



The year started well for Carterton with the announcement that we had been granted Beacon Town status by the Countryside Agency. This is in recognition of all the excellent work that has been done on the Carterton Check and the Fast Forward projects. My congratulations to all of you involved in any of this work. Be assured we are not resting on our laurels. We have placed the contract for the construction of the BMX track at the Dell and this should be ready by the early summer. We have also started to draw up plans for a multi-purpose hard play area on the site of the former swimming pool. We want to be sure that we get this right and will be asking for views from youngsters in the town. Most challenging of all we have started to work up plans for an exciting new multi-function community facility for the whole town situated on the NE Carterton development. We will keep you in touch with all of these developments in future newsletters.

K.W. Stone, Town Mayor

ANNUAL REPORT 2003/2004

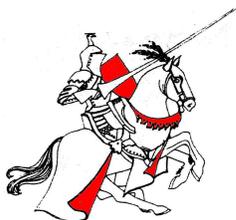
Sixteen Councillors serve on the Council representing five different wards. Councillors serve for four years and the last elections were held on 1 May 2003. The net budget for 2004/05 is £227,840, an increase of just over 2% on the previous year. Because of the increase in the number of houses in the town, the charge to each household has decreased by more than 6%.

The closure of the open-air swimming pool in the autumn of 2003, when the new leisure centre opened, has meant significant savings in the Council's recreation budget. Funds have been set aside to develop a new recreational facility on the site of the pool and also to provide a BMX track at the Dell.

The Countryside Agency is continuing to provide financial support to help the Council take forward a range of projects identified by the community through the Carterton Check exercise. The largest of these projects is the regeneration of the town centre and Carterton has been awarded Beacon Town Status in recognition of its work on this.

| 2003/04 | | | | 2004/05 | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Expenditure | Receipts | Rates | Services | Expenditure | Receipts | Rates |
| 23,300 | 10,200 | 13,100 | Town Hall | 20,890 | 10,500 | 10,390 |
| 156,850 | 24,500 | 132,350 | General Admin | 159,950 | 25,000 | 134,950 |
| 149,750 | 62,800 | 86,950 | Recreation | 106,600 | 9,900 | 96,700 |
| 6,600 | 4,000 | 2,600 | Cemeteries | 6,800 | 5,000 | 1,800 |
| | | -12,000 | Interest | | | -16,000 |
| £336,500 | £101,500 | £223,000 | Totals | £294,240 | £50,400 | £227,840 |

**ST. GEORGE'S DAY DINNER
FRIDAY 23rd APRIL 2004**



This Annual Dinner will be held in Greens Restaurant, Downs Road, Witney at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are available from the Town Hall. Price £27.

**BEST DECORATED
HOUSE AT
CHRISTMAS
COMPETITION 2003**

1st Prize

33 Lawton Avenue
2nd Prize

45 Faulder Avenue
Joint 3rd Prize

22 Alvescot Road
8 Stoneleigh Drive

Thank you and well done!

**BEST DECORATED SHOP PREMISES
AT CHRISTMAS 2003**

- 1st Prize **Carterton Library**
- 2nd Prize **Shillbrook Stationery**
- 3rd Prize **Robert Stanley Opticians**

CARTERTON FAST FORWARD

A number of groups and individuals have started work to get various projects in the Action Plan under way. These include environmental improvements, Carterton's history, transport and access improvements, support for businesses and the redevelopment of the town centre. A successful community event was held at the NE development and a welcome pack is planned. Later in the year it is hoped to hold an open meeting to report back on progress to the wider community. Meanwhile please contact Catherine Chater, Project Manager at the Town Hall if you would like to know more or become involved.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

will next be considered in April 2004. Please write to the Town Hall with details of your request.

LEISURE CENTRE

The Carterton Leisure Centre is now open. Tel **01993 867486** for further information and bookings.