

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2013
AT 7.45 PM

Present:	Cllr A Coomber -	Town Mayor
	Cllr Mrs L Little -	Deputy Town Mayor
	Cllr Mrs D Bulley	Cllrs Mrs C MacRae
	Cllr R Crapper	Cllr N MacRae MBE
	Cllr Mrs M Crossland	Cllr Mrs N Miah
	Cllr A Farmer	Cllr P Scott
	Cllr P Madden	Cllr M Steward

Apologies: Cllr H Jobes

138 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2013, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Mrs Leeming had tendered her resignation from the Council. If no election was requested, the plan was to co-opt three councillors at the March Council meeting.

139 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that Help for Heroes had been awarded a grant towards the cost of the adaptations to the pavilion. She also updated the Council on the proposed adoption of Baldwin Mews. Cllr Scott reported that the new VASs appeared to have a positive impact on controlling speed within the town.

140 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no DPis. Cllr Scott declared an interest as Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and the NAG. Cllr Crapper declared an interest as a member of the Chamber of Trade. Cllr Farmer declared an interest in Carterton Football Club and in item 151 on which he spoke but did not vote. Cllr Mrs Little declared an interest as a Governor of Edith Moorhouse School and in the Community College. Cllr Coomber declared an interest in RAF/MOD matters as a member of the armed forces. Cllr Mrs Miah declared an interest as a Governor at St John's School, as did Cllr Mrs MacRae, who also declared an interest as an allotment holder and member of the PCC. Cllr MacRae declared an interest in the ACF and as a school governor. Cllr Mrs Crossland declared an interest in planning as a member of the District Council planning committee.

141 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor said that he was pleased to hear that the pedestrian crossing outside the Town Hall had been approved by OCC and that it might be installed in some 8 weeks. He gave details of his St George's Day charity celebration to be held on 20 April.

The Mayor said that we had decided not to stand for re-election for a second year as Mayor. This decision was not based on health or work grounds. He hoped that fellow Councillors

would support the Deputy Mayor if she decided to stand for election. Cllr Madden proposed a vote of confidence in the Mayor and this was RESOLVED unanimously.

142 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

No issues were raised.

143 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Handley reported on the outcome of traffic surveys in Minster Lovell which showed a 30% increase in the volume of traffic since 2005. His stewardship fund was now fully allocated with a few items of work still outstanding. Cllr Handley reported on the latest position regarding the Fire Service Review and hoped that he could continue to count upon the Town Council's support. In answer to questions, Cllr Handley said that it was not clear if there would be money for a Stewardship Fund in 2013/14 but it looked as though funding might be made available for maintenance work. His Big Society Fund, which could be used to support local charities and clubs, was now almost fully allocated.

The Council thanked Cllr Handley for his efforts in securing funding for the town and for the improvements he had achieved under the Area Stewardship fund in 2012/13.

144 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.

145 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 15 January and 5 February 2013. These were noted.

146 EXCEPTIONAL CITIZEN AWARD

Council received a report on the Exceptional Citizen's Award which suggested some changes to the eligibility criteria. After discussion, it was agreed that the criteria should be amended to include those who work or are involved in voluntary activity in the town. It was also confirmed that serving town councillors should be eligible for consideration. It was agreed that the Award Panel should be broadened to include eminent residents.

RESOLVED that for the current round the new eligibility criteria should be accepted and that the Mayor would nominate people to serve on the Award Panel. The Clerk would produce new Guidelines for the scheme for consideration at a Council meeting in the autumn. Cllr Farmer voted against the proposal that serving Councillors should be eligible for the award.

147 KILKENNY COUNTRY PARK

The Council received a letter from Andrew Tucker at WODC about the provision of toilet facilities at the Country Park. It was noted that the Country Park and play area were owned by WODC and situated in Brize Norton Parish. Both the park and the play area were district wide facilities and it was felt wrong that the Town Council should be asked to pick up the costs. It was felt that the maintenance figures quoted by WODC were too high and that they should be pressed to come up with a cheaper alternative. WODC Cllr Howard was thanked for his efforts which had ensured that WODC had at least considered the issue.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to WODC saying that the Town Council was not willing to fund the maintenance of the toilets and urging the District to come up with a cheaper solution which they could fund themselves.

148 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

Cllr Mrs Crossland asked for clarification of the underspend and the Clerk said she would circulate details.

149 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

150 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 9.50 pm.

19 March 2013

Town Mayor

1. **Adoption of Private Roads.** I am attaching for information a County Council note on the process to be followed in order to have a private road adopted. OCC will only deal with the owner of the road (in the case of Baldwin Mews this is Classic Developments) and there are costs involved. The fee is 9% of the total estimated cost of the road with an additional fee to OCC solicitors. Classic Developments have indicated to me that they would have no objection to adoption but that they would not be willing to make any financial contribution. I have asked Classic Developments to contact OCC directly to confirm that they have no objections. **Noted.**

2. **Refurbishment of Seats.** There are two seats in the town provided in memory of a former Town Councillor. The widow has arranged for these seats to be refurbished and has now asked if the Town Council would be willing to pay for the work. The cost is £100, excluding VAT. **Resolved that the Council pay for this refurbishment work.**

3. **Forthcoming meetings and events:**

20 February 2013	Highways Surgery - 10 am
20 February 2013	Meeting with David Neudegg and Andrew Tucker – 2.30 pm
25 February 2013	Swimming Gala - 11 am
26 February 2013	Meeting with Andrew Tucker and colleagues – 6 pm
5 March 2013	Planning and Administration
17 March 2013	Carterton 10K Road Race
19 March 2013	Planning and Town Council