

FAST FORWARD

Towards 2010



An Action Plan for Carterton

Carterton Check

June 2003

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CARTERTON CHECK ACTION PLAN

Foreword

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Foreword

Welcome to Fast Forward to 2011, the Carterton Action Plan, this is a report by the community for the community. Although it is the culmination of eight months work from November 2002 to June 2003, the Town Council has been considering the need for this type of action for much longer.

This plan is a comprehensive appraisal of the needs and opportunities facing Carterton and the surrounding area. The Delivery Plan (to be implemented over the next three years) contains outlines for a wide range of projects needed to secure a thriving and sustainable future for Carterton supported by detailed information gathered during the Healthcheck process.

This report comes at a good time: with Cartertons expanding population and the future of RAF Brize Norton reasonably secure, now is the time to move forward to the next stage and actively seek to make Carterton a hub for the surrounding area offering first class facilities and opportunities for those living, working and visiting this area.

We commend this plan and ask for your continuing support and involvement as we begin the exciting phase of implementing its proposals.



Cllr Keith Stone

Mayor of Carterton



Phil Scott

Chair Carterton Check Steering Group

June 2003

Acknowledgements

This report has been produced by members of the community in the Carterton area working with the local councils and the Carterton Check Co-ordinator. A large number of individuals and organisations have given generously of their time and expertise.

Particular mention should be made of those on the working groups and steering group. Both officers and members from West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council have also made a significant contribution to the Healthcheck. Carterton Town Council initiated, and supported the whole process over eight months, and has given invaluable support to the Co-ordinator in many ways.

Finally thanks are also due to the Countryside Agency which had the vision to choose to include Carterton in this Market Town initiative.

Next Steps

It is intended to present this plan to the Partnership and other interested agencies and organisations in late July 2003. This will provide an opportunity for the key partners and the Community to respond and contribute to the development of a more detailed work programme which will be needed to implement the plan.

North-East Carterton development area – Summer 2001



1 Introduction

1.1 Carterton Past and Present

Although Carterton may not have a history which reaches back over the centuries, its origins are both interesting and unusual. There are indications of a Bronze Age settlement in the area, and there was an important mediaeval trade route from the Cotswolds to the coast, but Carterton's tangible history really began when Rock Farm was built in 1823 comprising of some 740 acres. In 1900 it was bought by William Carter (for £8,880) who had established Homesteads Ltd, which specialised in buying large tracts of land and selling them off in smaller plots to people who wanted to live in the country. Rock Farm was divided into 341 one-acre plots and sold for £20 each. Later small homestead houses were built adding £80 to the price of a plot. It is this subdivision along grid- lines, which remains a distinctive feature of the town today. Over the next 30 years amenities such as shops churches and a post office were developed. In 1906 land was set aside for a recreation ground and by 1920 a Parish Council had been established. During the early days many of the new settlers took to market gardening, and Carterton became well known for its tomatoes and chickens.



Carterton Co-op 1930

A significant change occurred in 1935 when the RAF base was developed following a survey, which identified the land between Alvecot and Black Bourton as a suitable site.

It was named RAF Brize Norton because it was felt that Carterton was too similar a name to the existing RAF Cardington in Bedfordshire. During the 50s the base was further developed and occupied by the Americans who stayed until 1965. During the following years more housing was developed, partly to meet the needs of the base, and Carterton was described as a 'large village' in 1973. Over the past thirty years its size has trebled and the current population is estimated to be around 15,000, although it is difficult to be precise due to the ongoing development in the north east which is due to increase the population by about 5,000. The area covered by the Carterton Check represents around 20% of the total population of West Oxfordshire.



Carterton Co-op 2001

Today Carterton is the second largest town in the district, although it is clear that the provision of services has not kept pace with development. The most recent expansion has included the provision of a new leisure centre (including a swimming pool), sports pavilion, playing fields, primary school and Country Park. In addition land has been allocated for employment and it is hoped that out of town white goods stores, a nursery and a restaurant/hotel will be developed. However this does not address the major problems facing the town centre which does not contain the range of shops and services which a community of such size might expect. Although the A40 passes by Carterton there is only access to the east from the junction at

Minster Lovell, and the A40 to Oxford is often severely congested, partly due to the stretches of single carriageway. Links to Oxford and then onwards to London are good, but subject to delays through congestion. Links to the surrounding villages range from good to non-existent. The nearest major rail station is Oxford, 20 miles away.

Compared with the rest of the country Carterton may appear affluent, the south ward being ranked 7876/8414 and the north scoring 6818 on the index of deprivation (1 being the lowest/worst score). However, although unemployment is low, so too are average monthly earnings which appear to fall significantly below both the county and national averages.

A new health centre has recently opened on the edge of the new development, but there is still an under provision of doctors. The nearest main hospitals are in Oxford and Swindon with a community hospital in Witney.

Carterton has a significant stock of social housing, but is still unable to satisfy demand. There are a large number of run down unoccupied MOD properties which have caused concern over a number of years. Although house prices in Carterton are generally lower than the surrounding Cotswold villages, they are largely unaffordable to those on average incomes. Within the district 41% of existing and 84% of concealed households had incomes below the national average (£23,000), with first time buyers requiring an income of £32,000 to access even the cheapest houses. There are a large number and wide range of community groups, but the town lacks a venue for its arts groups and a cinema.

There are two major elements (already referred to in passing) which particularly distinguish Carterton from other towns, and have a significant impact on the community.

The north east development is the latest in a series of large expansions, and as already mentioned brings with it improved facilities. However there is concern that it will increase the likelihood of Carterton becoming a dormitory town, and that new residents will

not use Carterton town centre for their shopping.

The future of RAF Brize Norton was of considerable concern to Carterton while it was under review, but it is now confirmed as an important base for the future. It is a major employer having a significant impact on the local economy, has an interest in housing and clearly its presence has environmental implications. Relations between the town and base are generally good, and there are moves to open up more of the base's recreational facilities to the town.

1.2 Town Centre Partnership and Carterton Check

For some while the Town Council had been considering how to involve the wider community in revitalising its town centre. In May 2002 it held a meeting to launch the Carterton Town Centre Partnership. At that meeting 18 organisations agreed to become members of the Partnership. The Town Council also became aware of opportunities under the Countryside Agency's Market Town Healthcheck Programme, and was successful in its application for funding. It was felt to be particularly relevant as the council was also concerned to develop and improve links with its surrounding villages. A Co-ordinator was recruited to support the community in undertaking the Healthcheck (to be known locally as the Carterton Check) and the project got underway in November 2002. It was agreed that the Town Centre Partnership should be widened to enable it to encompass the Healthcheck process. Although individual members of the Partnership have been centrally involved with the Healthcheck, the Partnership itself has not developed or crystallised its role, however it will be important for this to start to happen early on in the implementation stage. (See comments under Implementation).

2 The Carterton Check Partnership

2.1 The Launch

The Carterton Check was launched at a meeting held on December 5th 2002 which was attended by 43 people. A wide range of statutory, voluntary and some private sector organisations were represented. The meeting was in 2 parts. The first to provide information about the Healthcheck process and the second (divided into 3 workshops) aimed to draw out key issues in relation to the economy, community and transport and environment. There was also an opportunity for participants to comment on the surrounding villages (hinterland) to be included in the Healthcheck. At the end there was an opportunity to indicate interest in joining one of the working groups. Follow up letters were sent to those unable to attend resulting in total in around 30 offers of help

2.2 The Steering Group

The Steering Group was drawn from those offering to help, with the intention of also ensuring that there were links between the Working Groups and the Steering Group. (See appendix 1 for full membership). In practice the Chair of each working group sat on the Steering Group with the exception of the Economy Group, whose Chair is a close colleague of a Steering Group member. The Co-ordinator chaired the first 2 meetings, after which the group elected its own chair. The Steering Group has met 5 times (at the date of writing) and has kept an overview of the progress of the project. It agreed simple terms of reference for itself and the working groups (See appendix 2). It had an increasingly important role towards the end of the Healthcheck, supporting the Co-ordinator for the Community Event and looking strategically at the form and content of the Action Plan. It is expected that it will have a continuing role in overseeing the work of the Project Manager through the implementation stage.

2.3 The Working Groups

Four groups were established to look at the Economy, Transport and Access Issues, the Environment and Community and Social Issues. Membership was also drawn from the launch on December 5th, with a few people joining later. (See appendix 3) the working groups had four main tasks: first to gather the information for the Healthcheck worksheets, second to consider the implications of this information in terms of the strengths and weaknesses identified, third to suggest and work up as far as possible actions and projects which would address identified needs and fourth to set priorities. The groups met about 5 times and elected their own chairs, once they had been established. They have been considering their future role, but it is expected that at least some of their members will continue to be involved during the implementation stage, indeed all present at the last meetings expressed a wish to do so. The groups also had an important role in receiving feedback from the various consultations and taking account of it as they developed ideas for projects. Although in general they were working in a similar way, there were some differences in their approach:

The Economy Group had close links with the Carterton and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, and part of its work was to carry out a survey of its members and other local businesses to gather additional information. Its membership included the President of the Chamber of Trade and Commerce, officers from the district and county council economic development departments, local businesses as well as BusinessLink.

The Transport Group included a county councillor, a representative from Stagecoach, representatives from the Oxfordshire Access Forum and the Oxfordshire Rural Transport Partnership. The group was able to make use of an informal access audit of the town, carried out as part of its work, by the members of the Access Forum, who also

provided part of the Transport display for the community event.

The Social and Community Group had a broad representation of groups including the local housing association, the local health centre and RAF Brize Norton. One of its members organised a small youth survey to identify the need for sports facilities. It had a considerable workload, but provided a large amount of detailed information.

The Environment Group was smaller than the rest, with a couple of people undertaking a large amount of the work. It did benefit from the membership of the presence of the Environmental Protection Officer and Energy Manager for RAF Brize Norton.

It had always been regarded as important to involve RAF Brize Norton, residents from the north east development and the villages. In the event, RAF Brize Norton was well represented, and attended nearly all the meetings in spite of severe operational pressures at the time. The Chair of the new residents' association for the north east development was an active member of the Economy working group. There were also some village representatives, but a couple had to leave (for personal reasons), ideally there would have been greater representation. Finally the Town Council was well and actively represented on all the groups and this proved to be very helpful as not only did it give access to information, but also meant that all the groups were aware of any plans for projects already underway.

The key findings of the working groups appear in the next chapter, and the full worksheets are available as a separate publication (Available on request from Carterton Town Council and on the town council website www.carterton.org.uk)

2.4 Involvement of the Local Councils

The Carterton Check is a joint initiative between The Countryside Agency, Carterton Town Council and West Oxfordshire District Council. The Countryside Agency provided funding for the Co-ordinator's post and £2,000 towards expenses along with support

for the Co-ordinator from the South- East Region. The Town Council provided a large amount of help in kind including an office, telephone, postage, stationery and administrative support. It also earmarked £10,000 for the Town Centre Partnership, some of which have been used to meet expenses such as the publication of this report. The District Council provided a computer and printer along with IT support. In addition officers from several departments have contributed to the Carterton Check in various ways.

The Countryside Agency, Town Council and District Council have all budgeted to provide funding for a Project Manager's post over three years to implement the Action Plan. Oxfordshire County Council has granted £2000 of economic development funding towards the implementation of the Action Plan.

2.5 Involving the Hinterland (Surrounding villages)

The relationship between Carterton and its surrounding villages has not always been an easy one. On one hand some of the villages have regarded the expansion of the town as a threat to their attractive Cotswold setting, and in particular have concerns about increased traffic generation. On the other hand those in Carterton realise that if the vitality of the town centre is to improve, it will need to attract residents from the surrounding villages in order to increase its market share.

Recently the Town Council has attempted to forge closer links with the villages, but recognises there is still much to be done and sees the Carterton Check as an important part of the process.

Identifying the Hinterland

For the purposes of the Carterton check it was necessary to identify which villages would be included. The choice was arrived at by a combination of research by the Co-ordinator and public consultation. In researching the issues the Co-ordinator considered:

- Catchment Areas for schools (local allocation policies made this less relevant than normal)
- Transport Links
- Perceptions of local communities
- The practicality of collecting data

The last consideration had a considerable influence on the choice and was not helped by the fact that data was only available for wards whose boundaries had subsequently been redrawn. Those attending the launch were asked to indicate (by placing coloured dots next to villages) whether they regarded them as having strong or weak links with Carterton.

Finally it was agreed there should be an outer and inner hinterland. The latter to be included in data collection and the former included in more general consultations.

