

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 22 September 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Miss S.A. Brown – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

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| Cllr | G.J. Ackerman | W.B. Irvine |
| | J.P. Brodie | J.S.L. Jones |
| | K.C. Clayton | Ms R.C. Kayes |
| | K.A. Day | Ms G.E. Massey |
| | Ms T.G. Harrison | Ms S.J. Williams |

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

27. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Ms S.A. Horniman, Ms F.K. McKenzie, C.M. Ray, Mrs M.J. Ray, D.G. Rickard and Mrs E.A. Rickard.

28. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr W.B. Irvine declared an interest in Minute 33, the Bridport Arts Centre Capital Development Project, as a Trustee of the Bridport Arts Centre. He left the room whilst this report was considered.

30. STANDING ORDER 14 (b)

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

31. ADULT SOCIAL CARE

It was reported that the County Council would provide an update after the proposals had been considered by its Cabinet, which could be in October or November.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

32. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 29 June 2015 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 29 June 2015 be received.

(b) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 3 August 2015 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 3 August 2015 be received.

(c) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 7 September 2015 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

With reference to minute 39 (Vearse Farm), the Town Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Savills inviting the Town Council, Symondsburry Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Joint Committee to nominate three representatives each to take part in a half day workshop on the Vearse Farm application, including starting to discuss the process to develop the Master Plan. This would be reported to the Plans Committee on Monday 28 September, to appoint members.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 7 September 2015 be received.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 15 July 2015 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms R.C. Kayes.

The Vice-Chairman updated on the latest position on the Clinical Services Review and the consultation that had been pushed back to January.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 15 July 2015 be received and the recommendation therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Minute 16) ADDITIONAL CO-OPTEEES

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

RESOLVED: that the issue of co-optees and future ways of working for the Council's member level bodies be looked at, as part of the Standing Orders Working Group and be reported back to the Best Value, Scrutiny and Town Plan Sub Committee.

(e) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 9 September 2015 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms R.C. Kayes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 9 September 2015 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 29) DRAFT WASTE PLAN AND DRAFT WASTE SITES PLAN

In addition to the comments in the minutes and on a related issue, members commented with concern on the changes to the mini recycling centres in the area, with those at West Bay and the town centre Coach Park closing, as from late October.

Members also commented on the new charges to be introduced at recycling centres for some waste, including £1.50 for DIY waste, £10 per sheet of plasterboard and £5 for a car tyre. It was felt that these charges would have a detrimental impact on domestic waste and lead to an increase in fly tipping.

RESOLVED: that comments be agreed on the Waste Plan consultation as in the minutes, with the additional comments as above.

(Minute 30) FUTURE OF THE COURTS SERVICES CONSULTATION

RESOLVED: that the comments be approved on the court services consultation, as set out in the minutes.

(Minute 35) CORRESPONDENCE – DOGS IN THE TOWN CENTRE

It was asked if the issue of dog mess could also be raised, in discussions with the dog owners' groups.

RESOLVED: that the need for a local campaign to encourage responsible dog owners be raised with local dog owners' groups and be reported back.

(f) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 September 2015 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms G.E. Massey.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 September 2015 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 39) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2015/2016 – 1ST REVISION

RESOLVED: that the 1st revision of the estimates for the year 2015/2016 be approved.

(Minute 42a) SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE TOWN SURVEYOR ALLOTMENT CONDITIONS AND WATER CHARGES

RESOLVED: that water charges (£10 for a full plot and £5 for a half plot) be included for all sites where water is now provided.

(Minute 42d) WEST BAY PLAY AREA

RESOLVED: that a further lease be entered into with West Dorset District Council for the additional land for the extension to the play area, subject to receiving a further report to approve the details.

(Minute 44) WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL – SERVICE REVIEW OF SUPPORT FOR LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIPS

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, respond to the latest consultation on options for District Council funding of Local Area Partnerships, to include the comments in the minutes and receive a report back in November, with the proposals to ensure continued support for BLAP from 2016/17 onwards

(Minute 46) EXTERNAL AUDIT 2014/15 - OUTCOME

Members congratulated the Finance and Officer Manager on the outcome of the external audit.

RESOLVED: that the conclusion of the annual audit be noted and the completed Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2014/2015 be approved.

(Minute 48) DAPTC ISSUES AND NALC SURVEY

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, complete the survey to include any comments received from members.

(Minute 54) WDDC GAMBLING POLICY REVIEW

RESOLVED: that the District Council's review of its Gambling Policy be noted without comment.

