

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 17 September 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr	G.J. Ackerman	D.G. Rickard
	P.J. Colfox	Ms G.E. Summers
	Ms R.C. Kayes	D.R. Tett
	J.T. May	Ms A-M.A. Vincent
	C.M. Ray	Ms S.J. Williams

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr John Morey spoke and outlined his concerns regarding the County Council's suggestion that parking meters be installed in the town centre, the decision taken by West Dorset District Council to close toilets in West Bay and the lack of facilities now in West Bay, but added that he was pleased that the pinch point was to be removed from West Dorset District Council's environmental enhancement scheme in West Bay.

Mr George Skevington said that he was also pleased that the pinch point at West Bay was to be taken out, but questioned the costs of installation and subsequent removal.

Mr Richard Freer raised concerns regarding the proposed allocation in the Local Plan of a new housing development at Vearse Farm. He asked if such a large development was needed and said that the implications for the town needed to be fully considered.

24. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Ms G.E. Massey and C.O. Michell.

25. MINUTES

Cllr Ms S.J. Williams clarified that whilst she was Vice Chairman of the Plans Committee at the time of the Council meeting on 26 June and moved the minutes of the 29 April meeting, she was Chairman, not Vice Chairman, on 29 April.

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All the previously recorded interests declared under this item in the Committee minutes were noted. In addition:

Cllr P.J. Colfox declared a pecuniary interest in relation to any reference to Vearse Farm, should it arise.

Cllr Ms G E Summers declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Citizens' Advice Bureau in respect of Finance and General Purposes Committee minute 35.

Cllr Ms A-M.A. Vincent declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Citizens' Advice Bureau in respect of Finance and General Purposes Committee minute 35.

27. STANDING ORDER 14 (b)

There were no questions pursuant to standing order 14(b).

28. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 1 July 2013 were presented by the Committee Vice Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 1 July 2013 be received.

(b) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 29 July 2013 were presented by the Committee Vice Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 29 July 2013 be received.

(c) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 September 2013 were presented by the Committee Vice Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 September 2013 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Min no 40) PROPOSAL FOR PAY AND DISPLAY IN BRIDPORT

Members spoke very strongly in objection to the proposal and, in addition to the comments in the minutes, added the following comments:

The section on the impact on the market needed to be strengthened to include reference that any potential charge to the Town Council for using the bays for market trading parking may not be legal, bearing in mind the market charter provisions.

As stated in the minutes, the Town Council wanted to see any evidence of where such a scheme had been introduced successfully, as it had still not seen any evidence.

It was stated that there would be a cost to the County Council, as wardens would need to monitor usage and maintain the machines. It was felt that this was likely to be an increase in the Council's costs.

It was reported that at a meeting with Oliver Letwin MP, to discuss this matter, he had asked if he could receive a copy of the Town Council's representations. This was supported.

It was also reported that surveys were to be undertaken to gather evidence about how long people park in the town and for what purpose.

This issue was to be considered by the County Council's Environment Overview Committee on 1 October. It was hoped that the Town Council would be represented at that meeting, which would make recommendations on to the Cabinet.

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the comments set out above and in the minutes of the Plans Committee be included in the Town Councils' response, objecting to Dorset County Council's proposal to install parking meters in Bridport and the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be given delegated authority to finalise the response.

(Min no 41) DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED CHANGES TO LOCAL BUS NETWORK

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, and declared to be carried.

Members expressed further concerns regarding the impact of the changes in this area, particularly in respect of the proposed reduction to buses that brought people in to town from outlying areas.

RESOLVED: that the response to Dorset County Council in respect of the proposed changes to the local bus network be approved, as detailed in the minutes and the Plans Committee report.

(Min no. 42) Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Development Framework Modifications to the Submission Minerals Strategy

There was a comment on this item, that the concern expressed regarding any proposed fracking in Dorset should also reflect that, if fracking was introduced, it could compromise the County Council's carbon reduction targets.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 3 July 2013 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor D.G. Rickard.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 3 July 2013 be received.