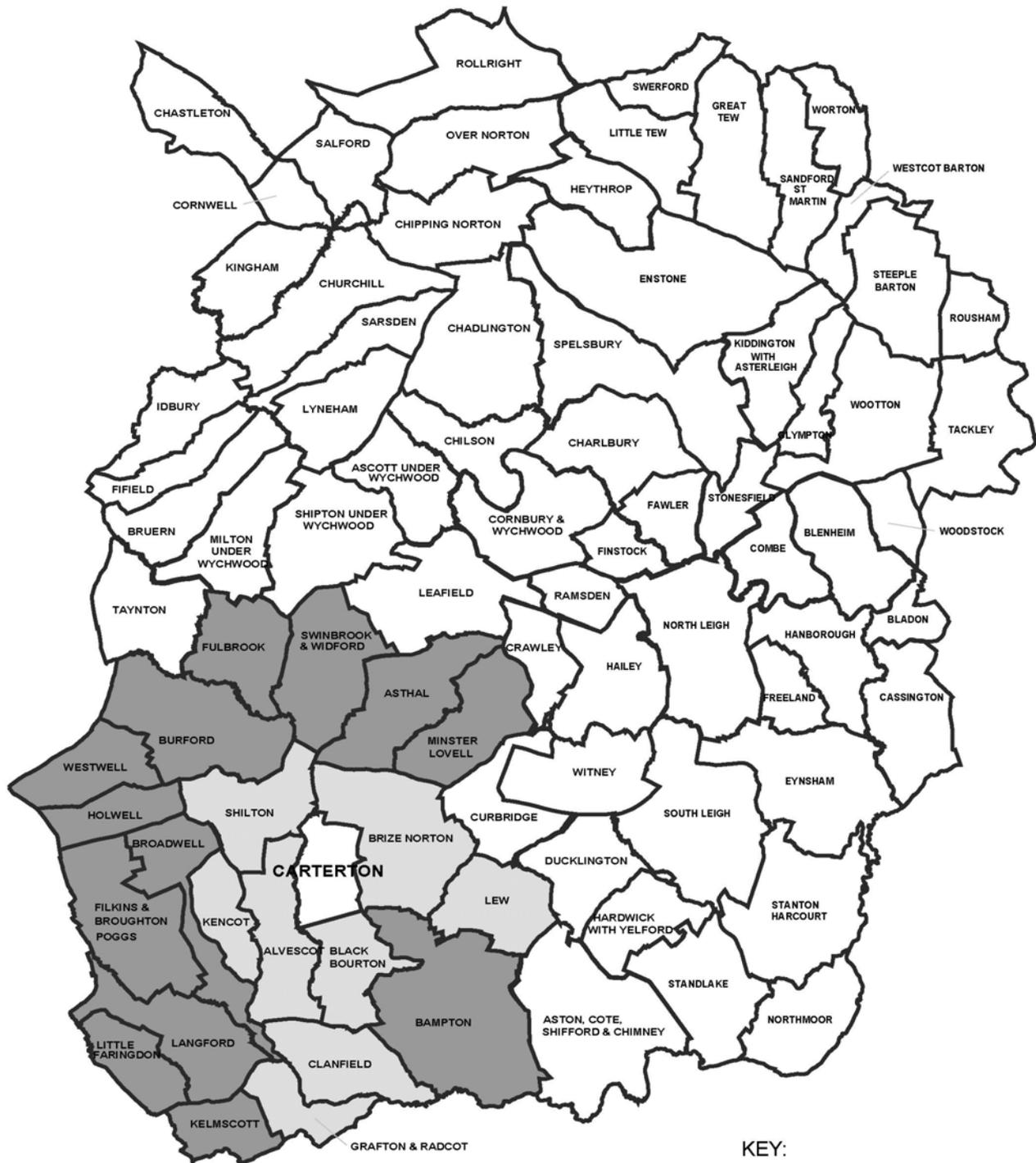
A list of the inner and outer hinterland is attached at **Appendix 4**.

Consulting the Hinterland

In addition to involving hinterland villages in the launch and the working groups, a consultation was arranged specifically for the villages. It took the form of a joint roadshow with Oxfordshire Rural Community Council which was promoting village the Vital Villages programme and village plans. It provided an opportunity to identify key issues for their communities and gain their views on future plans for Carterton, as well as inform them about the benefits of undertaking a Parish Plan and funding opportunities from the Vital Villages programme. Key findings will be highlighted in the next chapter, but it was evident that it will be important to give priority to developing and maintaining stronger links with the villages.



Inner and Outer Hinterland



KEY:

- Inner hinterland
- Outer hinterland

3. The Healthcheck

3.1 Introduction

The background to the working groups has already been described. All the core questions and the majority of supplementary questions were addressed. Additional information was gathered by a variety of small surveys/consultations (described below).

Some difficulties were encountered providing all the relevant statistical information. These related mainly to:

- The Census- 1991 information was very out of date. The 2001 information was not available to the Carterton Check at ward level. The timing could not have been worse as it is expected to be published June/July. However, it is expected that this information will be taken in to account when drawing up the detailed work programme to implement the Action Plan.
- Nomis- A significant amount of economic data was sensitive, and was repressed, because the sample was too small to be reliable and could lead to the identification of individual organisations.

3.2 Key Findings

Economy Working Group

- Concern that the land allocated for employment use has not come forward for development and that it may be vulnerable to pressure to revert to residential use
- The need to promote Carterton to potential employers to encourage a wider range of employment opportunities
- The need for supported incubation units for start-up businesses
- The key role of RAF Brize Norton as an employer and in the wider community and the impact that any changes to its operation will have on Carterton and the surrounding villages
- That the current and expanding population justifies the development of the town centre which may include developing a new road and pedestrianisation of part of the town centre
- The central role of the market site
- The lack of a family restaurant and accommodation for visitors
- The lack of a 6th form at the Community College
- The potential to develop tourism around plane enthusiasts visiting RAF Brize Norton and to capitalise on Carterton's interesting and unusual history
- Lack of access to broadband for the business community

Summary

There has been, (and continues to be) a significant growth in the population of Carterton, and while some leisure facilities are being developed as part of the north east expansion, the town centre still lacks the

scale of services commensurate with the size of the community and its hinterland. There have been moves in the past to address this problem, and there have been improvements with the development of a new small shopping square and a Co-op superstore. However it is felt that it is time to plan for a more major development and refurbishment of the town centre, and to drive forward the process, which is supported by the Local Plan. It is felt that with the stability of RAF Brize Norton secured and an increasing population the time has never been better. For these reasons the top priority identified through the findings of the Healthcheck is the revitalisation and development of the town centre.

The second key issue, which has emerged, is employment opportunities. While unemployment is low, in keeping with the area, average wages appear (as far as has been possible to establish) to be significantly below average for the area, which affects both the wellbeing of individual families and the local economy. In addition there is concern about Carterton increasingly being seen as a dormitory town with those on the new development having little reason to visit the town centre. Although land for employment has been allocated in the Local Plan, it has not been actively marketed and there is a concern there will be pressure to allow it to revert to residential use. The Business Survey carried out as part of the Carterton Check showed a need for new business premises, especially for supported start-up space.



West Oxfordshire Business Park

Environment Working Group

- The need for a vision for a design for the development of the town centre
- The importance of soft landscaping, and in particular trees, to the appearance of the town and the need to develop and oversee the implementation of a tree planting/maintenance programme for Carterton extending towards the hinterland villages
- The need to ensure adequate environmental measures to soften the impact of the north east development are put in place as the development progresses
- The importance of protecting open space and the general 'open' layout in Carterton
- The need to ensure the community is consulted and involved in the development of the new country park
- The importance of joint working with RAF Brize Norton to improve the approach to Carterton from Brize Norton and monitor air, noise and water pollution levels
- The need to involve business and the community in partnership with the town and district councils to maintain and improve the attractiveness of Carterton.
- The scale of public concern about dog fouling

Summary

A significant amount has been done to improve the attractiveness of the town, both through new development and landscaping. However the centre still lacks cohesion and real focus. It will be important to work with the community and professional architects and planners to develop a 'design' vision for the town centre for the future in parallel with land assembly and economic measures.

The layout of the town means that trees are an especially important feature, and plans to develop a strategy for protecting and increasing them will be important.

The presence and impact of RAF Brize Norton and the new development underway in the north-east are dealt with in a separate section, but clearly it has significant implications for the environment. The one issue (perhaps not surprisingly) which was raised by many people at the community event, but had not previously been thought of as a key issue was that of dog fouling and litter.



Willow Meadows

Social & Community Working Group

- Need for a cinema/arts venue
- Need for a family restaurant
- Improved healthcare facilities/a family or healthy living centre
- Alternative venue/facilities for young people including improving the skate park and an Internet/cyber café
- Provision of affordable housing
- Action on the empty MOD property
- Better access for non RAF personnel to RAF Brize Norton leisure facilities both sides of the wire
- The re-introduction of a summer community event
- Measures to reduce the fear of crime
- Improved health provision

Summary

It has been clear from the Healthcheck process that Carterton is an active community with an impressive range of organisations and groups concerned with sport, culture and other leisure activities as well as those offering support to various sectors of the community. However the lack of facilities for families, in particular a place to meet and eat, and a flexible community venue, is striking. Young people too have expressed a need for alternative, informal places to meet. In spite of the new Broadshires Health Centre there appears to be pressure on local GP practices, while the town health centre is under-utilised. The fear of crime is strong but not generally borne out by crime statistics, but there is a feeling that this could be alleviated to some extent by more visible policing. There has been a longstanding desire for both an ambulance station and fire station to be based in Carterton and the current increase in population may make the town better placed to achieve this. However it should be noted

that the Ambulance Service has recently issued a consultation suggesting a move away from 'town bases' leaving just four in the county.

It is ironical that while those on average incomes in the Carterton Check area, experience considerable difficulty in accessing the housing market, there is a stock of empty MOD property acting as a magnet for anti-social behaviour. Attempts at very senior levels to resolve this problem, have so far not been successful.



Empty properties

Transport Working Group

- The need for better provision for cyclists
- More accessible public transport for those with disabilities is required
- Better transport for young people is needed
- The need for better links with other major centres (dualling A40)
- Some villages are very well served by public transport, while others need improvements
- There is a lack of a central point for information on integrated travel
- The pedestrianisation of part of the town centre should be reconsidered
- The increase in Dial a Ride provision and the introduction of Shopmobility should be considered
- An access audit is needed in order to identify and address a number of problems faced by the mobility impaired

Summary

On the whole the community within Carterton appears relatively satisfied with both the local and long distance bus services, although some of the hinterland villages are poorly served, if at all. However the providers of the round town service are concerned that is not well used. There is a noticeable lack of provision for cyclists, with no storage, refuges at traffic lights and very few cycle lanes.

Efforts by some schools to attract funding for Safe Ways to School have been unsuccessful. Although links to Oxford can be relatively quick along the A40, this is very dependent on the time of day, and severe delays are often experienced, making onward connections uncertain.

Information on travel is not always obvious, although it is available from both the Town Council and Library. Young people find public

transport expensive, and there have been a number of comments about the lack of a late night service back from Swindon.



Town Centre hazards for the visually impaired

3.3 Consultations

At the beginning of the Healthcheck there was discussion about the possibility of undertaking a major survey of the community in order to inform the process, as it might be difficult to consult a community of the size of the Carterton area through community events. However it was agreed that as the results of West Oxfordshire District Council's recently published 'Quality of Life' Survey were available, it would be a better use of resources to organise one major community event and carry out several smaller consultations with various groups. Summaries of the findings appear below.

Community College

The Co-ordinator organised 2 sessions with year 9 and year 10 students at the Community College. Their comments and responses have been drawn together:

Positive aspects of the Carterton Area

- ✓ Planned new leisure facilities
- ✓ Open spaces
- ✓ The RAF base
- ✓ The superstore
- ✓ The open air swimming pool

Negative aspects of the Carterton Area

- × Lack of good shops (clothes, music)
- × Skate park too small and vandalised
- × Basket ball pitch in a poor state
- × No social areas for young people
- × Rubbish
- × Shops closing Wednesday lunch time

What is needed

- Affordable transport and late buses back from Swindon
- Family pub
- A 6th form for the community college
- A better range of shops
- A cinema
- Safe facilities for the under 16s
- A football pitch for informal use
- Internet café – with social facilities
- The skate park extended with lighting

The Day Centre

The Co-ordinator spent a morning at the Age Concern Day Centre in Carterton. It draws people from the surrounding villages as well as the town, and is well used. There is a need to find more suitable premises to expand the services offered and to overcome the problems associated with temporary buildings.

