Present: Cllr N A MacRae MBE - Town Mayor
Cllr A Coomber - Deputy 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
Cllr A Farmer Cllr P Scott
Cllr H Jobs

Apologies: Cllr Miah, Cllr Mrs L Walcott and Cllr W Walcott MBE

136 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 January 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

137 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk confirmed that she had received three letters of application from people interested in co-option to the Council.

138 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and the NAG and in the planning application for 37 Alvescot Road. Cllr MacRae and Cllr Mrs MacRae declared an interest as allotment holders. Cllr MacRae declared an interest as governor of Gateway School and St Joseph's School. Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning matters as a member of the WODC Planning Committee. Cllr Coomber declared an interest in anything to do with RAF Brize Norton and as a Governor of Carterton Community College. Cllr Madden declared an interest as a governor of Carterton Community College.

139 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor congratulated Cllr Coomber, Cllr Farmer and the Clerk on the delivery of the Allandale project. He had attended the launch of the yellow jacket scheme and a concert by the Oxfordshire Youth Orchestra. He had been present when the Princess Royal had visited RAF Brize Norton and had had an informal meeting with OC Admin. Together with the Mayoress, he had visited schools as part of the Junior Town Crier Competition and had been to a charity fund raising event at The Vines. Together with a number of other Councillors, the Mayor and the Mayoress had been present at the repatriations of fallen servicemen.

The Mayor reminded Councillors of the concert by the Male Voice Choir on 10 March and St George's Day Dinner on 21 April. He invited nominations for Exceptional Citizens and Young Persons awards.

140 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES

WODC Cllr Howard mentioned that grants towards sporting activities were available from WODC.

141. ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Apologies were received from Cllr Handley.

142. 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.

143 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 17 January and 7 February 2012. These were noted.

144 POLICY COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 7 February 2012.

The Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Policy Committee be approved.

145 CARTERTON WEBSITE

Council received proposals for a new website which would cover Carterton as a whole rather than just the Town Council. There was discussion on the inclusion of social media and it was noted that some moderation of Twitter and Facebook existed. It was agreed that the website should include advertising with preference being given to local companies. Cllr Coomber said he had technical questions which he would raise separately with the Town Hall Staff. It was agreed that Mrs Marchant would give Councillors the link to one or two other websites which she felt were clear, attractive and easy to use.

The Town Council RESOLVED to accept the brief for the design of the new website and that advertising should be included with preference being given to local businesses.

146 SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The Council received a draft Safeguarding Policy which would also shortly be considered by the Allandale Management Committee. The Clerk explained that it was an insurance requirement that the Council have its own policy. The draft that had been circulated closely followed the 4Children Safeguarding Policy which would apply to the youth workers at the Allandale.

The Town Council RESOLVED to adopt the policy.

147 ALLANDALE – HEATING

Cllr Farmer reported on quotations that had been received for upgrading the heating in the rooms to the rear of the Allandale. The current heating was inadequate for the day time tenant and low temperature radiators were needed. Cllr Farmer had invited three companies to look at the building and make costed recommendations. Two quotations had been received. One was 11% higher than the other, but Cllr Farmer felt that the higher cost was justified because the contractor had more experience of heating commercial buildings. He felt that the total cost would be less than £8,000 and would provide a long term solution.

The Clerk explained that the original Big Society Grant had been spent but that the Council had received an additional grant of £27,000 towards the cost of purchasing the building. This had resulted in £27,000 not being drawn down from the general reserve and it was agreed that up to £8,000 from the reserve could be used to fund the heating upgrade.

Council RESOLVED that the heating at the Allandale should be upgraded.

148 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council had set aside £6,000 in the 2011/12 budget. To date £4,672 had been allocated leaving £1,373 in the budget. The Council considered three applications and agreed:

Organisation	Purpose of grant	Amount requested	Amount awarded
Carterton Community College	Restoration of the library	£700	£1,073
British Heart Lung Transplant Association	To support participation in the European Games in the Netherlands	Total cost £600	£300
Burford School	Sports tour of Singapore, Australia and New Zealand	Not specified	Nil

149 JUBILEE COMMITTEE

The Council received a verbal report from Cllr Mrs Little. She outlined plans for the two day event in June 2012 at various locations in the town. The Carterton's Got Talent competition had been confirmed as had the fashion show. A number of events had been confirmed for the Recreation Ground. Chancellors had offered to print and distribute 5,500 leaflets.

The next Jubilee Committee Meeting would be held on 5 March and there would be a key stakeholders meeting on 26 March. Cllr Mrs Little said she would welcome offers of help over the weekend.

150 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 January 2012, set out at Annex 'B', was approved. A summary of Income and Expenditure by Budget Heading was also provided at Annex 'B'.

151 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.

20 March 2012

Town Mayor

1. **Localism Act: Standards.** To see the attached briefing from WODC. **Noted**
2. **Boundary Commission Final Recommendations** – see attached plan. **Noted**
3. **Willow Meadows.** The Council recently received a call from a lady who was concerned to see groups of servicemen training in the Meadows. Further investigation has established that this happens six times a year as part of a training circuit. The route is risk assessed by the RAF and although the servicemen carry weighted weapons, these are disarmed. In future we will be given 7 days notice of such exercises taking place. **Noted that the path to Kenns Farm had been badly broken and agreed that the RAF should be asked to consider using alternative routes in adverse weather conditions.**
4. **Local Litter Blitz** – See attached request for support from WODC. **Noted.**
5. **Publications:**
 - The Playingfield – Winter 2011/12
 - The Allotments Newsletter – Winter 2011/12
6. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**

6 March -	Planning and Administration
10 March –	Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir
20 March –	Planning and Council
22 March –	Meeting with David Neudegg and Andrew Tucker 2.30 pm
3 April –	Planning
17 April -	Planning and Council
21 April -	St George's Day Dinner
7. **Council considered a request for a Fire Wok to be used on the Recreation Ground during the forthcoming Playday. Council felt that this could set a precedent and decided not to grant permission.**