

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

Present: Cllr N Leverton - Chairman
Cllr J Bull - Vice-Chair

Cllr K Baldwin	Cllr L Little
Cllr S Baylis	Cllr M McBride
Cllr R Crapper	Cllr M Mead
Cllr M Crossland	Cllr J Sangster
Cllr P Handley	Cllr K Wood
Cllr F Harold	Cllr L Wood
Cllr N King	

In attendance: Members of the public x 10

Officers: Rachel Brown – Clerk

78 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Wesson and County Councillor Field-Johnson.

79 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Little	Item 89 – Personal interest
Cllr K Wood	Item 94 – Allotment holder

80 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27 September 2022, previously circulated, were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

Cllr L Wood had declared an interest in Item 66d as author of the application, but not as a member of the ARRG Facebook group. Under Item 66d it was recorded that Cllr L Wood had abstained – clarification would be sought on whether someone who does not vote is considered an abstention.

81 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council received the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 27 September 2022, which were noted.

82 EVENTS WORKING GROUP

Council received the minutes of the Events Working Group meeting held on 21 September 2022, which were noted. The Group had reviewed the Carterton Carnival held in August and discussed forthcoming events – Remembrance Sunday and Christmas Lights.

83 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

(a) Under Item 63b in the minutes of the last meeting where it mentioned making improvements to the football pitch, clarification was sought on which football pitch this related to. Under Item 94, an item on the Payments List had been totally redacted in the public copy of the papers. It was queried whether some parts of the listing could be shown. Under Item 82, in the Events Working Group minutes, the Recreation Ground had been closed for an event - it was queried whether this should have been formally agreed by the ARRГ Trustees. Speaking for the ARRГ Residents Group, the group support the motions put forward at Item 95 relating to the Pavilion development project. It was queried as to why the monies relating to the ARRГ charity account was discussed at the ARRГ Trustees meeting but not at full Council. The Clerk explained the monies held in this account had to be kept separate from Council money and was therefore only discussed at the Trustees meeting. The Clerk would respond to the other queries in the next couple of weeks.

(b) Under Item 80, the minutes of the last meeting, a member of the public had spoken about the Football Club grant and had stated that the football pitch was in Shilton parish. It is actually in Carterton, though the training pitches that have been created are in Shilton, so the application for the floodlights should come to Carterton Town Council. The member of the public also spoke on redacted items in the Agenda pack and queried whether Councillors could vote on a payment that has been redacted. Lastly, on Item 91g relating to the trees in front of the Burford Road shops, it was queried whether the trees failed because they were not watered or because they did not become established. The Chair explained that the trees had been vandalised and efforts had been made to trim them to give them the best chance of survival, and that the tree planting project was an important part of the town's environmental agenda.

(c) Under Item 80 regarding the grant for floodlights at the Football Club, a member of the public said he was Chairman of the Club when the lights were first installed. The pitch at that time was in Shilton parish. The parish had raised an objection that was subsequently taken to Appeal at the High Court in London, and the lights were then approved. A condition had been put on the planning permission that the lights should only be used twice a week.

84 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

(a) Cllr Leverton – South and West Carterton

Cllr Leverton highlighted the problems being experienced with funding. It is estimated that OCC have a shortfall in the region of £50 million and savings will have to be made somewhere. The Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) that have been installed in Oxford, and other towns, have encountered a problem in that the data that had been used was found to be faulty. OCC are in the process of trying to implement the new Adult Social Care Bill, but again funding is an issue. With relation to Carterton, the increasing cost of building materials is having an impact, which can be seen with the poor quality of recent pathway resurfacing. Discussions are ongoing with OCC regarding managements of the traffic lights in the town centre, but funding is low and options are limited. The pathway works at the junction of Price Way and Shilton Road has been delayed due to BT cabling works. Water works are also due in Shillbrook Avenue and it is important that these two sets of works do not conflict and cause access problems.

Concern was expressed about progress with the Fire Station and also that the Carterton Firefighters are helping out at other fire stations who are experiencing recruitment issues. Cllr Leverton had met regularly with the OCC Fire Officers and the money set aside for the Fire Station is no longer sufficient due to increasing costs, but he had been assured that the project is on the list and would be prioritised accordingly. He asked Cllr Handley to let him have details of the staffing problems at the fire stations and he would look into it.

