



CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

Carterton Town Crier

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A series of newsletters which aim to keep residents in touch. Please let us have your views and comments. Contact points are given below.

Those of you who attended the public meeting at Shilton Park in July will remember that the Town Council asked our higher authorities at West Oxfordshire District and Oxfordshire County Councils to report back on the actions they had taken in response to a variety of concerns from the town. Much of this newsletter is devoted to their replies. The Town Council is very disappointed that there is so much still to be done and will continue to press all the relevant authorities to move things forward.

However, in other areas of town life, there is much more positive news.

- *In September the U3A, a club for the retired, opened to packed houses.*
- *For younger folk, Cub and Scout groups are hopefully due to re-launch during the autumn at their old building on Swinbrook Road Recreation Ground.*
- *Their immediate neighbours, the Squash Club, will be holding an open day on 25th October to show off their newly refurbished courts.*
- *The new look Tower Square, with its winning goldfish pond mosaic, will soon be completed.*
- *Remembrance Sunday, 9th November, will be marked in the usual moving way with a church service at St. John's followed by an act of remembrance and ceremonial march past at the Town Hall.*
- *On 27th November the wonderful new Community Centre on Trefoil Way will hold an open day from 2 00 pm onwards, with lots of groups putting on displays and exhibitions. The official ceremony will take place at 6 30 p.m. Everybody welcome.*
- *Then, later than usual, on December 5th the Christmas Lights will be switched on by a very special person. That leads us nicely into the Christmas festivities.*

Lots of dates here for your diaries.

Maxine Crossland, Town Mayor

Refuse Collection Issues



Those of you who attended the Public Meeting for residents of Shilton Park will be aware that issues regarding refuse and recycling were raised. A small working group of WODC councillors was formed to consider aspects of refuse and recycled materials collections.

The concerns included (a) design and layout of new developments, (b) narrow road layout, (c) a significant amount of on road parking by residents leading to severe congestion of the roads, and (d) waste collection vehicles, by their sheer size, having difficulty manoeuvring safely and easily on the tight and congested roads.

Alongside the councillor group, work was also initiated by the Planning Officers at WODC to review the position in light of comments passed to them by councillors. As a result, two useful pamphlets have been produced, *Guidance Note: Provision for waste storage and collection in residential developments* and *Guidance Note: Parking in residential developments*. These documents, available from District Council offices or online, are intended to provide practical assistance and considerations that will, hopefully, be able to be incorporated into the design and layout of future developments.

We hope to ensure the residents are not subject to any more disruption than is realistically possible and that waste collection is as efficient and cost effective as is realistically possible.

Cllr. Norman MacRae MBE



“As far as I am aware there are no outstanding planning issues relating to the local centre. Negotiations now involve the developers and the potential occupants, as those are commercial matters. In general terms, as the units have been approved for retail purposes, there is no need to apply for planning permission for shop uses. As the hot food takeaway does not fall within the shop-use class, planning permission had to be sought for that element. The issue of when the shops open for business is a commercial decision reliant upon, amongst other matters, agreement between the user and the developer, and when the operator feels that there is a viable customer-base in the surrounding area.”

Ian Morrow
 Head of Planning Services
 West Oxfordshire District Council

Shilton Park – Highway Matters

“Our Development Control officers put as much pressure as they can on developers to get the roads (or other highway elements of site) constructed to Oxfordshire County Council specifications (WODC supervise works on our behalf), but the roads will not be adopted by Oxfordshire County Council until those specifications are met. Unfortunately we do not have a specific date for this at the moment but we are trying very hard to make progress with this matter.”

Cllr Ian Hudspeth
 OCC Cabinet Member for Transport

COUNTRY PARK: MAINTENANCE

Currently the Country Park is maintained by the Street Scene Operations Team and external contractors using specialist hay-making machinery. The Team visit the Park 8 times each year, during the grass-cutting season, to cut a verge either side of the gravel paths and the grass bridleways. They also maintain the footpaths with herbicide and raking twice a year. A specialist external contractor mows the meadow twice a year and removes the arisings for hay or composting once a year. The woodland areas are strimmed once a year. In addition to this there are nine dog bins which are regularly emptied.

This maintenance regime reflects the amount of funding provided to Street Scene from the Section 106 monies available. The existing meadow has matured and is a diverse habitat for wild flowers, invertebrates and ground nesting birds. This level of maintenance is in keeping with the responsibility of WODC to protect and enhance the biodiversity of sites that WODC own and maintain under the NERC Act 2006. It is proposed that, although the maintenance regime remains at its current level, a publicity campaign would be undertaken to explain the aims of the current maintenance and how long it may take for the Country Park to reach maturity.

Contact Details	Ward	Tel. No.
Councillor Mrs M Crossland - Mayor	Shillbrook	212654
Cllr N MacRae MBE – Deputy Mayor	Upavon	842156
Councillor Mrs. D.V. Bulley	Shillbrook	842427
Councillor A D Coomber	Upavon	844635
Councillor R W L Crapper	Milestone	843236
Councillor B Crossland	Upavon	212654
Councillor A Farmer	Milestone	842430
Councillor Miss E Liston	Rock Farm	840529
Councillor S D Lodge	Rock Farm	842948
Councillor P Madden	Milestone	843163
Cllr Mrs N J Miah	Rock Farm	843829
Cllr P L Scott	Upavon	845338
Councillor Mrs S Stone	Upavon	841165
Councillor Mrs. L. Walcott	Gateway	842156
Councillor W.O. Walcott MBE	Gateway	842156
Councillor E Wearing	Shillbrook	842263

The Osprey Site

A frequently asked question is “What is happening about the Osprey?” The owners of the Osprey site wish to build houses and flats there and to modernise the garage. They are currently in discussion with the District Council Planning Department. At present no final agreement has been reached, and until planning permission is granted, nothing is likely to happen. The Town Council is aware that the site is unattractive, and are anxious to see it redeveloped. Unfortunately the current state of the housing market is unlikely to speed things up. However, we shall continue to press for improvements.

Your County Council Representatives:
Cllrs. Jim Couchman and Peter Handley.
 Your District Council Representatives:
Cllrs. Norman MacRae MBE, George Mason, Peter Handley, Dave King, Peter Madden and Joe Walcott MBE.