There were about 20 people present, who normally came 1-3 times a week for activities and lunch. Discussions were held informally with three groups concerning what they thought about the Carterton area and how they thought it should develop.

Issues/points to emerge:

- Transport to Broadshires Health Centre for those with access problems was difficult
- Concern about the boarded up shops in the town centre
- It was felt there was not enough for young people to do
- There was general agreement that the market had 'gone down'
- The state of some of the pavements was felt to be poor and difficult for those in buggies (Lawton Avenue and Burford Road up towards the community college were mentioned in particular.)
- Public toilets being closed at night was an indirect concern
- New bus routes (missing Glenmore Park and not enough along Upavon Way) were also of concern as was the removal of a bus shelter
- There was no longer a bus to the chiroprapist

What is needed

- The Bowls Club could expand to offer more community facilities
- More 'useful' shops were needed, as was a family restaurant. Asda was mentioned
- A new centre for Age Concern was mentioned
- Some hospital provision was suggested with the closure of Burford
- More visible policing would be appreciated and there was a general concern about crime

Residents' Association

The Co-ordinator spoke at an area meeting for residents' associations. There were about 35 people present, with a significant proportion from outside the Carterton area. They were asked to write down 3 things they liked and 3 they disliked about Carterton. A summary of the responses appears below:

Liked

- ✓ The shops
- ✓ Good wide access/pavements
- ✓ A friendly community
- ✓ Good transport
- ✓ Good schools
- ✓ A safe environment

Disliked

- × Dog fouling
- × No emergency services
- × Empty land
- × No cinema/entertainment
- × Not enough for young people to do

Gateway Primary School

This primary school has linked with the Carterton Check to develop and analyse its own survey to feed into the Carterton Check to represent the views of the 4-11 age group. A full copy of the survey is attached at **Appendix 5**. Children at Gateway School completed a questionnaire about living in Carterton. A group of 10 children drafted a series of questions. The questions include sections on:

- Length of time in Carterton
- Favourite places
- Membership of existing clubs
- Feeling safe
- Vandalism
- New sporting activities
- New leisure activities

The ten children were asked to provide a 'wish list' and questions were designed to produce honest answers.

The questionnaire was trialled with Year 5 children and then amended where necessary. It was then completed by 50 Year- 6 children. The results, although not scientific, were interesting.

- One third of the children had lived in Carterton for less than two years.
- Children were provided with a map, but there were really not significant likes or dislikes except that many children were wary of the boarded up flats near to the Spar.
- Less than a quarter belonged to a club in Carterton. However, very few belonged to a club outside Carterton.
- Teenagers were perceived as the greatest threat to the Year 6 children. Children did not feel safe walking home in the evening. The recreation ground and the subways were thought to be the least safe places. When asked what might be done about feeling safe/crime/vandalism the most common suggestions were cameras/CCTV more policemen walking around and better street lighting.
- Hockey was the most popular, followed by basketball, tennis, netball and cricket.
- Art was the most often suggested activity followed by drama.
- There were no major areas but a book shop, a computer games shop and a McDonalds figured in the responses.

Sports and recreational facilities for young people

This survey was developed and organised by one of the members of the Social & Community working group working with the Allandale Youth Centre. The survey was

intended to find out what sporting and recreational facilities were needed by young people, and was completed by 38 young people. Survey form at **Appendix 6**. A summary of key points is shown below:

Top interests

Basket Ball
Hockey
Tennis
Swimming
Badminton
Netball
Pool/Snooker
Rugby

Facilities most needed

Athletics
Bowling alley
Cinema
Nightclub/disco
Clothes shops

Village Survey/consultation

The background to the involvement of the hinterland has already been described. Specific information on the views of the hinterland villages came from two sources.

A questionnaire was developed, drawing largely from the relevant healthcheck worksheet questions, and sent to all the clerks of the wider hinterland villages. (**See Appendix 7**) 4 completed forms were received (out of 22). Although this was a poor response and too small to draw any robust conclusions, the following points did emerge:

Transport

- Transport was felt to be good (note this clearly depends on the location of the settlements, some hinterland villages have no public transport)
- Information on public transport was easy to obtain
- It was relatively easy to reach health, education and retail services by public transport

Environment

- Roads are the main natural or man-made features linking the villages to Carterton
- There are no historic links between Carterton and its hinterland
- There is not much scope for improving how the town 'sits' in the landscape

Economic

- Plane spotting, footpaths and village events such as Morris Dancing are the main tourist attractions of the nearby villages
- There is a need for Broadband in the hinterland villages
- The main services which village residents travel to Carterton for are food shopping, health and petrol

Community

- Very little housing is being developed, is planned or wanted in the villages
- Local housing is not affordable, but it is felt that homelessness is not a problem
- Most villages have open space and a community venue

The villages were also asked about the presence of RAF Brize Norton where noise was the main concern and the new development to the NE of Carterton where concerns about encroachment and lack of consultation were raised.

Village Roadshow

This event was held jointly by Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) and the Carterton Check on April 2nd at Brize Norton Village Hall. The aim was to encourage villages to undertake Parish Plans and take up funding opportunities under the Vital Villages programme, while providing a further opportunity to contribute to the Carterton Check. Around 25 people attended and every one present took part in 2 workshop sessions on Parish Plans and the Carterton Check. A number of issues arose from the Carterton workshop. Proposals for projects are shown below:

Transport

- A cycleway from Bradwell Grove to Shilton and /or from Bradwell Grove to Burford
- A bus shelter for the schoolchildren in Brize Norton
- A community bus to go around the villages
- Improve the Brize Norton/Carterton cycleway especially by the Church
- Improve the Shilton Dip

Environment

- Tidy up and plant the corner of the base by the hanger
- Get a base line of information on current traffic movements at the main base entrance and pollution generally
- Ensure the strategic gap between Carterton and the villages is protected
- Investigate the status of small recreational planes using the base

Economy

- Encourage the development of a retail outlet such as Bicester Village
- Adopt more flexible planning policies for Carterton to encourage businesses to move in
- Encourage a family restaurant/pub to be developed in Carterton

Community

- A new cinema/theatre (as in Witney)
- Encourage the provision of a family restaurant
- Support the Community College's bid for a 6th form
- Investigate the feasibility of a small A&E unit and ambulance station

Young People

- The need for a cinema
- The need for an improved basket ball court
- The need to upgrade the skate park
- Open up the facilities at the Community College more to the general public (e.g. indoor climbing facility)
- Look at the cost of public transport for young people

Business Survey

The Working Group set up to undertake the economy work sheets felt it would be helpful to get some first hand views from the business community. The Carterton and District Chamber of Trade & Commerce offered to mail out a survey form to its members, providing pre-paid reply envelopes. The Economy Group chose the questions it wished to be included and in February 2003 wrote to all Chamber of Trade members inviting them to take part and, at the same time taking the opportunity to encourage them to register interest in accessing broadband to support the local campaign which was approaching its target. Non-Chamber of Trade members (drawn from a list provided by West Oxfordshire District Council) were also mailed. In total 43 members of the Chamber of Trade & Commerce were mailed and 52 non-members.

It should be borne in mind that the largest local employer, RAF Brize Norton was not included in the survey.

- 37 responses were received (39% of those surveyed)
- 23% of those responding were from Commerce & Industry
- 77% from the retail sector
- 29% had 0-4 employees
- 26% 5-9 employees
- 14% 10-19 employees
- 14% 20-29 employees
- 11% had 30-40 employees
- 6% over 50 employees

Business Link kindly undertook the analysis, the full survey and results are at **Appendix 8**.

The response rate was reasonable, but because of the size, care needs to be taken when extrapolating findings when making more general assertions. It was encouraging that a significant majority indicated some scope for growth of job in their businesses, with nearly half having specific plans to do so. Business confidence in general was reasonable, but this was in sharp contrast to the confidence of retailers of whom 80% said, in relation to Carterton as a shopping destination, it was low or very low. In spite of

this only 29% of retailers felt there were constraints on their future trading.

The availability of new premises for retailers had been thought, anecdotally, to have been a problem, and this was confirmed by three-quarters of respondents, although this question was also linked to support for new businesses. This appears at odds with the obvious empty shops in the town centre, but it is thought that these are too small to meet the requirements of many businesses. Those from the commerce and industry sectors reported a more positive situation with just under half believing there were adequate new sites available in Carterton. However this figure dropped to just over a third in relation to sites and support for 'start-up' businesses.

Access to broadband has been a particular concern of the Economy Working Group and this was confirmed by 42% of respondents who indicated an unmet demand (only 3% currently used Broadband). Two thirds of the businesses surveyed used email and also had a website (two questions, so not necessarily the same businesses). A similar number (40%) both traded over the Internet and collaborated with customers and suppliers.

It has already been emphasised that too much weight should not be given to the findings of this survey, however it does support some of the proposals in the delivery plan. They are:

- The development of premises and support for 'start-up' businesses
- A development brief for the town centre
- The provision of broadband for businesses

Community Event

Early on in the Healthcheck it was agreed to hold one major event to consult the wider community. It was held on April 12th 2003 at the Social Centre and Recreation Ground. It was judged to be a successful day with over 1,000 people visiting. Free refreshments were provided by the Town Council and

Scouts, RAF Brize Norton provided a Dog Handling Display Team, Fox FM, St John Ambulance and the Fire Service also attended. There was a free bouncy castle. Inside the hall, the town, district and county councils had displays about their work and relevant developments in the area. The local housing association, BusinessLink and the health centre were also represented.



Displays at Community Event

The Carterton Check had displays showing the findings of the 4 working groups along with questions to encourage participation via post-its. Community groups also had around 25 stalls including face painting, dog microchipping and WI produce.

Over 200 post-its were used with many individual points being made. A summary of the findings appears below.

Environment

31 Post-its (several with more than one comment)

Quite a number of responses to this section have been moved elsewhere including those on policing and the need for a cinema/theatre. Of those remaining, litter, particularly at weekends and along Black Bourton Road was a major concern. The issue of dog fouling created strong feelings, and it was generally felt there should be better provision of dog bins. There was general agreement that the signage in Carterton needs sorting out (some comments having been 'imported' from the transport group). There appeared to be a consensus that Willow (also called Water) Meadows should be preserved as an important

amenity, but also enhanced with planting and other measures such as boardwalks. It is unfortunate that the person expressing interest in the tree planting did not fill in one of the forms. Public toilets got a bad press, both for their state and scarcity. There also appeared to be support for proposals for the long distance paths and sponsorship for environmental improvements. There was an interesting suggestion that the Tower building in the town centre should be faced in Cotswold stone, although it is suspected that this would not achieve the change in ambience hoped for.

Economy

54 Post-its (several with more comments)

There appears to be strong support for the provision of a Fire Station in Carterton, but no one signed the forms expressing interest in volunteering. There was also strong feeling that a 6th form at the Community College was long overdue, especially since the development in the north east. There was a bit of a campaign for an ASDA, possibly related to developments in Witney, however there was a minority view that any new development should not take the form of one large store. The need for family facilities was supported quite strongly, as was the need to offer more employment opportunities and to encourage new employers to the area. Although it was felt there should be more retailers in the town, responses tended to be general and surprisingly did not include 'wish lists' for shops. Views on the future of the market and its site were fairly evenly divided. Although a couple of people felt the market could move sites there were some unrealistic views about returning it to its former glory, when people arrived in large numbers. Of the very small sample there appeared to be a majority in favour of a dedicated viewing area for plane spotters, but it is suspected that this may not represent a true picture of views, especially within the villages. A small visitor centre got support, as did the need for more accommodation. There were accolades for the IT learning shop

Transport

51 Post-its (several with more than one comment)

Inevitably the dualling of the A40 elicited significant support, but both detailed comments about specific bus routes and general comments on bus services topped the poll. Management of traffic and pedestrians around the town centre was also an issue. Probably prompted by the excellent display prepared by the Braybrook- Tuckers, there were a number of useful suggestions as to how access for the disabled could be improved. There was a small amount of interest in provision for cyclists, along with some concern about their impact on pedestrians. Transport to the villages hardly featured, but it is likely that there were not a large proportion of village residents at the event.

Community

48 Post-its (several with more than one comment)

More visible/frequent/ policing, sorting out the MOD flats and houses and support for a cinema/theatre were the three most frequently mentioned issues. There was also support for facilities for families and young people (in specific age ranges). There was a bouquet for the town floral displays along with a request for something similar in the recreation ground, although it was felt the play - park needed updating. The need for more affordable housing was raised, but another respondent said there should be no more development without facilities. The new swimming pool being provided as part of the current development was thought to be too small and lacking in essential features such as wave machines. It was felt that health provision was overstretched and that the town centre health centre should be open all day. There was support for both a Gala event and an Air Show, although again it is believed this would not be universally welcomed in the villages. One respondent spoke personally of the difficulty in getting volunteers to help organise gala events. Better access to RAF base sports facilities was mentioned. Although there was a request for an 'outdoor' facility no specific sports were suggested.

