

CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL
ON THURSDAY 21 AUGUST 2018
COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

Present: Cllr M McBride Chairman
Cllr Mrs M Mead - Vice-Chairman

Cllr Ms J Bull Cllr N Leverton
Cllr R Crapper Cllr P Scott
Cllr Mrs C Delaney Cllr Mrs S Scott-Stovold
Cllr Mrs E Hatton Cllr D Wesson
Cllr Mrs L Little Cllr Mrs C Wilson
Cllr D Melvin

Apologies: Cllr Miss S Coul, Cllr J Hayes

Absent: Cllr Mrs D Bulley

Officers: Ron Spurs – Town Clerk

69 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None. Cllr Mrs L Little raised the issue of Councillors declaring an interest in items on the Agenda. The Chairman, Cllr M McBride, stated that he would discuss this in the closed part of the meeting.

70 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS

Four members of the public and Cllr Peter Handley were present.

Cllr P Handley stated that the Council was acting illegally if it used public funds to defend a legal action.

Mr M Brennan stated that legal costs should not be from public money and the Council was acting illegally. (The Council) had got it all wrong.

Mrs Doreen Clark thanked the Council for supporting Silent Soldiers but in her view the funds should be spent on service charities.

71 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A FURTHER FOUR “SILENT SOLDIERS. (From existing budget).

The Clerk outlined the proposition to purchase four further Silent Soldiers which had been positively received in the community.

Cllr Mrs L Little stated that instead of purchasing more Silent Soldiers the Council should make a donation for the same amount to the main service charities.

Cllr P Scott stated that he thought it was a waste of money.

Cllr Mrs J Bull stated that if we are going to get them we should get RAF ones.

Cllr Mrs E Hatton said that money was still required for felt poppies for Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Mrs M Mead stated that this had been arranged.

Cllr Mrs C Wilson stated that we have enough statues and they are not in very good places.

Cllr N Leverton supported the purchase.

Cllr Mrs C Delaney asked where the statues will be located.

Cllr Mrs M Mead stated that it would be good to put one or two on Shilton Park and to ensure that each white gate into town had one.

Cllr Mrs S Scott-Stovold and Cllr Mrs C Wilson raised the issue of the location of the Silent Soldiers located outside the Town Hall which could be a distraction to drivers approaching the Zebra crossing in Alvescot Road.

It was proposed by Cllr N Leverton and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bull that the Council should purchase four further Silent Soldiers. There was a majority vote in favour. Cllr Mrs L Little stated she was voting against only so that the funds could go to service charities instead. Cllr D Wesson abstained.

72 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE/NOT APPROVE PAYMENTS FOR AUGUST 2018
(Distributed)

Cllr N Leverton raised the question of the payment to the previous Mace Bearer. The Clerk said he would investigate this. He believed the gentleman had been paid but would make enquiries.

There was a discussion amongst Councillors regarding a payment to Knights Solicitors. This had been authorised at a previous Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5 July 2018.

Cllr P Scott asked who had authorised Knights Solicitors. The Chairman advised him how the matter had been referred from Stephen Dunning to a specialist solicitor.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs E Hatton and seconded by Cllr R Crapper that the payments should be approved.

There was a majority vote in favour. Cllr Mrs L Little wanted her vote against to be recorded.

73 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.

74 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE/NOT APPROVE THE ALLOCATION OF £7,500 FROM THE EXISTING BUDGET (Professional Fees 4035/101), IN RESPECT OF SOLICITOR AND COUNSEL LEGAL FEES DEFENDING A COMPLAINT MADE BY CLLR MRS L LITTLE VIA HER SOLICITOR ALLEGING HARRASSMENT AGAINST MEMBERS OF CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL AND THE TOWN CLERK.

Confidential item.

75 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE/NOT APPROVE THE COUNCIL SEEKING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CASE (SEE ABOVE) FROM THE CLAIMANT CLLR MRS L LITTLE

Confidential item.

The meeting ended at 7.40pm

18 September 2018

Chairman