(Minute 55) APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED: that the following changes to memberships of committees and outside bodies be approved:

- (1) that Cllr E.T. Colfox replaces Cllr Ms E.A. Rickard on the Plans Committee.
- (2) that Cllr Ms S.A. Horniman be appointed to represent the Town Council on the Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring and Ride Service.
- (3) that the membership of the Millennium Green Trust be reviewed and be reported back.

33. BRIDPORT ARTS CENTRE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT – FUNDING REQUEST

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3008.

RESOLVED: that the Arts Centre's funding application to the Arts Council to make improvements to the ground floor of its building be supported and a capital grant of £5,000 from Town Council reserves be earmarked for this scheme, to be released subject to a further report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee confirming that the application has been successful, match funding received and the work is to proceed.

34. STANDING ORDER 11 – MOTIONS

MOTION 1 – THE LIVING WAGE

The motion was moved by Councillor J.S.L. Jones, seconded by Councillor K.C. Clayton and following discussion was put to the vote and declared to be carried. It was therefore:

RESOLVED: that this Council declares that:

It wishes to see Bridport become a 'living wage town'.

It will work with the Bridport Chamber of Trade and Commerce and the Bridport and District Tourism Association to obtain baseline information on the current position on local wages and discuss with both bodies the practicalities and support for the Living Wage to be awarded to all employees over 18 years of age, other than apprentices (the rate for 2015/16 is £7.85 per hour).

It urges consumers to support this initiative by accepting and indeed welcoming the fact that in some cases prices may have to rise to reflect the true cost of the goods or services they wish to buy.

This Council resolves:

That in its review of Financial Regulations, the Town Council moves to requiring all tenders above the agreed threshold (currently £10,000) to include as one of the key selection criteria whether a firm submitting a tender to work with the Town Council is a living wage employer.

That in the forthcoming annual Service Level Agreement discussions (for 2016/17 onwards) with the larger grant aided organisations supported by the Town Council – Arts Centre, Museum, CAB and Leisure Centre – each organisation be encouraged, through the SLA, to support this proposal.

MOTION 2 – HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

The motion was moved by Councillor K.C. Clayton and seconded by Councillor J.S.L. Jones.

Two amendments were proposed:

Amendment 1: moved by Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes and accepted by the mover of the motion as follows:

Last sentence of first paragraph to be amended to read (amendments in bold):

It calls on the Government to retain the Human Rights Act, the protections within it, and the UK's international obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights **and to ratify and incorporate into domestic law all outstanding protocols of the Convention including but not limited to:**

- i) Protocol 1, Article 2 (Right to education)**
- ii) Protocol 4 (Right of free movement)**
- iii) Protocol 7 (Rights of those accused of a crime).**
- iv) Protocol 12 (Right of non-discrimination)**

Amendment 2: moved by Cllr Ms S. J. Williams and accepted by the mover of the motion as follows:

Last sentence of second paragraph to be amended to read (amendments in bold):

The Council congratulates all those in Bridport who have sent aid and pledges to **review, through reports to Committee, what it may need to do, to** support any refugee families who may be allocated to our town.

The amended motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried. It was therefore:

RESOLVED:

As a contribution to Local Democracy Week, Bridport Town Council expresses support for the Human Rights Act and the positive impact it has had on the protection of individual rights in the UK. It welcomes the guidance the Human Rights Act provides for public authorities in ensuring policies are developed in line

with international human rights standards. It calls on the Government to retain the Human Rights Act, the protections within it, and the UK's international obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights and to ratify and incorporate into domestic law all outstanding protocols of the Convention including but not limited to:

- i) Protocol 1, Article 2 (Right to education)
- ii) Protocol 4 (Right of free movement)
- iii) Protocol 7 (Rights of those accused of a crime).
- iv) Protocol 12 (Right of non-discrimination)

The current refugee crisis illustrates the importance of such rights, which need to apply to those displaced from their country of birth as much as to current citizens of the UK. The Council congratulates all those in Bridport who have sent aid and pledges to review (through reports to Committee) what it may need to do, to support any refugee families who may be allocated to our town”.

(The European Local Democracy Week is a voluntary event, co-ordinated by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, which takes place every year around 15 October, the anniversary of the opening for signature of the European Charter for Local Self-Government in 1985. During the ELDW, local and regional authorities and their associations across Europe organise various activities to foster greater citizen awareness of the work of local authorities, promote citizen participation in local governance and stress the importance played by local self-governance in building a united and democratic Europe.)

30. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 3007, that the Leisure Centre was hosting a celebration of its 40 anniversary on Saturday 26 September and that there would be a French party arriving in the town on Thursday 22 October for an Onion Festival.
- (2) The Town Clerk reported that the Home Project's 'Our Democracy' exhibition would be in the Town Hall from 29 September to 24 October.

The meeting closed at **8.21 p.m.**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 24 November 2015