Final Comments

It is perhaps not surprising that comments have focussed on smaller operational points, rather than the larger strategic issues related to employment and revitalisation of the town centre. However the majority of the comments were supportive and helpful with surprisingly few entirely negative responses. The comments should be read alongside the feedback from the village consultation as it is thought that the village residents were not well represented on the day.



Outside at the Community Event

4. Links to Relevant Strategies and other considerations

It is important that the Action Plan is not seen in isolation, but relates to and acknowledges other relevant policy documents. On a practical level many of these describe the priorities of partners who will play a crucial role in helping to implement the Action Plan. In a number of instances such plans are being revised and it is hoped and expected that the findings of the Carterton Check will feed into this process.

- Partnership working (2)
- Development of the Town Centre (3)
- Employment (4)
- Public Services (6)
- Recreational facilities (7)
- Highways (8)
- Major developments (11)
- Nature Conservation Sites (14)
- Landholdings (17)
- Improved Access (19)

4.1 Carterton Town Council

General

Carterton Town Council has a number of direct responsibilities for some issues covered in the Carterton Check and a remit to work in partnership with other agencies for others.

Direct responsibilities include, recreation areas, open air swimming pool, squash courts, skate park and trim trail and the Willow Meadows.

The Town Council also works to enhance the general environment and condition of the town by direct action and a grants scheme.

Indirect responsibilities include, planning, in particular town centre development and the north east development and transport issues including subsidised bus routes

The Council set up the Town Centre Partnership and has been actively involved in the Carterton Check and has indicated that it would expect to take the lead on some of the proposed projects and work with relevant partners in support of others.

Carterton Town Council Community Strategy

The Council developed a Community Strategy in May 2001, and is currently reviewing it. It identifies 20 priorities, many of which are similar to those identified in the Action Plan. Those with most synergy are:

4.2 West Oxfordshire District Council

The Local Plan

The West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 was published in September 2001 and in May 2003 proposed revisions were published for consultation. At this stage comments on the revisions only are to be accepted. In relation to Carterton these consist of updating figures for new housing and a change in arrangements to close Kilkenny Lane. The majority of the section relating specifically to Carterton will remain the same. Key elements, which are relevant to the Carterton Check, are:

The Objectives for Carterton and the surrounding villages:

"To secure planned comprehensive development of high environmental quality for housing, employment and ancillary facilities, well-related to the existing built-up areas, through which major improvements to Carterton's infrastructure and facilities can be achieved to the overall benefit of both existing and future residents.

To secure clearly defined limits to the growth of Carterton and to protect the setting and separate identities of Shilton and Brize Norton villages"

These overarching objectives generally support the vision and strategic objectives adopted by the Carterton Check, it is the timescale within which they are to be achieved which may be at issue. Specific Carterton Proposals are:

- North-east Carterton Development Area
- Playing Fields
- West Oxfordshire Industrial Park
- Local Road Improvements
- Housing
- Town Centre

As with the general policy statement the majority of the proposals sit comfortably along side the Carterton Check objectives, however there are some areas of tension. They are:

- The need for improvements to the link to the A361 and access to the A40 to the west
- The need to bring forward land allocated for employment in a proactive manner
- The need to start immediately to draw up and consider proposals for the refurbishment and development of the town centre
- The need to secure the development of the local services centre and community facility rapidly

Elsewhere in the Local Plan general policies relating to the provision of affordable housing and town centres and shopping are also relevant to Carterton.

Community Strategy

The council has formed a Steering Group to 'help write a Community Strategy for West Oxfordshire'. A meeting of the Forum of the West Oxfordshire Strategic Partnership was held in February 2003 (attended by the Carterton Check Co-ordinator), feedback from which is contributing to the development of the Strategy currently underway. It is anticipated there will be another meeting in summer 2003 to consult on the draft strategy. At this stage the work on the Community Strategy is not developed to a stage where it is possible to comment on the links to the Carterton Check. However it will be important for the Carterton Action Plan to be made available to the Community Strategy team as soon as it is available, so that its

priorities can be taken into account. Informal contact between the Carterton Check Co-ordinator and the officer supporting the community strategy was established at an early stage of the Carterton Check.

The Housing Strategy

'Building Futures', West Oxfordshire District Council's Housing Strategy runs from 2001-2006, but was updated in July 2002.

Information on problems of affordability identified in the Carterton Healthcheck is supported by the section on housing need in 'Building Futures' which itself was underpinned by a recent housing needs survey. A section of the strategy covers empty MOD dwellings, and concern is expressed about the large numbers of empty properties and it is stated that the council is 'in discussion with Annington Homes regarding their plans for the dwellings.'

The Sport and Recreation Strategy

This runs from 2000-2004, but is about to begin its review process (summer 2003). This timing will enable the priorities and projects in the Carterton Action Plan to be taken into account.

The current strategy has 6 general aims, all of which support the Carterton Check Vision Statement and strategic objectives. The only specific reference to Carterton is LSR3 and LSR6 which refer to the development and management of the new leisure centre and sports pavilion on the north east development, the former expected to come into use later in 2003 and the latter opened in April 2003.

The Arts Strategy

This ran from 1999-2002 and has 5 main, general objectives. These are again broad and uncontroversial in terms of the Carterton Action Plan. It will be important that the findings of the Carterton Check are taken account of as the new Strategy is developed.

The Local Cultural Strategy

This covers 2002-2005 and centres on 5 key issues:

- Natural & built environment (NBE)
- Thriving communities (TC)
- Opportunity across the ages (OAA)
- Fit for Life (FFL)
- Learning throughout life (LTL)

Under each section there are a number of objectives, those shown below appear to be most relevant to the Carterton Action Plan:

- Tourism (NBE2)
- access to the countryside (NBE3)
- developing play and recreation space (NBE11)
- delivering services locally (TC1)
- working with young people (TC4)
- chill out area for young people (TC10)
- targeted sports activities (OAA3)
- healthy lifestyles (FFL2)
- Sport England opportunities (FFL2)
- Access to education sector facilities (LTL)

The Tourism Strategy

This runs from 1999-2004, and will be important to the Carterton Check in relation to the provision of information to visitors and the longer term aspiration of establishing an exhibition of RAF Brize Norton and Carterton heritage. There will be a need to recognise that although Carterton is not a typical Cotswold tourist destination, it does attract visitors, whose needs are not currently being fully exploited or met.

Local Agenda 21

This was adopted in 2000 and identifies 8 overarching issues. Most are relevant to parts of the Carterton Check in a general way, but there are no specific actions identified that relate directly to the Carterton Action Plan

The Economic Strategy

The latest Economic Development Strategy covered 2000/2002 and a new one is being

developed and is expected to be in draft form for discussion by July 2003. The economic development officers developing the new plan have been closely involved with the Carterton Check, serving on the Steering Group and Economy Working Group. All the material from the Healthcheck including the Snapshot and emerging delivery plan have been available to them and it is expected that this will be taken into account as the new economic development strategy for the district is drawn up.

Community Safety Strategy

This strategy was produced by the West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership and runs from 2002-2005. It shows that Carterton Town falls 6th in the top 10 wards for recorded crime with 239 incidents in 2000/2001. Carterton Town has 6.2% of the total crime and 7.3% of criminal damage incidents, with the most commonly recorded crimes being criminal damage and violent crime. Overall it is considered that 'recorded' crime levels continue to be very low with only 2% of total crime in the Thames Valley Police area. The lack of visible policing has been identified in the Carterton Check, but there are no specific proposals to address this although reference is made to the Police Station.

Thames Valley Police Authority have produced an Annual Policing Plan for 2002/03 which is broad based covering the whole Thames Valley area. However a couple of priorities – visible policing and increased use of Special Constables link directly to the Carterton Action Plan.

4.3 Oxfordshire County Council

Although the County Council has a range of strategies covering its activities, it has also just published the Oxfordshire Plan 2003-2004 which is regarded as the most appropriate document to relate to the Carterton Check, along with the Structure Plan and Economic Development Strategy.

The Oxfordshire Plan

This plan (covering 2003-2004) has five main aims relating to the environment, prosperity, safeguarding communities, raising performance and helping people to fulfil their potential. Sub-headings and priorities are identified (numbers in brackets). Those of particular interest to the Carterton Action Plan are:

- Increasing the number of young people staying in education (7)
- Increasing the use of the county's libraries and museums and encouraging more people to be involved in cultural activity (8)
- Increasing nursery and child care provision (12)
- Increasing access to public rights of way, museums and other heritage sites (16)
- Reducing the incidence of crime, in particular crimes committed by young people, against young people and related to drug use (21)
- Enhancing facilities and support for young people in towns and villages that reflects their needs and adds to community well-being (29)
- Sharing broadband capacity with small businesses (35)
- Promoting better public transport (36)
- Improving the condition of our roads (37)
- Improving public access to our services and information by exploiting the opportunities of modern technology

The Economic Strategy

The Economic Strategy for the county has been produced on behalf of the Oxfordshire Economic Partnership and runs from 2001-2005. A number of the actions and projects in the Carterton Action Plan fall within the broader objectives of the county strategy. These include:

- Refine support services for new and growing businesses
- Drive e-commerce forward, through a communications infrastructure
- Spread innovation and good practice

- Secure adequate investment in transport infrastructure
- Build and sustain viable rural communities

The Structure Plan

The Oxfordshire Structure Plan was adopted in August 1998 and runs until 2011, and although central government has suggested changes to the planning system that would affect the role of Structure Plans, they are likely to remain for some time yet. At the time of writing (May 2003) the County Council is embarking on a review of its Structure Plan and it will be important for the Steering Group and Project Manager to take the opportunity when it arises to comment on proposed revisions which affect the Carterton Action Plan. Meanwhile there are a significant number of policies that are relevant to the Carterton Action Plan which will be mentioned briefly below. Further details can be found in the Oxfordshire Structure Plan:

Transport

- cyclists, pedestrians and public transport (T1)
- cyclists (T4)
- integration of transport (T6)
- Rail links (T8, T9)
- A40 (T12, T13)
- Access for mobility impaired (T16)

Conserving and enhancing the environment

- woodlands/habitats (EN6, EN7)

Developing the local economy

- Employment (E1, E3, E5)
- employment and housing (E5)
- tourism (E7)

Housing

- Allocations (H1)
- affordable housing (H4)

Town Centres and retailing

- Town Centres (TC3)

Recreation and leisure

- leisure facilities linked to development (R1, R2)
- Access to the countryside (R4)

Minerals

- mineral extraction (M5, M6, M7, M8)

4.4 South West Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust

The PCT has two sets of priorities 'for the coming years', national and local. The local ones which are most relevant to the Carterton Action Plan are:

- IT development
- Intermediate Care
- Community Strategies
- Rural Transport
- GP Practice development planning
- Primary and community integration

4.5 South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)

SEEDA has responsibility for the economic development for the South -East and specific plans for growth areas such as the Thames Gateway. Its core document is the Regional Economic Strategy for the South East 2002-2010. This strategy has 5 main objectives under which sit 18 priorities. Of most relevance to Carterton's Action Plan are priorities:

- Enterprise – in particular reference to supporting start-up businesses (1)
- Infrastructure and services (11)
- Transport (13)
- Broadband (14)

Although SEEDA's Economic Strategy is necessarily broad, the agency has a number of programmes, which may provide support for some of the proposed projects in Carterton's Action Plan.

4.6 The North-East Development

It has always been recognised that the planned increase in population (first given

serious consideration in 1988) through the development of land to the north-east of Carterton will be a significant factor when considering the future of the Carterton area. Land has been allocated for approximately 1,400 dwellings, of which about 1200 have planning permission in principle. About 1,000 of these either now have full permission or are in applications under consideration. 100 of these homes so far are for affordable housing, overall there will be about 15% on the whole development. This is half the percentage now stipulated in the Draft Local Plan, but the new policy does not apply since outline permission was granted before it was adopted. The leisure centre, sports pavilion, playing fields, country park and improvements to access to the A40 which form part of the development are all at some stage of development. The new primary school has recently opened. In addition land has been allocated for a local shopping centre, nursery and community facility, however it is not clear when or how this will happen as it will be left to market forces. It has been stated that the local shopping centre should not be developed in such a way as to pose a threat to Carterton town centre shops. While this planned expansion has generally been welcomed locally, a number of concerns were raised during the consultation carried out as part of the Carterton check.