(b) Cllr N Field-Johnson – North Carterton

Cllr Field-Johnson's had given his apologies for this meeting and the full report for October would be circulated to Councillors in due course. The report highlights the following:

Bus Services. Bus services serving Brize Norton village have been significantly reduced: the S1 service has been cancelled and the 233 service now only runs once an hour to Brize Norton. Residents are appalled by this change of policy, with no consultation and no opportunity to review this decision.

Living Wall. A 'living wall' structure was installed in the car park at the front of County Hall at a cost to the taxpayer of £30,000. The aim is to highlight the impact of plants on air quality. Concern was expressed both at the cost and that it takes up two valuable car parking spaces.

Complaints against OCC up by 60%. According to figures from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, there were 64 complaints or enquiries made about OCC in the year to March – up from 40 the year before, a 60% increase since the new administration took over.

Veganism. The administration has promoted a new website called Climate Action Oxfordshire featuring links to the Vegan Society. The Countryside Alliance has responded by stating OCC's vegan policies should be dropped because they undermine British farmers. The Conservatives continue to ask OCC to reinstate meat and dairy on the menu and to support local producers.

85 ADJOURNMENT FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MATTERS

(a) Cllr Bull - Carterton North West

Along with several other councillors, Cllr Bull had attended various District Council meetings. She continued to support residents of Blenheim Court who are still experiencing problems with missed bin collections and in relation to what can go into which bin. There has been very little help from Cottsway Housing Association.

(b) Cllr King – Carterton North West

Cllr King attended the Environmental and Climate Change Committee where the waste and recycling contracts were discussed. Thames Water were also present to answer questions. She attended the Economic and Social Committee, which focused on the wellbeing of teenagers in local secondary schools. There was a training day for the Urgency Committee that might be useful for the Town Council procedures as well. The Football Club is a high priority and a group of councillors are working on this. She met with the Football Club to discuss a lease extension and to apply for funding from the OFA for a free 3D pitch on 30 October.

(c) Cllr Leverton - Carterton South

Cllr Leverton had discussed with the relevant District officer the negative impact of the recent updated litter bins in the town and is working with the Clerk to address any particular problem areas.

(d) Cllr McBride – Carterton North East

Cllr McBride attended the Environmental and Climate Change Committee on 29 September, along with Cllr King, where there were presentations from Ubico and Thames Water and asked the Clerk to request copies of the presentations. He had been supporting a local resident to get some communal bins emptied, which has been a longstanding problem and he will follow this up with the Cabinet member concerned. As the Local Authority Governor at St John's School, he had been liaising with them about their garden project and the progress being made to get quotations to take it forward.

(e) Cllr Mead – Carterton South

There is a Community Infrastructure Consultation on the District Council website, which towns and parishes are encouraged to complete. She stressed the importance of councillors and residents continuing to engage in consultations like this in order to get the infrastructure that we need in the town. The Clerk would ensure this is publicised by the Town Council.

The District Council now have a Cost of Living Working Group made up of Cabinet members and officers, and their first feedback will be tomorrow and she will report back to Council in due course.

The Emergency Planning Handbook is now available on the District Council website. She highlighted that the best the Council can help in an emergency situation is to let the emergency services take the lead and support our residents.

She had attended a meeting recently where grant funding was discussed that needed to be applied for by the end of October. When they tried to apply for this grant previously it was decided that the money would be invested in Salt Cross, the Eynsham Garden Village, and once the money had been recouped it would be reinvested into Carterton. She was keen that this arrangement is made again with any other large grants.

86 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to health reasons the Mayor had given up his driving licence, which had made it difficult to attend as many engagements as usual. He expressed his thanks to his wife for ensuring he attends all County Council and parish meetings. This had highlighted the difficulties being experienced by Carterton and particularly Brize Norton village residents following the recent changes to the bus services and he had made representations to OCC on their behalf. The Veterans Hub was running well and growing slowly.

