

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE
of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Tuesday 10 February
2015 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: D.G. Rickard (Chairman)

G.J. Ackerman
Ms R.C. Kayes

Mrs E.A. Rickard

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the public forum.

36. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Ms A-M-A. Vincent and Ms S.J. Williams.

37. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 November 2014 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39. HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES CONSULTATION

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2941.

Members discussed the consultation and made the following comments:

- It was understood that the options under consideration would not affect the waste transfer operations and the Broomhills centre was not under threat. The consultation related only to the household recycling operations. However, the timing of the consultation and the discussion of closures was unfortunate, bearing in that Broomhills had not yet opened.
- In terms of the household recycling centre at Broomhills, it was difficult to make a judgment as to how it was used by the public and how they would be affected by any changes, as it had not yet opened. The household recycling roll out for this area had also not yet taken place.
- In respect of the options being considered, members did not support full closure of any of the centres or introducing any charges.
- If one of the options had to be chosen, then the only one that could be considered was limited closure for up to two days. However, this could not be supported at this time for Broomhills.

- It was necessary to allow the Broomhills household recycling centre to operate as intended, so that an analysis could be made of how people used the centre and what was being recycled. Such an analysis could identify potential efficiencies based on evidence of local usage.
- Finally, it was felt that there also needed to be a wider discussion regarding the options for reducing the amount of waste produced.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, be given delegated authority to respond to the consultation including the comments as above.

40. WEST DORSET PARTNERSHIP – POSITION STATEMENT ON FRACKING

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2942.

The Committee discussed the position statement which was adopted by the West Dorset Partnership and made the following comments:

- the Town Council had signed up to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change.
- the potential implications for Bridport from any licences granted in Dorset meant that the implications of fracking needed to be considered.
- it was understood that the Government had indicated that it would not allow fracking in areas of outstanding natural beauty but that this was still to be confirmed.
- it was felt that a motion should be submitted to the next Council meeting, in line with the statement, setting out the Town Council's position.

The wording of a possible motion was discussed and the Chairman said that he would prepare a motion for the next full Council meeting.

RESOLVED: that the position statement on fracking approved by West Dorset Partnership be noted and a motion be submitted to the next meeting of the full Council.

41. SOLAR PANELS – FURTHER OPTIONS

The Town Clerk reported that Dorset Community Energy had decided that solar PV installations less than 10 kW were not economically viable to be included in the Communities Living Sustainably project. They would not generate sufficient returns to pay a return to the community investors. Therefore, the scheme proposed for the Cemetery workshop roof could not now go forward under this scheme.

However, members felt that the Town Council should look at other options for solar panels including the possibility of utilising the electricity produced by the Panels for charging equipment and potentially vehicles. It would be helpful to identify all the areas that could make use of this resource.

RESOLVED: that there be a report back on options for other locations for solar panels and the best way to use the electricity produced from the existing installation at Plottingham and future installations.

42. NEIGHBOURHOOD JUSTICE PANELS UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported there was to be a meeting of the Steering Group on 18 February, which will be updated on the future of the project and the further roll out in Dorset.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

43. MANAGEMENT OF OPEN SPACES - POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Town Clerk circulated the latest draft and said that it was intended that this was discussed in detail at the Open Spaces Working Group and then brought forward for adoption by the Council. At this stage, it was still a working draft.

RESOLVED: that the latest position be noted and the document be considered at the Open Spaces Working Group and brought forward for adoption by the Council.

44. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT MOTIONS

Councillors considered the report at ENCL: 2943.

It was noted that the Business Rates motion – asking that some of the rates be passed on to local town councils – had been referred back to the Government to ask that it be re-considered. The Town Council had previously supported that motion, proposed by Sevenoaks Town Council and members re-iterated that they remained very supportive of the proposal.

It was agreed that a motion on the licensing of Satellite Navigation devices should be discussed by the Council with a view to putting it forward under the Sustainable Communities Act. There needed to be safeguards to ensure that the mapping took account of local conditions and did not direct vehicles along roads that were unsuitable for increased traffic or heavy vehicles. This could be a particular issue for rural roads.

RECOMMEND: that under the Sustainable Communities Act, the Government be asked to support the licensing and regulation of Satellite Navigation devices, to ensure that they did not encourage vehicles to use unsuitable roads with the corresponding disturbance for local residents.

45. CAB – LOCAL ADVICE NETWORK

The Town Clerk reported that a meeting of the Bridport and District Local Advice Network, co-ordinated by the Citizens' Advice Bureau, was held on 15 January as part of the work to bring advice agencies together and see where groups can support or help each other.

RESOLVED: that the establishment of the network be noted and this Committee receive copies of the notes of the network meetings.

46. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

The Town Clerk reported that he had had discussions regarding West Bay and would be meeting the District Council's Emergency Planning Officer. It was then hoped to bring a Plan forward for adoption.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**47. DORSET CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP –
DORSET'S HEALTH SERVICES "THE NEED TO CHANGE"**

Councillors considered ENCL: 2944.

Members discussed the Dorset Clinical Services Review of Dorset's Health services. There had been a presentation earlier that day in the Town Hall and it was understood that there was to be consultation in the Summer of this year.

In general, members expressed concerns about the review and discussed different aspects that could have implications for the services provided locally. Members commented on the intention of the review, its scope, the opportunity for full and open consultation including with the Town Council, the potential impact on the services provided locally and the need to safeguard key local provision. Although there had been a presentation on the review, it had been not been possible to raise all the questions and concerns at that time.

It was asked if the Clinical Commissioning Group could be invited to attend a meeting of the Town Council, to make a presentation to councillors and other interested people and answer some of the questions regarding the review.

RESOLVED: that the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to a meeting of the Town Council to discuss the review.

48. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Skills Training Bridport – Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes, on behalf of the Group, thanked the Town Council for its support of the Job Club.

49. FUTURE REPORTS

There were no additional reports requested.

50. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman reported that Communities Living Sustainably was hosting a Climate Week from 2 to 8 March with events in Bridport and Dorchester. It was asked that information be sent to all members.

The meeting closed at **8.25 p.m.**

The next meeting of this committee will be held on a date to be agreed