

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL
ON TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2014
COMMENCING AT 7.45 PM

Present:	Cllr Mrs L Little	Town Mayor
	Cllr H Jobes	Deputy Mayor
	Cllr M Brennan	Cllr P Madden
	Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr Mrs M Mead
	Cllr Mrs L Delaney	Cllr P Scott
	Cllr H Howard	Cllr Mrs J Smith
	Cllr M McBride	Cllr M Steward

Apologies: Cllr R Crapper, Cllr Mrs N Miah

Officers: Mrs Caroline Ramsey - Town Clerk
Mrs Tan Marchant - Assistant Town Clerk

37 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs L Delaney declared an interest in Item 52(i) - Carterton Community College.

38 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 July 2014, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

39 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR NOTING

- (i) Guidance for Members on Outside Bodies - approved and adopted.

40 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor was invited to the MOD by Anna Soubry to discuss Veterans and Charities in Carterton, and she visited Gateway School to receive a donation for SSAFA which was raised on Armed Forces Day. The Mayor attended the Fairford Air Show, and started off Carterton Green Week with volunteers including the ICE Centre families and Council staff.

The Mayor was invited to go on a flight with 99Sqn and has been supported by the Squadron in respect of the Teddy Bears Picnic when she was invited to take him to the C17 for a photo shoot on his way to the Falkland Islands to raise money for charity. She attended the tree ceremony commentating WW1 and the Council's candle light vigil attended by the Station Commander. The Mayor hosted three young children in the Mayors Parlour who were interested to know what a Mayor did, and made visits to the Gym at RAF Brize Norton with Jenny Withers to support the Get Stuck In Project.

The Mayor visited the Carterton Children's Centre on one of their open days and was invited to the Beersheba Community Church to present some awards, and receive an award herself. She has attended all of the Bandstand Concerts throughout the summer. Finally, the Mayor was honoured to be asked to receive the Wreath of Respect for safekeeping and then to hand it back to the Riders branch the next day for it to go to the National Arboretum.

41 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

The member of the public present did not wish to speak.

42 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

Cllr Owen had sent his apologies due to a nasty fall. Council wished him a speedy recovery.

Cllr Handley reported that OCC will be giving a grant of £500 towards the climbing wall at Carterton Community College. He said that the road repairs in Upavon Way have been poorly done and he has spoken to the County Council about it. He asked that the Town Clerk write a letter to OCC to say we are not prepared to wait for the repairs to be redone. People are diverting to avoid the road and are going through the town centre instead, thus causing traffic problems.

Cllr Handley spoke about the Carterton Children's Centre and said that funding does exist and he would like a meeting arranged between himself, Cllr Mrs Smith, the Town Clerk and the Town Mayor, to discuss the way forward.

As far as a new Fire Station in Carterton is concerned, he said that it is hoped to have a combined Fire, Police and Ambulance Station all in the same place, and that this service should be 7 days a week and 24 hours a day - the only such service in West Oxfordshire.

Cllr Handley said that the Carterton Day Centre needs additional trustees outside of the existing committee if any Town Councillors would be interested in this role. He finished by saying that he and Cllr Owen have £12,000 each to spend on highways maintenance, but this sum has to be shared amongst all the villages as well as Carterton and it will be a question of priorities. He asked that councillors let him know if there is anything pressing that needs attention.

43 PLANNING COMMITTEES

Council received the Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committee held on 1st July, 15th July, 5th August and 19th August 2014. These were noted.

44 ECONOMIC REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the Meeting of the Economic Regeneration Committee meeting held on 17th June 2014. These were noted.

45 POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 5th August 2014. These were noted.

46 AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Council received the Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 19th August 2014. These were noted.

47 EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk had circulated a report from the External Auditors BDO LLP saying “*there were no matters that came to our attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report.*” The report was noted.

Council thanked the Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk for all their hard work in ensuring the Council’s Accounts were in excellent shape.

48 NEW RULES ON RECORDING AND BLOGGING

The Clerk had circulated a report setting out the protocol for audio and visual recordings of Council meetings by any resident of the area or media organisation. Council felt that the advice contained within the protocol was a bit vague and would need clarifying as and when further rules and guidance were issued by Government. It was pointed out that there could be instances when flash photography might be a problem.

Notwithstanding the above comments, the report was APPROVED.

49 PICK MAGAZINE

The Clerk had circulated a proposal for promoting Carterton by continuing to utilise the Pick Magazine. A number of councillors felt that the magazine would be worthwhile only if it was delivered to every home in the town, including Shilton Park. Councillors also felt that they should be given an opportunity to submit items for inclusion into the magazine.

Members RECOMMENDED that the Editor of Pick Magazine be invited to the Town Hall to talk to Councillors about how the PICK Magazine could be improved and that she be asked to provide a firm quote for the production of enough copies of the Carterton supplement to be posted out to all Carterton Residents.

50 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31 July 2014, set out at Annex 'A', was approved.

51 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Council RESOLVED that the Accounts for Payment for July and August 2014, set out at Annex ‘B’, be approved for payment.

52 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT

Three applications had been received requesting s137 funding, as follows:

(i) Carterton Community College - funding of £550 had been requested towards the cost of upgrading and refurbishing the climbing wall at the College. Members asked if the facility was open to all community groups and what the ongoing costs would be. Cllr Mrs Delaney confirmed that it would be open to all and that ongoing costs would be covered by the income generated.

Council RESOLVED TO APPROVE the grant of £550.

(ii) Lights Up, Carterton - funding of £1,000 had been requested towards operating costs. Members asked how many people this Club supports and Cllr Steward said there had been 14

people present at the last session which included carers. The Club meets twice a month and previous sessions have been attended by 10-12 people. It was suggested that we ask for regular updates on how the Club is progressing, and Cllr Steward said he would be happy to be the link between the Council and the Club.

Council RESOLVED TO APPROVE the grant of £1,000.

(iii) Citizens Advice Bureau - a request for an unspecified financial donation had been received to help them to continue to maintain their services. There was a lot of discussion about this request and members felt that, with their current surplus of £35,000 and the fact that the CAB operates from Witney and not from Carterton, the Council's last grant of £1,500 should not be matched on this occasion. The Clerk pointed out that other councils do not support national organisations unless they are based in the town and that our policy should be revised in this respect.

Council RESOLVED TO APPROVE a grant of £750.

53 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 for the following items.

54 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

55 FIXED ELECTRICAL TESTING

56 REVISED STAFF STRUCTURE

The meeting ended at 10.00 p.m.

4 November 2014

Town Mayor