87 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report had been circulated with the agenda, as follows:

(a) Cllr L Wood has requested to be a member of the Administration Committee, which has a vacancy due to the resignation of Cllr Sanders. Cllr Mead had also expressed an interest in being on this Committee. It had been agreed a while ago that the Amenities and Economic Regeneration Committee membership be increased to eight, so therefore it is logical to likewise for the Administration Committee.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE that Cllr Mead and Cllr L Wood be members of the Administration Committee.

(b) The Clerk had spoken with James Hallam in relation to the council's insurance policy and it was advised that the additional payment of £437.66 was for personal accident cover for staff and councillors, for example, to pay for a locum in the event of a staff member being unable to work. This was previously included with the cost of the main policy but has been separated out this year.

88 GRANT APPLICATIONS

At the last meeting of the full Council there were three full applications to consider and the concern was raised that more time was needed to scrutinise grant applications thoroughly. This was discussed at the last Administration Committee and it was proposed that a Grant Scrutiny Panel be formed consisting of any councillors who wished to be a part of it. Formal Terms of Reference would be drawn up. The Panel would meet four times a year and have set cut-off dates for applications. The decision would then be given to the applicant in 4-6 weeks.

A concern was raised that there may be an urgency in some cases and delays may be caused by the requirement for more information, leading to the Council not appearing as supportive as it could be. An updated and improved Grant Application form was also suggested to ensure all the relevant information was available.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the formation of a Grants Scrutiny Panel (proposed by Cllr Bull and Seconded by Cllr K Wood).

89 WODC STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE

This item had been deferred from the last meeting as Cllr Leverton had not been present.

The minutes of the Standards Sub-Committee held on 18 July 2022, previously circulated, had considered the report of the Monitoring Officer and Investigating Officer relating to the alleged breach of the Town Council's Code of Conduct by Cllr Leverton. The Panel concluded that the Code had been breached in the matter of objectivity and recommended the sanction that Cllr Leverton make a public apology to the complainant. It was further recommended that all members of the Town Council should receive training on social media, the Code of Conduct and objectivity.

Cllr Leverton and Cllr Little, as the complainant, were given the opportunity to make a statement.

Cllr Leverton said that the Panel had agreed that he had broken one of the protocols by not putting everything through full Council before posting on the website, but he believed there was no such protocol in the Standing Orders. On every single email he had written he

personally had never posted one with everything having gone through the Clerk. He referred to details from the Clerk that stated 'that the post was approved by the Council's proper officer prior to being posted on social media. Nothing in the post was untrue. He believed that it is absolutely reasonable that he had followed procedures and had an expectation of everything going by the Clerk was compliant. It should also be noted that Cllr Little did not attend the meeting and he was unable to question the voracity of the comments. Cllr Leverton then left the meeting while the matter was discussed.

Cllr Little said she had attended the first meeting of the Panel, which Cllr Leverton did not attend, and she had been unable to attend the second one as she had been unwell.

The Vice-Chair asked councillors in turn if they wished to comment and a summary was as follows:

- Very saddened with the situation and did not wish to pass judgement either way.
- The judgement by the Standards Committee was that an apology should be made at the next full Council meeting and it should not therefore be subject to a vote of the members of the Council. The Clerk explained that the Town Council had to decide whether or not to accept the recommendations of the Monitoring Officer and report back to them the Council's decision.
- A line should be drawn under this matter and the Council move forward and respect one another. The recommendation of the Monitoring Officer should be followed through.
- The Council should accept the recommendations from WODC.
- The Council should receive the necessary training recommended by the Panel and assuming the Panel had all the facts before them, then their recommendation for a public apology should be followed.
- The Standards Committee, which had only met twice in the last 16 years, had worked hard on this and their findings should be respected.
- Cllr Leverton had taken advice from the Clerk in post at the time. The job of the Clerk is to keep the Council legal and when their advice is given one can only assume that it is correct. The Clerk at the time had admitted that he had posted and made some changes to the document that was posted on social media. Cllr Leverton did not post or share it himself and he should therefore not have to apologise.

Should Council decide not to accept the recommendations of the Standards Committee then a further discussion would be needed on whether Council agreed with the findings that there was a breach of objectivity and what sanctions the Town Council would want to put in place instead.