The main worry is that the new residents would become a dormitory community, looking outside Carterton for their employment, shopping and leisure needs – so neither contributing to nor benefiting from Carterton itself. It has been fortunate that one of the residents of the new development, who has established a residents' group, has been actively involved in the Carterton Check. But it has been recognised that it will be very important to build on this to involve a broader base of those living on Shilton Park as the Action Plan is implemented. Clearly developing the local shopping centre and in particular the community facility will be a priority for those living in the area.



New housing on the north-east development

4.7 RAF Brize Norton

The historical links between the base and the community have already been alluded to. With 3,500 service personnel and 600 civilians, RAF Brize Norton is an important factor in any plans for the Carterton area. Since the airfield was first developed in 1935 relationships between the base and town have varied and developed. Today they appear generally good, and there is an increased sense of openness and interest in engaging with the local community by the RAF. This has been borne out during the Carterton Check, which has been supported by a number of RAF personnel, including those at a senior level, who have shown considerable commitment at a time when the base was at the centre of a major operation. There are a number of issues in relation to the base which have emerged during the healthcheck process.

The desire on the part of the base to try to open up more of its leisure facilities to the local community has been welcomed. RAF Brize Norton also has some facilities and buildings which are not currently in use, and there have been suggestions that these might be considered amongst the options for providing a cinema/arts venue. Clearly the physical appearance of the base has an impact on Carterton, especially the approach from Brize Norton. While it is understood there are operational constraints, there is scope for a joint initiative to improve this. Inevitably, the presence of the base also raises concerns about pollution. It has been

helpful that one of the members of the Environment Working Group is the base Environmental Protection Officer. It will be important to maintain this link into the implementation stage of the Carterton Check. Although the future of the base is now relatively secure, after a period of uncertainty, there may be changes which affect the local community.

Generally the healthcheck process has provided the opportunity to formalise joint working between the base and the community, and there is clear potential to develop this further as projects begin to be developed.



5. The Vision Statement

5.1 Background

The Town Council, prior to the start of the Carterton Check, had adopted a vision for the town centre, but it was appreciated that it would be too narrow to reflect the aspirations emerging from the Healthcheck process. The Community Event was not an appropriate occasion for detailed work on a vision statement, although there were opportunities for views to be expressed. A joint workshop was organised for the steering group and all the working groups, to develop a vision and strategic objectives under which projects and actions in the delivery plan would be grouped. There was considerable discussion, and there was a strong feeling that any vision should have some timescale and be as brief as possible. Members made a number of suggestions and it was agreed that the deputy town mayor and Co-ordinator should draft proposals which were circulated to members of the steering group and working groups for final agreement.

5.2 The Vision

By 2010 to have developed Carterton as a hub for the surrounding area offering first class social provision: cultural and recreational facilities, and economic and employment opportunities to secure the long term viability of the town

5.3 Strategic Objectives and Aims

- ★ **Developing the Town Centre**
To develop and revitalise the town centre so that it becomes the shopping destination of choice for those living and working in Carterton and the surrounding villages
- ★ **Improving Employment Opportunities**
To offer more choice of local employment, in particular to attract more prestigious companies and provide opportunities and support for start-up businesses

- ★ **Improving social provision, including cultural and recreational facilities – particularly for young people**
To enhance and develop facilities so that all groups and individuals can have access to, and take part in, a wide range of social, cultural and recreational activities.
- ★ **Fostering links with the NE development and the surrounding villages**
To ensure that residents of recent development feel part of and contribute to the economic and social life of the town. To develop close and regular contact with the villages, involving them in decisions which affect them, while respecting their individual identities
- ★ **Enhancing the Environment**
To improve the built environment by using high quality design and materials, providing a more cohesive town centre. To protect and develop landscaping, in particular by the use of trees to make Carterton a more attractive place in which to live and work. To work with RAF Brize Norton to minimise their impact on the environment.
- ★ **Making Carterton accessible to all members of the community and the surrounding area**
To make Carterton accessible and convenient to residents and visitors, users of private and public transport, while becoming a safe and pleasant place for pedestrians.

Carterton Town Centre



6. Carterton Check – The Delivery Plan

The Vision, Strategic Objectives and Aims

The core of the Action Plan is the Delivery Plan which identifies actions and projects with timescales, costings and priorities which need to be implemented in order to achieve the overall vision for the community and its surrounding villages. The projects and actions arose from the work of the groups carrying out the healthcheck on transport, the economy, the environment and social & community issues, but have been regrouped under six strategic objectives, discussed and agreed by representatives of all the working groups and the steering group. Each objective has an aim which gives more specific information on what is to be achieved.

Strategic Objectives

1. Developing the town centre
2. Improving employment opportunities
3. Improving social provision, including cultural and recreational facilities - particularly for young people
4. Fostering links with the NE development and the surrounding villages
5. Enhancing the Environment
6. Making Carterton accessible to all members of the community and surrounding area

6.1 Develop the Town Centre

Aim

To develop and revitalise the town centre so that it becomes the shopping destination of choice for those living and working in Carterton and the surrounding villages

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.1.1 Development Brief (Economy)	EC2.3	Explore with landowners, local councils and others the scope for redeveloping the town centre and draw up a development brief.	WODC, CTC, OCC, C of T, SEEDA, landowners and Agents, financial institutions	To be determined CA, Market Towns Forum	2 years	High (top)
6.1.2 Town Centre Vision (Design)	EN1.1	Establish a small group to work with a community architect/planner in consultation with local businesses, councils, land agents etc. to draw up design options for redeveloping the town centre.	CTC, WODC, C of T, Market Traders, landowners,	To be determined RTPI, RICS community programmes, Market Town Forum	6 months –1 year	High (top)
6.1.3 Policing	S3.1	Ensure that resources allocated to Carterton are deployed in Carterton. Recruit Special Constables to be dedicated to Carterton	Local councils, Thames Valley Police Authority, Community Safety Partnership, CTC,WODC	NA	1 year	Medium

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.1.4 Protecting the markets	EC2.4 EC2.5	Consider relocating the market in the town centre and re-launching the Farmers' market	Market traders, landowners, WODC, CTC, C of T, OFG, TVFMA	CA, SEEDA, WODC	1 year	Medium
6.1.5 Shoppers Survey	EC2.1	Carry out a shoppers postcode survey	C of T, retailers	To be determined WODC	3 months	High

6.2 Improving Employment Opportunities

Aim

To offer more choice of local employment, in particular to attract more prestigious companies and provide opportunities and support for start-up businesses.

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.2.1 Employment at RAF Brize Norton	EC1.7	Maintain good contacts and up to date information on employment changes at the base	WODC, CTC, C of T, RAF BN	NA	ongoing	Medium
6.2.2 Protecting and encouraging employment opportunities	EC1.9 & EC1.4	a) establish and b) operate a small group to ensure land allocated for employment is safeguarded and more proactively marketed to encourage more prestigious employers	C of T, TBAC, CTC, Business Link, WODC, OCC, OEP, Land owners	a) Nil b) To be determined SEEDA, TBAC, OEP Business Link	a) 9 months b) 5 years	High
6.2.3 Promotion of Carterton	EC1.12	Develop an information pack to promote Carterton as a business location	Business Link, TBAC, C of T, WODC, OCC, OEP	£3,000 CA, SEEDA, TBAC	1 year	Medium
6.2.4 Community College 6 th Form	EC3.1	Support the Community College in its bid for a 6 th form	C of T, CTC, OCC	NA	ongoing	Medium
6.2.5 Start-up support	EC4.3	a) seek to and c) establish small supported incubation units for start-up businesses	C of T, TBAC, Business Link, WODC, OCC	a) Nil b) unknown TBAC, SEEDA, WODC, OCC	3 years	High

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.2.6 Business Support Fair	EC6.5	Invite Business Link to organise a Business Support Fair in Carterton	Business Link, C of T, CTC, WODC, OCC	NA	6 months	High
6.2.7 Broadband	EC6.6	a) campaign to reach trigger threshold b) work with providers to establish the most appropriate Broadband facility	Chamber of Trade, SEEDA, local councils	a) £200 b) unknown	a) 3 months b) 1 year	High

6.3 Improving social, cultural and recreational facilities – particularly for young people

Aim

To enhance and develop facilities so that all groups and individuals can have access to, and take part in, a wide range of social, cultural and recreational activities.

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.3.1 Healthy Living Centre	S3.2	Undertake research to establish whether there is the need to set up a Healthy Living Centre and what its priorities would be	PCT, local practices, Strategic Health Authority, HAs	To be determined NOF, SEEDA, CA	6 months	Medium
6.3.2 Enhanced provision of information	S4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) improve on the use and publicity of existing information points in the library and Town hall b) extend existing use – eg more visiting surgeries for housing etc. c) consider a new information/visitor/ one stop shop centre 	CTC, WODC, OCC, Tourist Board, SEEDA, CA, HAs	Tourist Board, SEEDA, CA, CTC, WODC, OCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 3 months b) 1 year c) 5 years 	Medium
6.3.3 Sport for young people	S5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) using the youth survey as a basis, identify specific priorities for young people (basket ball, running track, improved skate park) b) develop projects to address these 	CTC, WODC, OCC, Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) £500 b) unknown. Sports for All, Sports Council, Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 6 months b) 2 years 	High

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.3.4 Carterton Sports Council	S5.9	Investigate setting up a local Sports Council to co-ordinate provision (including that being developed in the NE) for the area	CTC, WODC, OCC, Sports Council	NA	6 months	Medium
6.3.5 Arts/community Venue		a) explore the possibility of using redundant/ underused premises to provide a venue for cinema, arts groups. b) draw up and implement proposals to achieve this	RAF Brize Norton, CTC, WODC, OCC, ORCC,	a) £500 b) to be determined. NOF, OCC	a) 1 year b) 5 years	Medium
6.3.6 Carterton's Heritage	S6.5	Exploit Carterton's interesting history. Produce a display (possibly to be used in a new visitor centre)	Local historians, CTC, WODC, OCC, ORCC, members of the community	£1,500	1 year	High
6.3.7 Viewing Area for RAF Brize Norton	EC5.2	Explore the possibility of creating a designated viewing area with facilities for visitors.	RAF Brize Norton, SEEDA, CTC, WODC, OCC,	£500	1 year	Medium
6.3.8 Family Restaurant	EC5.9	Aggressively market Carterton as a business opportunity to provide a family restaurant, carrying out surveys if necessary	C of T, CTC, WODC, OCC, TBAC, Tourist Board, Breweries	£1,000	1 year	High

6.4 Fostering links with the north-east development and the surrounding villages

Aim

To ensure that residents of recent development feel part of and contribute to the economic and social life of the town. To develop close and regular contact with the villages, involving them in decisions which affect them, while respecting their individual identities

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.4.1 Village Links	S4.4	Work with ORCC to establish better links with the surrounding villages	ORCC, Leader + team, CTC, OCC	NA	ongoing	High
6.4.2 Gateway Improvement (Brize Norton approach)	EN1.1	a) draw up a programme, jointly with RAF BN to soften the impact and tidy up the approach from BN b) implement the programme	TC, WODC, RAF BN	WODC, Leader+, RAF BN, English Nature, CA, MOD	a) 6 months b) 5-10 years	High
6.4.3 Local Plan	EN1.6	Establish a small working group including strong representation from the villages, to keep a watching brief on planning issues	TC, ORCC, OALC, WODC	NA	3 months to set up then ongoing	Medium
6.4.4 Village Transport Needs	T1.8	a) to work with ORCC to identify and b) address the transport needs of the inner hinterland including the use of alternative ways of providing transport	ORCC, OCC, Leader +, Oxfordshire Rural Transport Partnership	a) £500 b) unknown Leader +, ORTP, CA	a) 9 months b) 3 years	High
6.4.5 North-East development links	S2.2	To work with the residents' association to encourage new residents to become	RAs, CTC, WODC, ORCC, HAs,	a) £500 (for welcome pack) b) £300 for event	3 months (for the pack) 4 months (for the pack)	High

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
		active members of the community by a) the development of a 'welcome' pack, b) organising a community event c) ensuring their local amenities are provided.	Developers,	local developers, local businesses	1-2 months for event	

6.5 Enhancing and protecting the environment

Aim
To improve the built environment by using high quality design and materials, providing a more cohesive town centre. To protect and develop landscaping, in particular by the use of trees, to make Carterton a more attractive place to live and work. To work with RAF Brize Norton to minimise their impact on the environment.

