

**CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
AMENITIES AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2019
COMMENCING AT 7.45 PM**

Present: Cllr M Mead – Chairman
Cllr D Wesson – Vice-Chairman

Cllr J Bull
Cllr R Crapper
Cllr E Hatton

Apologies: Cllr M McBride, Cllr P Scott, Cllr C Wilson

Absent: Cllr C Delaney

In attendance: Cllr J Hayes, Cllr D Melvin

Officers: Ron Spurs – Town Clerk
Teresa Whitford - Admin

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15 MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 4 September 2018, previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

16 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

There were no members of the public present.

17 WORKS FOR AUTHORISATION

(a) Land between Bracken Close/Heather Close. Three new fencing panels are required, to be fixed to existing concrete posts, to replace those that are damaged/rotten, at a cost of £475 plus VAT.

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Council approves the new fencing panels.

(b) Provision of Portaloo at new Allotments. The new allotments have been allocated to residents by the Allotments managers, who have asked if the Council would consider providing a Portaloo for users, as the nearby Public Toilet block is continually out of use due to issues with the locks being vandalised. There is also no Radar Key access for the disabled. The Portaloo would be provided on a temporary basis until the issues with the Public Toilets are resolved. The cost would be £18 per week, which includes weekly emptying.

The Town Clerk had spoken to the Director at Publica/WODC to stress the importance of resolving the issues with the Toilet Block before forthcoming school holidays. The Toilets were still under the control of David Wilson Homes.

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Council approves the provision of a Portaloo for an initial period of six months.

18 PROVISION OF BIRD NESTING BOXES FOR RESIDENTS

A local resident had written to the Town Council asking if it was possible for the Council to place some bird nesting boxes around the Alvescot Road Recreation Ground to help local birds during the breeding season. He would be willing to offer the Council £100 towards this project.

The RSPB website suggests that nails should not be used to fix the boxes to trees as this causes stress/damage to the trees and instead they need to be secured with cord at a height of at least 2m-4m. They also need to be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each nesting season to rid them of parasites that could affect the following season's hatchlings. This would incur an ongoing annual cost to the Council.

An alternative would be to purchase RSPB recommended nesting boxes and offer them to residents on a one per household, first come first served basis, complete with full RSPB instructions for use and maintenance. This could be publicised in The Crier, together with updates from residents on any successful breeding that had been accomplished. The cost would be in the region of £18-£20 per bird box.

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Council approves the purchase of an initial ten bird boxes to be offered to local residents.

19 STAFF TOILETS

The Town Hall is now frequented by a higher volume of the public than in the past and during busy times the toilets are well used. There are three toilet facilities in the building and staff would like to have one for their use only.

The suggested staff only toilet is the older style Ladies Room. This would have a digital lock fitted and a 'Staff Only' sign on the door and would enable staff to leave their coats, bags and belongings in this room safely during the day. The Men's toilet would remain unchanged and the larger Disabled toilet is suitable for all other users of the building, including baby changing.

Cllr Bull said that the disabled could take longer to use the toilet, which would lead to a delay in toilet availability for other users.

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Council approves the Staff Only toilet for a trial period of six months.

20 CEMETERY ASHES PLOTS

The Committee considered a report from the Town Clerk seeking approval to prepare a new Ashes section at Black Bourton Cemetery, comprising approximately 45 new plots. This would involve preparation of the ground and the installation of paving stones at an estimated cost of £975.

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Council approves the new Ashes Plot section at the Cemetery.

The Meeting ended at 8.20 pm.

Chairman