A vote was taken with five votes in favour, two against and seven abstentions. Council RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Standards Committee were accepted. Cllr Leverton returned to the meeting and made the following apology:

"I apologise unreservedly to every single member of the Council, every single one. Clearly, the systems that we have in place, which I have supported going through the Clerk, were not sufficient. I did not follow the right protocol and I apologise unreservedly to each and every one of you".

90 MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE

This item had been deferred from the previous meeting as the Mayor had not been present.

A motion of no confidence in the Mayor/Chairman of Carterton Town Council, previously circulated, proposed by Cllr Handley, seconded by Cllr King and supported by Cllr Baylis, read as follows:

'Failing to comply with the Code of Conduct of Carterton Town Council, a matter that has been determined by West Oxfordshire District Council. Misleading the public and members of the Council by posting on social media a publication that was untrue and without the permission of the corporate body. Sending an email to the corporate body without the permission of the Council which was untrue and misleading in its content. It has put the Council at risk of a legal challenge in relation to the defamatory content. This has resulted in bringing the Council into disrepute and therefore we believe their position as Mayor/Chairman of the Carterton Town Council is untenable.'

Following a discussion, a vote was taken, with three in favour, ten against. Cllr L Wood and Cllr Leverton abstained. Council RESOLVED that the motion had failed.

91 WORKS FOR AUTHORISATION

The following works were presented to the council for authorisation:

(a) Replacement Boiler at Streatfield House. This had been considered at the meeting of the Amenities & Economic Regeneration Committee held on 6 September 2022. Following the annual gas inspection of Town Council buildings, it was recommended that the boiler, which was installed approximately 35 years ago, should be replaced. The item was deferred to the next meeting of the full Council whilst further information was sought, particularly whether there was a more energy efficient alternative.

Three quotes were obtained to drain down and disconnect existing gas boiler and redundant pipework and remove from site; supply and fit Glow Worm Energy 12kw system boiler complete with horizontal flue.

A quote was also obtained to convert to an electric boiler, as follows:

Supply and install a new Heatrae Sadia – amptec C600 Electric boiler 6kw. Drain down and remove the old boiler and flue, patch up any brickwork that needs repairing. Install the new boiler, change any pipework that needs altering. Install the magnetic filter and new thermostat. Carry out chemical flush, wire up the new boiler and commission. Tidy work area and remove any waste materials. Cost £3,432.00 + VAT.

Research into converting to an Air Source Heat Pump revealed that it was not possible due to the insulation within the building.

Three councillors declared an interest - Cllr Mead as Oxford Plumb is a neighbour; Cllr Bull as BlueGlo had carried out work for her company; and Cllr L Wood as Farmer & Son are friends.

The pros and cons of changing to an electric boiler as opposed to a gas boiler were discussed, and whilst there were queries around running costs and longevity, it was generally felt changing now may not be prudent as the future of electric boilers was currently unclear.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE that a new gas boiler is installed (proposed by Cllr Baldwin and seconded by Cllr King) and chose the boiler at Option 1 at a cost of £2,125 plus VAT (proposed by Cllr Little and seconded by Cllr Baylis).

(b) Top-up Bark for ARRГ and Blackthorn Play Area. Following the recent top up of play bark at Blackthorn play area and the ARRГ, and allowing time for it to settle, the latest inspection has shown that the levels are still too low. The cost includes delivery and laying/racking out the bark.

ARRГ:	17 x additional bulk bags of play bark	£2,960.04 + VAT
Blackthorn:	10 x additional bulk bags of play bark	£1,910.04 + VAT

Concern was expressed at the cost of this and the increase in incidents of theft. Whilst it was understood that other safety surface options would be looked at in the future, this had been raised as a safety concern and the work should go ahead.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the topping up of the play bark at the two playgrounds as detailed above (proposed by Cllr McBride and seconded by Cllr Bull). Cllr Crossland and Cllr Little abstained.

(c) Skate Park. To reinstate topsoil levels to correct levels, sow with landscape mix grass seed and supply and lay 6m of rubber grass protector matting. This work had previously been agreed by Council but the contractor had pulled out due to insurance issues and a new contractor was now sought. Three options were presented for consideration. Clarity was sought on exactly where in the Skate Park the work was required, particularly for the new councillors.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the above works in principle, at a cost of £545.00 + VAT, pending clarification by email (proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr K Wood).