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.5.1 Empty Forces stock	S2.1 & S2.9	a) support existing local initiatives to address this major issue. Draw attention to the recently published Communities Plan (ODPM) which identifies dealing with empty property as a priority. b) organise a meeting on behalf of the Carterton Check	CTC, WODC, Local MP, RAF BN Annington Homes, HAs	NA	a) ongoing b) 6 months	High
6.5.2 Carterton Tree Trust	EN1.1	a) Establish a Carterton Tree Trust b) Develop a pilot programme c) Implementation	TC,WODC,OCC, Community College	CA, BCTV, OCC, NOF, BBOWT, English Nature	a) 12 months b) 4 months c) 3 years	Medium
6.5.3 Sponsors for environmental improvements	EN1.7	a) approach businesses/schools and identify projects b) implementation	Community College, C of T, major employers, primary schools,	CTC £100 (bulb planting) CA	a) 6 months b) 3 years	High

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.5.4 Volunteering	EN2.4	Renew efforts to set up groups of volunteers to work with English Nature and BBOWT to get the best out of The Dell and Willow Meadows	TC, WODC, BBOWT, English Nature	£500 to start	9 months to set up then ongoing	Medium
6.5.5 Friends of the Country Park	EN2.7	Encourage WODC to establish a body to involve the community in the development, promotion and maintenance of the new NE Country Park	WODC, RGs	£500 to set up	1 year to set up then ongoing	Medium
6.5.6 Shill Valley Footpaths	EN3.1	a) Consider developing one or two medium distance footpaths along the Shill Valley b) If feasible, implement.	OCC, English Nature, BBOWT, ORCC,	English Nature, NOF, CA, OCC	a) 9 months b) 5 years	Medium
6.5.7 Walking and riding in and around Carterton	EN3.7	Produce a new publication which brings together information on opportunities for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders.	WODC, TC, Tourist Information, BHS, Ramblers Assn	£3000	2 years	High

6.6 Making Carterton safe and accessible to all members of the community and surrounding area

Aim

To make Carterton accessible and convenient to residents and visitors, users of private and public transport, while becoming a safe and attractive place for pedestrians

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.6.1 Information Centre	EC2.10	Establish a small group to look at the feasibility of a small visitor/information/one stop shop centre	CTC, WODC, OCC, Tourist Board, History Society, HAs	£200 NOF, WODC, OCC, Local HAs	9 months	Medium
6.6.2 Signage improvement	EN1.12	a) undertake an audit of signage and identify any need for new/repositioned post boxes (in conjunction with the OCC audit) b) work with appropriate agencies to address needs identified	WODC, OCC, C of T, Post Office	OCC, WODC, Post Office	a) 3months b) 1 year	Medium
6.6.3 A40 Improvements	T1.1,1.2,1.3	To press for access to A40 to the west and for dualling	CTC, OCC Highways Agency	NA	ongoing	High

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
6.6.4 Accessible Transport	T1.9,2.4	a) Carry out a detailed access audit b) Install changes to meet the DD Act. Encourage more take up of driver awareness training, provide more adapted buses and make the business community aware of its obligations under the new legislation	WODC, OCC, Bus operators	a) OCC b) To be determined	a) 6 months b) 2 years	High
6.6.5 Expand Ring-a-ride	T2.5	Support the Access Forum in pressing for funding to expand this oversubscribed service	Access Forum, CTC, WODC, MP	NA	3 months	Medium
6.6.6 Integrated Travel Information	T2.6	Make provision for a central integrated information point and publicise the library as a daytime source of information	Library Service, ORCC, CTC, WODC, OCC,	£500	1-5 years	High
6.6.6 Safe Ways to school	T3.2	Support the schools' funding application for segregated footpaths	Community College, primary schools, OCC,	NA	3 months	Medium
6.6.7 X Roads Management	T3.3	Clarify the status of the 'tables' as crossing places, and implement any changes needed. Investigate community funding for a Special Constable dedicated to Carterton	OCC, Police Authority	NA unknown	2 years 1 year	Medium
6.6.9 Pavement	T3.13	Arrange for OCC's Access Officer to carry out a	OCC	NA	a) 3 months b) 1-5 years	Medium

Project	Health Check Ref	Description	Potential Partners	Funding Requirements / sources	Timescale	Priority
Improvements		pavement survey and recommend improvements				
6.6.10 Audit of voluntary sector resources		Carry out an audit of the needs and current transport resources of key community groups	ORCC, Allandale House, Community College, Age Concern	NA	3 months	High
6.6.11 Shopmobility		Consider establishing a Shopmobility scheme for Carterton or sharing the Witney resources as a mobile scheme	ORCC, WODC, OCC	NA	6 months	Medium
6.6.12 Fire/Ambulance Service		a) Support campaign to have fire and ambulance stations based at Carterton. b) Undertake research to support the case including the impact of the NE development	Oxfordshire Fire/Ambulance Services, CTC, , OCC	NA	a) ongoing b) 9 months	High
6.6.13 Promotion of town bus service		Produce publicity and promote free trial rides to increase use of town centre bus service	Stagecoach, OCC, CTC	£200	3 months	High

Abbreviations

BBONT	Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust
CA	Countryside Agency
C of T	Chamber of Trade
CTC	Carterton Town Council
HAs	Housing Associations
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
OEP	Oxfordshire Economic Partnership
OFG	Oxfordshire Food Group
ORCC	Oxfordshire Rural Community Council
ORTP	Oxfordshire Rural Transport Partnership
PCT	Primary Care Trust
RAF BN	RAF Brize Norton
RGs	Residents' Groups
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects
RTPI	Royal Institute of Town Planners
SEEDA	South East England Development Agency
TVFMA	Thames Valley Farmers' Market Association
WODC	West Oxfordshire District Council

7 Implementation

The success in implementing the Carterton Action Plan will depend on a number of factors, some of which will be beyond the control of those involved with the immediate project. The process of identifying the risks these may pose, as far as possible, should ensure effective and realistic planning can take place.

Likewise it is not possible to lay down in detail, at this stage, how the various mechanisms, developed in the Carterton Check will evolve, but it may be helpful to make some suggestions in relation to reporting and evaluation.

8.1 Risk Analysis

Staff Resources

With just one dedicated Project Manager in post it will be important to strike a balance between a realistic, achievable work programme and keeping momentum to produce results. The Project Manager will need to work with the Steering Group to develop a more detailed work programme, based on the Delivery Plan, but identifying time scales, priorities, targets and outputs. This should then be reviewed on a regular basis.

During the Healthcheck support from the staff at the Town Council has been invaluable, and it is understood that this would continue at a similar level. If for some reason this was no longer available it is likely that there would be a significant reduction in what the Project Manager could achieve. West Oxfordshire District Council has also provided support from a number of departments, and the loss of this support would also affect the performance of the Project Manager.

The Steering Group

It will be important that this group is retained and developed in some form to oversee and manage the work of the Project Manager. Although the group may evolve and change over the three years, it will be important initially to maintain some continuity. It is

suggested that there should also be a small Management Group (comprising representatives of the 3 funders) with responsibility for the employment of the Project Manager, but the respective roles of these two groups in relation to the Project Manager will need to be clear.

The Partnership

It is anticipated that the Action Plan will be presented to the Partnership during July 2003. This would provide an opportunity to consult on and discuss how the Partnership might develop in the future. There may be a long-term aspiration that it moves towards taking over the responsibility for the developing projects, and could ultimately become the accountable body. However the advantages of this must be weighed against the need for it to be established as a legal entity and the danger of becoming bogged down in bureaucracy. Whatever role is agreed, it will be important to establish a firm partnership

Community Involvement

There is a danger that the community will become disillusioned with the whole process if it is not kept informed and given the opportunity to be involved. Some of the project proposals may be controversial, so it will be especially important to address this point. Newsletters, a website and further community events will help to avoid this. In addition the whole Delivery Plan will be undermined if the community is not consulted and involved as projects develop.

The Carterton Check Partnership should play a role, and although as an entity it is undeveloped, key individuals and agencies who form its basis, have been actively involved in drawing up the Delivery Plan. It will be important that the Partnership is developed, both as a formal body, and as a mechanism through which a number of smaller partnerships will be formed for the purposes of pursuing individual projects.

Funding

Unlike some Market Town Healthchecks elsewhere, there is no funding pre-allocated for Carterton. One of the key and early tasks of the Project Manager will be to assess the feasibility of funding for the priority projects. The Steering Group will need to be flexible in adjusting priorities and phasing while not losing sight of the long-term objectives. It will be important to be realistic about support which local councils will be able to provide and to be aware that they, and other potential funders may have budgetary constraints and changing priorities. However the support from Carterton Town Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and the Countryside Agency has been crucial during the Carterton Check, and it will be vital that it continues during the implementation stage, supporting the post of the Project Manager. There will also be individual projects where it will be appropriate for them to offer support.

7.2 Reporting, Evaluation and Review

Reporting

It is suggested that the Project Manager provides the Steering Group with a short report on progress every 2 months, with a longer report at 6 months and annually. The short reports should refer briefly to work in hand and any deviations/ unexpected developments. The 6 month reports should look back and comment on progress over the 6 months and forward to the next 6 months. The annual review should provide a major opportunity to assess the progress and direction of the whole project.

In addition the Project Manager will be expected to report to wider groups including the Partnership as required.

A small management group with a representative from the Town Council, District Council, Countryside Agency and Chair of the Steering Group should have day to day responsibility for the performance and wellbeing of the Project Manager and should decide what reporting, additional to that provided for the Steering Group, it requires.

Evaluation

The Steering Group will consider progress, in particular any deviation from the outputs identified in the work programme. It will agree any necessary changes with the Project Manager. If it has concerns about the performance of the Project Manager it will refer them to the Management Group.

Review

The Steering Group will review the Delivery Plan every 6 months, amending it to roll it forward as new projects get underway. Towards the end of Year 2 it should consider how the work would be carried forward, once the current funding for the Project Manager has ceased and develop an exit strategy.



Skate Park at The Dell

Appendices

Appendix One

Members of the Steering Group

Phil Scott (Chair)

Brian Crossland

Neil Tully

Dee Bulley

Wing Commander Finlay McLean

Peter Madden

Lester Giles

Nick Truman

Sharron Burns

Dawn Pettis

Dene Robson

Susie Ohlenschlager

Appendix Two

Role, remit and membership of the Steering Group and Working Groups

The Steering Group

- To have an overview of the progress of the Carterton Check
- To help achieve the involvement and support of the wider community, and specifically help with organising events
- To help to involve the harder to reach groups
- To help with completing the Snapshot
- Members of the Steering Group to lead the 4 working groups and ensure their work is linked into the overall timetable
- To help develop the partnership, so that there is a suitable organisation to take responsibility for the implementation of the action plan
- To make sure the Carterton Check takes account of other initiatives/developments in Carterton

It is suggested the Steering Group meets every 2-4 weeks as necessary. It is not recommended that it adopts any formal status, although this should not be ruled out for the future.

Membership should be flexible in that people can join and leave if they have a particular interest or expertise to offer. However it will be important for the continuity of the Carterton Check to have a core of members willing to remain at least until the Healthcheck is completed.

The Working Groups

- Working Groups have been established to cover the four main areas of worksheets which form the basis of the healthcheck for: Transport and Accessibility, the Environment, the Economy and Social and Community issues.
- Their immediate task is to research and answer the worksheets, identify the main issues and carry out a SWOT analysis looking at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats arising from the information they have gathered, as appropriate.
- Advice from the Countryside Agency suggests that it is important that members of the community play a leading role in this process
- It is important that the focus of this work is on the hinterland as well as the town itself. For the purposes of the Carterton Check it has been agreed that the 'inner hinterland' which will be included for the worksheets will be Brize Norton, Curbridge, Clanfield, Shilton, Alvescot, Black Bourton, Lew, Grafton & Radcot (note: this has been dictated to some extent by the form in which national statistical data is produced)
- It is also important to agree a timescale, so that the information can be used for the Community Event (April 12th) and incorporated into the final report (to be completed by June).
- It is likely that there may be some overlap between the work of the 4 groups, indeed there may be tensions as well where for example key issues identified by the economy and environment groups may be in conflict. It is suggested that each group has a 'lead' member who would also sit on the Steering Group where any such tensions would be resolved. In any

case the working groups should report to the Steering Group.

- Once the worksheets have been completed and issues identified, the working groups will be asked to suggest projects to address the issues to be included in the final report.
- Once the Action Plan has been produced, there may be a continuing role for the groups to work up and oversee the implementation of projects.