(e) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 9 September 2013 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor D.G. Rickard.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 9 September 2013 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below:

(Minute 21) WEST DORSET AND WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND HOUSING STRATEGY REVIEW 2013

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to respond to the draft Strategy, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee and the Leader of the Council.

(Minute 22) DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE FUTURE SHAPE OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES/SPECIALIST HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that at this stage and pending the further public consultation, the initial comments set out in the minutes (specifically the concern regarding any proposals to reduce the level of care for older people and the need to highlight the importance of the retention of the Youth Service in Bridport) be agreed in response to Dorset County Council's community consultation exercise on the future shape of social care services / specialist housing and accommodation.

(Minute 24) THE DORSET AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY PARTNERSHIP DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014-2019

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to respond to the draft Plan, subject to consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of this Committee and the Leader of the Council.

(Minute 27) COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANELS UPDATE

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the project update be noted.

(f) **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11 September 2013 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor C.M. Ray.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11 September 2013 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Minute 35) CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION – PROPOSED CHANGES TO FREQUENCY AND REMIT OF MARKET AND BUSINESS LIAISON SUB COMMITTEE

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the Market and Business Liaison Sub Committee meets quarterly with additional co-optees (including the Chamber of Trade and Commerce and the Tourism Association) and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to schedule additional meetings and vary the timings if necessary, subject to consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Town Mayor.

(Minute 41) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2013/2014 – 1ST REVISION

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the 1st revision of the estimates for the year 2013/2014 be approved.

(Minute 53) EXTERNAL AUDIT 2012/13 - UPDATE

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the conclusion of the annual audit be noted and the completed Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2012/2013 be approved.

(Minute 59) COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to fill any current vacancies on member-level bodies.

In addition to the recommended agenda items considered above, the following resolved item was also discussed, as follows:-

(Minute 51) EAST STREET TOILETS

The response of the West Dorset District Council Director of Environment to the question from Cllr D.R. Tett, seeking further information on the sale of the toilets, in line with the request of the Committee, was tabled at the meeting.

The resolution of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was:

- that the report be noted and the Town Clerk report back on options for a community toilet scheme.

Under Standing Order 6, members asked questions regarding this issue. It was noted that this was a resolved item, but members generally felt that one of the options that should be considered, as part of the report back, was whether there was support for a community run scheme for the toilets in East Street. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should ask West Dorset District Council to withdraw the site from auction and allow time for other options, including community management, to be considered for running this facility. This could therefore be included in the report back requested by the Committee. The Town Clerk to report the response to the Town Mayor, Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Committee.

29. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS AT WEST DORSET – NEW DISTRICT COUNCIL WARD BOUNDARIES

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2734.

RESOLVED: that this matter be considered by the Local Plan Working Group, looking at the local plan modifications, and be reported back to the special meeting of the Town Council, proposed to be held on Tuesday 22 October 2013 at 7pm. All members to be invited to the Working Group meetings.

30. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND LOCAL PLAN MODIFICATIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2735.

It was noted, as stated under minute 29 above, that the Local Plan Working Group would be meeting to consider the details of the proposed modifications to the Local Plan.

RESOLVED: that a special meeting of the Town Council be held in October (proposed date to be Tuesday 22 October 2013 at 7pm) to allow the Town Council to consider its response on the proposed modifications on the Local Plan and agree its final decisions on the wider area neighbourhood plan.

31. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 2733 and in particular stated that her civic day on Saturday 7 September 2013 had been a great success. The day allowed visiting mayors and their partners to enjoy the Hat Festival and hear about the Town Council's projects, and she thanked all the Town Council staff for their support on the day.
- (2) Apple Day will take place in the Community Orchard on Saturday 19 October 2013.
- (3) The Leader of the Council asked that the Town Clerk sends a letter of thanks and congratulations to the Hat Festival organiser, Mr Roger Snook.
- (4) The Town Clerk reported that the Town Hall had received many visitors, whilst open as part of the Dorset Architectural Heritage Week.

The meeting closed at **8.30 p.m.**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 26 November 2013