(d) Tree Work - Amenity area adjacent to Hollybush Road, at a cost of £2,000 plus VAT, as follows:

- Flowering Cherry - Prune east facing side of crown adjacent to No.17 by up to 2m in branch length.
- Flowering Cherry - Reduce overall height of tree by up to 3m, prune side of crown overhanging garden of No.17 by up to 2m in branch length and prune remaining symmetry to contain and shape.
- Silver Maple x 4 – Lapsed pollards are potentially unstable and liable to collapse. Re-pollard trees to a height of approximately 4m.
- Portuguese Laurel screen – Adjacent to 8 Hollybush Road (section of screen from in line with front of property through to end of garden only). Remove stems resting or abrading property boundary wall, prune side of screen overhanging property garden back to boundary, reduce height of screen to approximately 4m high and prune where required to contain and shape.

It was queried whether the roots of the Cherry trees had been investigated as these are prone to be invasive. The quote was provided by the Council's preferred supplier, which are reviewed every three years by the Administration Committee.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the above tree works (proposed by Cllr Mead and seconded by Cllr Wood). Cllr Little abstained.

(e) Footpath verge adjacent to 12 Arkell Gardens, at a cost of £600 plus VAT, as follows:

- Footpath/Street lamp - remove Ivy to 1m under light head Cut back Ivy on lamp pole and sever at base of pole.
- Twin stemmed Sycamore - raise crown height from ground level to approximately 5m high, remove growth from around base of tree, cut back Ivy to main stems and sever at base of stems. Prune branches from streetlamp head to provide a clearance of 2m and remove major deadwood.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the above works (proposed by Cllr Baldwin and seconded by Cllr Bull).

(f) External lights – outside Town Hall entrance (one on the canopy and two on the wall). These currently do not work. Replace 3 x 28w 2D (two of which have integral emergency back-ups) and 1 x standalone PIR with 3 x 15w LED (two of which have integral emergency back-ups) that have built in individual microwave sensors. The two wall mounted fittings to have eyelid covers. Converting to these will mean that they use less power by 45% and the individual built in sensors will limit the time that they are on for, which will also act as a deterrent through the night. The cost would be £242 plus VAT.

Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the above lighting works (proposed by Cllr Sangster and seconded by Cllr Crapper).

(g) Tree Planting Project. The Clerk had met with John Platts (Landscape Architect) and an Oxfordshire County Council officer. The OCC tree planting policy has recently changed, which has meant changing the original proposal to have a different mix of trees for the project to go forward. The new proposal to plant trees along Burford Road, plus the replacement of six trees outside Burford Road shops that have failed, as part of the tree planting project Phase 3B, plus the increased cost of materials and fuel would cost as follows:

Original budget agreed up to	£48,000 + VAT
Additional funding required	£ 4,105 + VAT
New cost of project	<u>£52,105 + VAT</u>

Concern was raised over the failure of the trees and the importance of a maintenance plan was stressed. The Clerk said that the maintenance contract runs for five years with the onus on the company to replace the trees if they fail in that time. However, vandalism is not covered. The trees would be watered 2-3 times per week. It was suggested that the trees should be varieties that did not drop berries or fruit over the pathway. The survey carried out as part of the project had identified the locations and types of trees, which included a root management system to ensure no damage is done to underground services.

A proposal was put forward to include the six new trees as part of the 40 trees in Phase 3B rather than as extra trees (proposed by Cllr King and seconded by Cllr L Wood). A vote was taken with the majority against. The motion failed.

A vote was taken on the original proposal with revised costings and additional six trees, as detailed above. Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the revised project plan and costings for Phase

3B of the tree project (proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Crapper). Cllr King asked for her vote against to be recorded. Cllr Handley abstained.

92 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement to 30 September 2022, previously circulated and set out at Annex A, was noted.

93 RECEIPTS

Receipts for September 2022, previously circulated, were noted.