Appendix Three

Members of the Working Groups

The Social and Community Working Group

Wing Commander Finlay McLean (Chair)
Nick Truman
Patsy Walker/Shelley Vaisey
Mary Johnson
David King
Corporal Tony Duckett
Kate Philips
Tan Marchant
Margaret Tinner

The Economy Working Group

William Barton (Chair)
Phil Scott
Lester Giles
Neil Tully
Peter Handley
Dawn Pettis
Steve Patterson

The Environment Working Group

Brian Crossland (Chair)
Peter Madden
Mike Bulley
Janet Eustace
Sue Orme

The Transport Working Group

Dee Bulley (Chair)
Peter Madden
Katharine May
Dave Rich
John Bellinger
Jeanette Braybrook-Tucker
Stephen Braybrook-Tucker

Appendix Four

The Hinterland

Inner Hinterland Villages

Alvescot
Black Bourton
Brize Norton
Clanfield
Curbridge
Grafton & Radcot
Kencot
Lew
Shilton

Outer Hinterland Villages

Asthal
Broadwell
Bampton
Burford
Fulbrook
Kelmscott
Langford
Minster Lovell
Little Faringdon
Swinbrook
Westwell
Holwell
Filkins & Broughton Poggs

Appendix Five

Carterton Gateway Primary School Survey

1. Please circle your gender

BOY GIRL

1. How long have you lived in Carterton?
Please tick:

- 0-2 years
- 3-4 years
- 5-6 years
- 7-8 years
- 9-10 years
- 11-12 years

3a. Do you think there is a lot of vandalism in Carterton?

YES / NO

3b. If YES, please tick places where it is worst:

- Subways
- Houses/flats
- Public buildings
- Parks
- Other.....

3c Have you got any suggestions for stopping or reducing it?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4a. Are there places in Carterton where you don't feel safe?

YES / NO

4b. If YES, please give details:

I don't feel safe when

.....
.....

Because

.....
.....

This could be made better by:

.....
.....
.....
.....

4c. Are there times of day in Carterton where you feel unsafe?

YES / NO

4d. If YES, please give details:

I don't feel safe when

.....
.....

because.....

.....
.....

This could be made better by:

.....
.....
.....
.....

5a. Do you belong to a sports club in Carterton?

YES / NO

I belong to

.....
.....

5b. Do you belong to a sports club elsewhere?

YES / NO

I belong to

.....
.....

6 Would you be interested in any of these sports clubs?

*Please circle a letter to show HOW interested you would be
A very interested E not interested at all*

Netball	A	B	C	D	E
Tennis	A	B	C	D	E
Athletics	A	B	C	D	E
Cricket	A	B	C	D	E
Basketball	A	B	C	D	E
Judo	A	B	C	D	E
Hockey	A	B	C	D	E
Rugby	A	B	C	D	E
Badminton	A	B	C	D	E
Other	A	B	C	D	E

7. Could any of the sports facilities in Carterton be improved?

YES / NO

I think that the

.....

could be improved by

.....
.....
.....

8. Are there any other sports facilities that you think should be provided in Carterton?

.....
.....
.....

9. Are there any types of shops not already in Carterton that would be used? Please list.

.....
.....
.....
.....

Use the map to help you answer this question.

10a. What part of Carterton do you think is most attractive? Why?

.....
.....
.....

10b. What part of Carterton do you think looks least attractive? Why?

.....
.....
.....

11. Are there any clubs or activities other than sports that could be successfully run at Carterton? (i.e. music/drama art.) Please list suggestions.

.....
.....
.....

Thank you very much for taking part in this survey.

Appendix Six

Allandale House Recreational Facilities Survey

Survey of Sports Facilities and Recreational Facilities in Carterton: Young People's Views

Carterton Town Council is currently carrying out a survey of sports facilities and recreational facilities in the town and would appreciate your views on what additional facilities you would like to see introduced. Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

Name (optional): _____

Age: _____

Male or Female: _____

Females please complete questions 1, 2 & 4

Males please complete questions 2, 3 & 4

1. Are there sufficient organised sports for girls?

Please identify a specific sport or sports which particularly interest you.

2. Would you be interested in a Club involved in athletics?

3. What variety of sports would boys who are not interested in football enjoy?

4. Apart from sports, what facilities are needed for younger persons?

Appendix Seven

Villages Survey

THE CARTERTON CHECK - Questions for the Hinterland Villages

Transport

Is there good public transport coverage from your village to the town?

For villages which have a bus/train service to the town what are the frequencies of the services?

If services exist, are bus and train times from your village to the town convenient for travelling to work and children going to school?

(Please note when the first and last services of the day are if applicable)

Is information on public transport easy to obtain?

How easy is it to get to health, education and retail services by public transport?

Describe the timing of a visit to the health centre by public transport (if applicable).

Describe how long it takes by car.

Environment

Are there any natural or man-made features such as rivers, canals, roads or railway corridors that link the town and country?

Are there historic commercial links between the town and country still apparent?

How does the town sit in the landscape? Are there opportunities to enhance the urban edge by, for example, planting or even development that will make the town more attractive?

Economic

Identify the main tourism attractions in your area

Is there a current/likely future need for broadband in your community?

What (if any) services/facilities do residents of your community travel to Carterton for?

Community

How much and what type of housing is being planned for your village?

Is local housing affordable?

Is homelessness a problem in your community?

Is there a significant level of second home or holiday home ownership locally?

Does your village have a communal area of open space? *(E.g. recreation ground/ village green)*

Does your village have a community venue? *(E.g. village hall or access to another hall such as the school)*

These questions were based on the model which is used for all healthchecks.

There are two further considerations for Carterton and its surrounding villages which are not specifically catered for.

Please use the space below to indicate briefly any comments relating to:

i) The Presence of RAF Brize Norton

ii) The New Development in the North East

Name of Community:

Appendix Eight

Carterton Check Business Survey (March 2003 Survey Form)

THE CARTERTON CHECK CONFIDENTIAL

Survey of Carterton & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce

This survey of members of the Carterton & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce will provide information on specific issues relating to businesses in the area and will be important in shaping the proposals to be included in the Action Plan. We would therefore be very grateful if you would spend a short time completing this questionnaire. The information will be confidential, and only general findings will be published. Indicating your name and organisation at the foot of the survey is optional.

1. **What opportunities are there for new employment from the expansion of existing local firms?**

To help build up the answer on a general basis, please tell us:

a) **What scope is there for growth in jobs in your business?**

(Please tick one box)

Nil Little Some Much

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

b) **Are you specifically planning to expand?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

c) **How strong do you feel business confidence is in Carterton?**

(Please tick one box - 5 is High, 1 is Very Low)

1 2 3 4 5

<input type="checkbox"/>				
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

2. **Retailers Only**

Are local retailers confident about future trading?

To help build a general picture, please tell us:

a) **Do you plan to expand and/or move to new premises?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

b) **Are you concerned about constraints on your trading in the future?** *(Please tick one box)*

If so, please explain briefly what they are:

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

c) **How would you describe your level of confidence about Carterton as a shopping destination?**

(Please tick one box - 5 is High, 1 is Very Low)

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="checkbox"/>				

3. **(Commercial & Industrial Firms only). Are there adequate new industrial/commercial sites available?**

To help build a general picture, please tell us:

a) **Do you plan to expand and/or move to new premises?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

b) **Do you believe there are generally adequate new sites in Carterton available for industrial/commercial development?**

(Please tick one box)

If you have any comments about the availability of sites, please use the space below.

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

c) **Do you believe there are adequate sites/support for new start up businesses?** *(Please tick one box)*

If you answered No, please add further comments below:

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

4. **Current and future demand for Broadband.**

To help us build a general picture, please tell us:

a) **Do you currently use broadband for your business?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

b) **Do you currently have a demand for broadband which is not being met?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

c) **Do you use email over the Internet?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

d) **Do you have a website?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

e) **Do you buy or sell over the Internet?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

f) **Do you collaborate on a routine basis with suppliers or customers over the Internet?**

(Please tick one box)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

Thank you for replying. Please feel free to expand your answers or make additional comments on a separate sheet.

Name of Business

Your Name

No. of Employees

Please return the completed questionnaire in the pre-paid envelope by March 10th. Please contact Catherine Chater (01993 842156 / cchater@carterton-tc.gov.uk) if you have any questions.

Business Survey Results

In total 43 members of the Chamber of Trade & Commerce were mailed and 52 non-members.

It should be borne in mind that the largest local employer, RAF Brize Norton was not included in the survey.

Response

- 37 responses were received (39% of those surveyed)
- 23% of those responding were from Commerce & Industry
- 77% from the retail sector
- 29% had 0-4 employees
- 26% 5-9 employees
- 14% 10-19 employees
- 14% 20-29 employees
- 11% had 30-40 employees
- 6% over 50 employees

Analysis

- (1a) Scope for growth in jobs in their business:
Nil-3%, Little- 22%, Some-52%, Much-13%
- (1b) Specifically planning to expand:
Yes-42%,No-58%
- (1c) Strength of business confidence in Carterton:
Very low-2%, Low-22%, Fair-52%, Good-24%
- (2a Retailers only) Plans to expand or move to new premises:
Yes-34%, No-66%
- (2b Retailers only) Concerns about future trading constraints:
Yes-29%, No-71%
- (2c Retailers only) Confidence in Carterton as a shopping destination:
Very low-40%, Low-40%, Fair-15%, Good-5%
- (2d Retailers only) Adequate new premises/support for new businesses:
Yes-25%, No-75%
- (3a Commerce & Industry only) Plans to expand or move to new premises:
Yes-32%, No-68%
- (3b Commerce & Industry only) Adequate new sites for commerce in Carterton:
Yes- 42%, No-58%
- (3c Commerce & Industry only) Adequate sites/support for new start-up businesses: Yes-38%, No-62%
- (4a) Currently using Broadband:
Yes-3%, No-97%

- (4b) Have unmet business demand for Broadband:
Yes-42%, No-58%
- (4c) Use email over the internet for business:
Yes-64%, No-36%
- (4d) Have a website:
Yes- 64%, No-36%
- (4e) Buy or sell over the internet:
Yes-40%, No-60%
- (4f) Collaborate with suppliers/customers on the internet on a regular basis:
Yes-39%, No-61%

Working in Partnership



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**



CARTERTON CHECK SNAPSHOT



Information about the Carterton area,
supporting Fast Forward towards 2010

Carterton Check
Researched February 2003
Published June 2003

Supported by Carterton Town Council,
West Oxfordshire District Council and the
Countryside Agency

CARTERTON CHECK SNAPSHOT

The market town health check consists of questions that cover all aspects affecting peoples' quality of life in a market town and its surrounding countryside. It starts with a factual 'snapshot' of the market town and area and continues with worksheets covering four main topic areas: environment, economy, social and community issues, transport and accessibility. This Snapshot should be read in conjunction with the Carterton Check Action Plan, which is published alongside this paper.

While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, it should be noted that not all the information can be regarded as statistically reliable due to sample size, and some information may have changed since it was gathered mainly in Jan/Feb 2003

'Snapshot' of the town and surrounding countryside

The purpose of this exercise is to provide a 'snapshot' of the town and surrounding countryside which will help answer the questions in the worksheets. Factual information about existing services and facilities will provide a background that can be balanced with the community's aspirations which will emerge from the worksheets. The full worksheets can be obtained on request from Carterton Town Council, The Town Hall, Alvescot Rd, Carterton, OX18 3JL or from the website www.carterton-tc.gov.uk

Carterton and its Hinterland

A number of factors were taken into account in defining the hinterland. These included: catchment areas for schools and other services, public transport links, the format of statistical data and the views of the communities in Carterton and the surrounding villages. It was agreed to identify an inner and outer hinterland.

Inner hinterland:

Alvescot, Black Bourton, Brize Norton, Clanfield, Curbridge, Grafton & Radcot Lew, Kencot, Shilton

Outer hinterland:

Asthal, Broadwell, Bampton, Burford, Fulbrook, Kelmscott, Langford, Minster Lovell, Little Faringdon, Swinbrook, Westwell, Holwell, Filkins & Broughton Poggs.

Detailed data was only be collected for the inner hinterland, but the outer hinterland was involved in consultation and carrying out the Carterton Check.

Other Considerations

There are two major issues to be taken into account when carrying out a Snapshot for Carterton. The first is the proximity of RAF Brize Norton. It is the major employer in the area and also has a range of social, cultural and sports facilities which are available to a restricted section of Carterton residents. It should also be noted that most of the data relating to employment obtained from national statistical databases does not include activities undertaken at RAF Brize Norton.

The second is a major planned development which is currently underway at the north east of the settlement which includes around 1200 new houses, land released for employment, a new primary school, new shopping and leisure facilities, a country park and a new link road to the A40.

