

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL
ON TUESDAY 19TH APRIL 2016
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllr Mrs L Little - Town Mayor

Cllr M Brennan	Cllr Mrs M Mead
Cllr R Brooks	Cllr D Melvin
Cllr Mrs D V Bulley	Cllr Mrs N Miah (from item 157)
Cllr Miss S Coul	Cllr P Scott
Cllr R Crapper	Cllr Mrs S Scott-Stovold
Cllr Mrs C Delaney	Cllr Mrs C Wilson
Cllr N Leverton	

Apologies: Cllr M McBride, Cllr D Melvin
Cllr N Owen - Oxfordshire County Council

Officers: Ron Spurs - Town Clerk
Tan Marchant - Assistant Clerk

In attendance: Cllr P Handley - Oxfordshire County Council
4 members of the public

153 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

154 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

Brief presentations were given by three candidates who had applied to be co-opted to the Town Council. A vote was taken and Mr Phil Lewis was co-opted with a majority of 11 votes. Mr Lewis signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined other Councillors at the table.

155 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 March 2016, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

156 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Lewis to the meeting.

The Mayor said she had attended a briefing meeting with Thames Valley Police in connection with the Freedom of Carterton event as the Clerk had been on holiday. She had been invited to visit Hacketts on their opening night and had attended the ICE Centre award evening. Today she had attended a meeting with the Clerk at WODC where the regeneration of the town centre had been discussed. A report of this meeting will go to Council in due course.

The Mayor said she had been visited yesterday by John Hayes and his partner who live next to the Skatepark, who have offered to help in any way they can with the future of the Skatepark.

The Clerk will formulate a report on what is needed and the possible cost, which will go to the Amenities Committee.

The Freedom of the Town Parade took place last Saturday and the Mayor said it had been very well attended and wanted to thank all the residents who turned out to support this important local event. There had also been entertainment by local bands and singers on the Market Square during the afternoon. She gave thanks to Airbus, Chancellors and Morrisons for sponsoring the posters and to the Bread Bin for the celebration cake.

Last Friday the Mayor attended a meeting with the Clerk and Cllr Handley to discuss the Carterton Children's Centre and Carterton Day Centre.

157 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

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

158 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE ISSUES

Cllr Handley came to the table. He said that discussions and consultations are continuing as to whether there will be one big council for Oxfordshire or four smaller ones. There are a lot of complicated issues involved. The County Council has made £361million savings so far. Another £1million has been found for roads, but £126million is needed, so there is a shortfall. He emphasised that people must report all potholes if they want the roads to improve. Funding of £151,000 is available for the widening of the Wycombe Way/Brize Norton Road junction and work will start on 18th July.

Cllr Handley said the start date for the RAF housing keeps being put back and David Cameron has taken up the matter with the MOD. The start date may now be 2020.

Cllr Handley said that the RAF and Air Tanker need to push for the A40 junction at Minster Lovell; it is in the Local Plan but money has to be found for it. Cllr Scott said he wanted to pass on his thanks for the recent repair of the roads on the Carterton South Industrial Estate.

Cllr Handley was thanked for his report.

159 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's Report, copies of which had previously been circulated, was received. The Report is attached at Annex 'A'. See below.

160 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 15th March and 5th April 2016, previously circulated, were noted.

161 POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 5th April 2016, previously circulated, were noted.

162 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held on 12th April 2016 had been previously circulated. Due to the confidential nature of the Minutes, discussion and resolution were deferred to the end of the meeting.

163 CARTER'S WALK - RELOCATION OF ARTWORK

The Clerk had circulated a report on the relocation of artwork in Carter's Walk. The purpose of the report was to determine where the pieces of artwork should be relocated, given that ownership had been transferred from WODC to the Town Council on 1st March 2016. The report contained three options taken from responses received from Councillors by email. Further discussion took place, and it was RESOLVED that the artwork of the airman be relocated onto the roundabout at Monahan Way next to the Pavilion, and that the artwork of Mr William Carter be relocated onto the roundabout next to the BP Garage. The Clerk said that the funds received from the District Council should pay for these relocations.

164 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 31st March 2016, set out at Annex B, was APPROVED. Detailed Income & Expenditure to 31st March 2016 was also APPROVED.

165 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Accounts for Payment for April 2016, set out at Annex C, had previously been circulated.

Council RESOLVED that the Accounts be APPROVED for payment.

166 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.

Confidential item follows.

167 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Confidential item.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

17 May 2016

Town Mayor

1 Streatfield House - The Council's agent Mr Mark Baker has reported that he is in negotiation on behalf of the Council with a probable tenant who wishes to open a restaurant. Once a formal proposal is made, this will be circulated to Councillors. **Noted**

2 HM Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday - 21st June 2016 - A reminder to Councillors that a Beacon will be lit at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st April 2016 in the Market Square to celebrate Her Majesty's 90th Birthday. Beacons will be lit by Councils across the Country. The Mayor will lead a short ceremony prior to the ignition. Cllr Crapper has kindly agreed to assist a nervous Town Clerk in this venture. **Noted**

3 Carterton Day Centre/Children's Centre - A meeting took place last Friday (15th April) between representatives of the Day Centre, Children's Centre, OCC Officers, County Councillors and Carterton Town Council Councillors and Officers to determine how the Council could assist in maintaining these important local services. (A separate email will be sent to councillors regarding the outcome of the meeting.) **Noted**

4 Skate Park - Local Social media reports stated that Carterton Town Council had plans to close the Skate Park. I posted a comment on our Facebook site in response to the negative reports saying that the Council had no plans to close the Skate Park and that Officers are in the process of preparing a refurbishment programme for the Park (details will be submitted to Council when it is prepared). This was picked up by the Witney Gazette who have advised that they intend to run a positive article. **Noted**

5 Meeting with WODC Strategic Director - The Mayor and I met with the Strategic Director with responsibility for Planning and Housing (Christine Gore) to set up better communication channels between the District and CTC. One of the outcomes of the meeting is that WODC officers will assist CTC in developing a plan for the town centre road junction and associated areas. **Noted**

6 Resident's Appreciation - We had a phone call last week from Betty Giles, resident of Church View, who wished to say a big thank you for tidying up the green area at the end of Church View and for the new bench and bin. Betty and her neighbours are very grateful for all that we have done. **Noted**

7 Grant Funding - Father Andrew Foster of St Joseph's Church wrote to thank the Town Council for its generous grant of £1,000. **Noted**

8 Diary Dates -

April 21 st	7.30pm	Lighting of the Beacon for HM The Queen's 90 th Birthday
May 3 rd	7.30pm	Planning Committee
May 3 rd	7.45 pm	Personnel Committee
May 9 th	7.00pm	Annual Town Meeting at Carterton Community College
May 17 th	7.30pm	Annual Town Council Meeting & Mayor Making

**Ron Spurs
Town Clerk
12 April 2016**