94 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEPTEMBER 2022

The Accounts for Payment for September 2022, previously circulated and set out at Annex B, were approved for payment (proposed by Cllr Sangster and seconded by Cllr Bull). Cllr Baylis, Cllr Handley and Cllr Little abstained.

95 PAVILION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

A motion was put forward by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Little and supported by Cllr Baylis, which read as follows:

(1) This motion has been brought to my attention due to a resident requesting a 2 year pause on the Pavilion Development at our last Full Town Meeting in September 2022. This was in respect of the cost-of-living crisis that is hitting us this winter and I agree and feel it would be in poor taste to see the Carterton Town Council spending more money on top of the money already spent to date. The council should be spending money to support the residents with warm spaces, food and any other needs for our residents to ride out this winter as there will be more vulnerable people this month that may not have been in need up to this point. Can we at least pause this Project until the July 2023 to get through the worst of the cost of living crisis and be clearer where we are going into the next winter.

(2) The legal land registrar shows that Carterton Town Council 'are the named owners' of the Recreational Ground and I would like this to be changed to be the 'ARRG Charity' and that the Carterton Town Council are only 'Trustees' of the Recreational Ground. Carterton Town Council does not own this land; it was a gift from William Carter and we as the Council are to look after this land only. I feel this should be completed before the end of the year, so we can start a fresh in the new year.

(3) Due to the ceiling falling in and now no longer usable, I would like to request that we claim on the building insurance to repair this damage so that the Football Club may use the toilets as well as any other persons renting that facility.

(4) Carterton Town council currently has got planning permission at WODC for the first set of Pavilion Plans dated from 2021 and I would like this to be withdrawn from planning and any new development that goes ahead in the new year of 2023 should be put into planning on it's own merits and not as an amendment to the current plans accepted as they are two very different buildings and the location has also changed.

(5) *I feel going forward with ARRG issues ongoing that we should form a committee that is run similar to planning and amenities for all recreational grounds in Carterton Town Council.*

Cllr King said she felt there was still a lot of vagueness over the Recreation Ground and the resident's comments at the last meeting had raised a good point with regard to the cost of living crisis. Pausing the project would give more time to tie up loose ends. Following the recent Trustees Meeting, she retracted Item 5 of the motion.

Council discussed and voted on each item in turn.

Item (1). Any delay in building the new pavilion would result in increased cost of building materials. Money was earmarked in the budget for this project and grant funding would also be sought – the potential difficulty is obtaining grant funding was raised. It would not affect supporting residents during the cost of living crisis. No timetable had been set for work to start on the pavilion. The referendum had been agreed and this would take time to complete and analyse the results. The public needed reassurance that the Council, having been granted planning permission, would not go ahead without amending the original plans following the outcome of the referendum.

A vote was taken with the majority against, so item (1) failed.

Item (2). It was proposed that this item be refused (proposed by Cllr Baldwin and seconded by Cllr K Wood). A vote was taken with the majority in favour of this proposal, so the Item (2) failed. Cllr Handley abstained.

Item (3). The building is insured but wear and tear is not covered. The final Quinquennial Report was awaited before a plan could be put together to address the maintenance of the building.

Council RESOLVED to defer Item (3) until the report was available (proposed by Cllr King and seconded by Cllr Baylis). Cllr Bull, Cllr McBride and Cllr Sangster abstained.

Item (4). The Working Group had looked at making amendments to the original plans, including changing the location and making it smaller. This would be an amendment to the original plan rather than starting from scratch, which would incur less costs than to put in a new application. It was suggested that the costs are investigated. Cllr L Wood said that the existing plans were considered 'flawed' by Sport England and that there had been an administrative error between the plans submitted by Carterton and Eynsham councils. Cllr L Wood would pass the correspondence to the Clerk. These matters were not within the remit of the Town Council but were in the hands of the District Council. The Clerk had sought clarification from the Planning Officers, who advised that once a planning application had been approved it could not then be withdrawn.

A vote was taken with the majority in favour of refusing this Item. Council RESOLVED that Item (4) had failed. Cllr Handley abstained.

96 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 items follow.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

97 Confidential item.

98 Confidential item.

The meeting was adjourned at this point as it had run over time.

The meeting closed at 10.02 pm

15 November 2022

Town Mayor