1. THE ENVIRONMENT

- 1.1. There is no National Park within the Carterton area (1a)
- 1.2. Carterton, and its immediate hinterland, has no area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, but there is the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Beauty nearby to the north (1a)
- 1.3. There is no Heritage Coastline in the area (1a)
- 1.4. There are 3 Conservation Areas at Kencot, Alvescot and Shilton.(1a)
- 1.5. There are no RAMSAR sites (international bird conservation areas) (1a)
- 1.6. There are no special protection areas (1a)
- 1.7. There are no special areas of conservation (1a)
- 1.8. There are no National Nature Reserves in Carterton or its hinterland (1a)
- 1.9. There are no Local Nature Reserves in Carterton or its hinterland (1a)
- 1.10. There are no Sites of Special Scientific Interest within the Carterton area, although there is one nearby just north of the A40 at White Hall Farm (1a)
- 1.11. The Dell and Willow Meadows are important sites for nature conservation (2)
- 1.12. There 5 listed buildings in Carterton and 183 in the inner hinterland and 8 scheduled ancient monuments (none in Carterton) (1b)
- 1.13. There are 88 footpaths (2 in Carterton) (3a)
- 1.14. There are 12 bridleways (3a)
- 1.15. There are no National Trails within the Carterton area (the Thames Path National Trail runs to the south of the area). (1a)
- 1.16. There is 1 cycle path from Carterton to Brize Norton. There are proposals for an integrated pedestrian/cycle route throughout the north east development. (3b)
- 1.17. There are 3 carriageways used as bridleways (3a).

2. ECONOMY

- 2.1. There were 4,500 employee jobs in Carterton in 1998 (1,600 in south Carterton and 1,400 in north Carterton, 1,500 in the inner hinterland) (4) NB To this number those employed at RAF Brize Norton should be added: 3,700 service men and women and 650 civilians giving a total of 4,350 and an overall total of 8,850 (note RAF employee numbers relate to 2002)
- 17.6% are managers and senior officials
 - 9.7% in professional occupations
 - 16.3% in associated professional and technical occupations
 - 14.3% in administrative and secretarial occupations
 - 11.3% in skilled trades occupations
 - 12.7% in elementary occupations (personal service, sales and customer service, process plant and machine operative figures suppressed as statistically unreliable) (7)
 - 12.7% in manufacturing
 - 18.8% in distribution, hotels and restaurants
 - 15.1% in banking, finance and insurance
 - 27.9% in public administration, education and health
 - (Agriculture and fishing, energy and water, construction, transport and communication figures are suppressed as statistically unreliable.) (7)
- 2.2. 18.8 % employed in hotels, distribution, restaurants (constituency level) (7)
- 2.3. In February 1999 there were 55 people claiming benefits through unemployment in Carterton and 20 in the inner hinterland. (It should be noted that these figures are 'Oxford University Ward Level Estimates') (4)
- 2.4. In Carterton and the inner hinterland at November 2002 there were 2 people unemployed over 6 months (too small a sample to give a %) (7)
- 2.5. In West Oxfordshire 69% of the population is economically active. (7)
- 2.6. Professional e.g. public sector, medical, financial and legal services employees are 58% of all those in employment (7)
- 2.7. There are no Job Centres in the Carterton area, but the Town Hall displays job vacancies on a regular basis (2)
- 2.8. There were 7 new businesses registered during the past five years (but mainly replacing those lost – car accessories, jewellers, fashion shop) (5)
- 2.9. There are 47 Members of the Chamber of Trade and Commerce (5)
- 2.10. There is no Business Link office
- 2.11. There is no one-stop-shop for business advice.
- 2.12. There have been no new industrial units built over the last five years, but there is outline consent for 17,775m² as part of the north east development which is a mixture of retail, B1 and B2/B8 use. (4).
- 2.13. The average rent for industrial premises is £5.50-£6.75 per sq.ft (6)

- 2.14. The average rent for prime retail unit (Zone A, around the central crossroads) is £25 per sq.ft (6)
- 2.15. Rents for industrial units have gone up around 28% over the past five years, for retail have gone up around 35% (6)
- 2.16. 2 new shops have been built and one converted in last three years
- 2.17. There is a regular general market on Thursdays
- 2.18. In 2001 a regular farmers' market ran for 6 months, but then failed
- 2.19. There are 2 supermarkets over 1000m² (Co-op and Somerfield)
- 2.20. There are 3 other convenience goods shops (2 at outlying garages)
- 2.21. There are 6 vacant shops in the town (approximately 20% in proportion to total number of shops 31)
- 2.22. There is one block of public toilets in the town centre which include facilities for the disabled
- 2.23. In 1998 there were 65 residents in Carterton and the inner hinterland who had been admitted to university. (4)
- 2.24. There are currently 4 primary schools, with a fifth one expected to open after Christmas, associated with the new development to the north east.
- 2.25. There is one secondary school, the Carterton Community College.
- 2.26. There is no post-16 education (VI Form College, Technical College) available in the area. Students choose to go to one of the three sixth forms in Witney and Burford. Colleges are also available in Oxford and Swindon and Witney.

3. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY

- 3.1. In the Indices of Deprivation 2000, Carterton South Ward ranked 7876 out of 8414 for the whole country (with 1 being the most deprived ward in England). Carterton North Ward scored 6818. In the two inner hinterland areas the scores were 6233 for Clanfield and Shilton and 8127 for Brize Norton and Curbridge (4)
- 3.2. The combined population of Carterton and its inner hinterland in mid 1998 was 20,700. However it is believed that the population has increased since then due to an ongoing programme of new building. (3c)
- 3.3. Between 1996 and 2001 there has been a 9% increase in population in Carterton, 3% in Brize Norton, 3% in Curbridge, 121% in Shilton, 10% in Alvescot, 1% in Clanfield, 2% in Black Bourton and a reduction of 4% in Grafton and Radcot (3c)
- 3.4. 11% of the population of both the North and South Wards were aged over 60 and in mid 1998, 21% and 10% respectively for the Clanfield and Brize Norton hinterland wards (the figure for West Oxfordshire District was 20%) (3c)
- 3.5. 17% of the population of the South Ward was under 16 in mid 1998, the figure being 24% for the North Ward, 20% for Clanfield and 23% for Brize Norton (the figure for West Oxfordshire District as a whole was 20%) (3c)
- 3.6. At April 1st 2003, 214 new dwellings had been occupied (1e)
- 3.7. In West Oxfordshire District 12.3% of households are rented from Housing Associations 0.6% shared ownership, 5.2% private rented, 1.5% rented tied to Employment, 0.1% hostel, 44% owner occupied with mortgage, 36.3% owned outright. (1c)
- 3.8. 26% of households in the district are single person households (1d)
- 3.9. 16% of housing stock (excluding transferred council stock) was without whole-house heating in 1997 district wide (1d).
- 3.10. There are 3,208 households on the local authority waiting list (1d)
- 3.11. Average house prices in Carterton March 2002 were:
- £73,971 1 bed flat
 - £99,995 2 bed flat
 - £105,052 2 bed terrace
 - £117,533 3 bed terrace
 - £108,203 2 bed semi-detached
 - £130,870 3 bed semi-detached (1c)
- 3.12. In 1998 the overall house price was £86,476 in the OX18 3 area, in 2002 it was £156,557. (8) Access to home ownership is beyond the reach of 95% of new/concealed households in West Oxfordshire (1e)
- 3.13. Carterton Town had the sixth highest recorded crime rate, for the West Oxfordshire area in 2000/01 with 239 incidents (a decrease on the previous two years) (9)
- 3.14. There is one Police Station with opening hours: 08.30 –17.00 Mon-Thurs, 08.30-16.00 Friday
- 3.15. There is no Magistrates Court (the nearest being Witney)
- 3.16. There is no Crown or other court (the nearest Crown Court is in Oxford)
- 3.17. There is no Registry Office (the nearest is in Witney), but there is a visiting registrar each Wednesday morning at the Town Hall by appointment
- 3.18. There is a Town Hall. It is open 9.00am – 4.30pm Mondays to Fridays

- 3.19. Although there is no Citizens' Advice Bureau or Community Legal Services Partnership, there is a Neighbourhood Advice Centre which is open 10.00am to 4.00pm on Thursdays and 10.00am to 11.30am on Saturdays.
- 3.20. There is no Fire Station. Carterton is served from Bampton and Burford.
- 3.21. There is no Ambulance Station, the nearest is at Witney.
- 3.22. There is an open air swimming pool which is open May to September. There are leisure facilities on the base which are available to a restricted number of members of the community. There is a Squash Club on Swinbrook Road and a Bowls Club
- 3.23. There is a Sports Hall at the Community College which can be used by arrangement. A new Leisure and Fitness Centre is currently under construction as part of a significant expansion of Carterton and will be open in late 2003. As above some residents have access to leisure facilities on the base.
- 3.24. There are five outdoor sports pitches – two at Alvescot Road Recreation Ground, one on Swinbrook Road and two at the Town Football Club.(2 new full size pitches and 3 junior pitches will be available summer 2003)
- 3.25. There are two post offices – one in the Co-op superstore and one on Stanmore Crescent.
- 3.26. There are no health and fitness centres at present (see 3.23)
- 3.27. There are three Banks (Lloyds, Barclays, HSBC) and one Building Society (Halifax)
- 3.28. There are four cash points.
- 3.29. There is one solicitor.
- 3.30. There is one accountant.
- 3.31. There is no hospital in Carterton. The main hospitals are Oxford and Swindon. There is a Community hospital in Witney.
- 3.32. There are three doctors' practices in Carterton - Broadshires, and visiting practices from Bampton and Burford all offering NHS facilities
- 3.33. There are three dental practices, all of which accept some NHS clients (Tower Centre, Burford Road, Broadshires Way)
- 3.34. There are 2 opticians in the Carterton area
- 3.35. There are three public houses in the area
- 3.36. There are no hotels in the area
- 3.37. There are no hotel bed spaces
- 3.38. There are approximately 12 bed and breakfast bed spaces at two establishments
- 3.39. There is one restaurant (Indian), 1 café and 7 take-aways
- 3.40. There is no cinema
- 3.41. There is no theatre
- 3.42. There are 5 public halls/community centres (the Social Centre, the Town Hall, the W.I. Hall, the Church Hall at St Johns and a hall at the Allandale Centre. (There is a NAAFI community centre on the base)
- 3.43. There is no museum
- 3.44. There is a full time library.
- 3.45. There are no art galleries
- 3.46. There are 3 churches (C of E, Catholic and Methodist) and one Catholic Church on the base

3.47. There are 69 clubs and voluntary organisations in Carterton and its immediate area. There are also a number of clubs and organisations based in Witney which cover Carterton and its immediate area. (2)

4. TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

- 4.1. There are no bus stations in the area.
- 4.2. There are no train stations in the area.
- 4.3. There are no coach parks in the area.
- 4.4. 13% of households have no car (7)
- 4.5. There is no distinction between short and long stay parking in the town and no charges
- 4.6. There are public car parks at the rear of the town centre, the Co-op superstore, off Burford Road and behind the library. Parking is not normally a problem except on Thursdays which is market day.
- 4.7. There are two cycle paths (one along Burford Road and one linking to the base. More will accompany the NE development.)
- 4.8. Journey times by car to nearest large town or city are:
 - Oxford 25-30 minutes
 - Swindon 30-40 minutes
 - Cheltenham 45 minutes
- 4.9. By public transport they are:
 - Oxford 45 minutes
 - Swindon 60 minutes
 - Cheltenham no direct route
- 4.10. There are no bus route services from the villages to train stations
- 4.11. Bus routes/services serving the town and surrounding countryside run to and from Alvescot, Black Bourton, Curbridge, Brize Norton, Clanfield and Shilton.
- 4.12. There are 4 disabled car parking spaces in the town

5. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

1. West Oxfordshire District Council

- a) West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 Proposals Map
- b) Conservation, Design and Landscape Service
- c) West Oxfordshire Housing Needs Survey – 2002
- d) West Oxfordshire District Council Housing Services
- e) West Oxfordshire District Council Planning Department
- f) North East Carterton Survey 2002

2. Carterton Town Council

3. Oxfordshire County Council

- a) Cultural Services
- b) Environmental Services
- c) Population and Household Forecasts 1998

4. National Statistics/Neighbourhood statistics www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

5. Chamber of Commerce

6. Local Estate Agents

7. Nomis - www.nomisweb.com

8. Land Registry - www.landreg.gov.uk

9. Community Safety Audit 2001