

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 28 January 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

## PRESENT

Cllrs: Mrs M.J. Ray – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

G.J.	Ackerman	D.G.	Rickard
Miss S.A.	Brown	Mrs .E.A.	Rickard
E.T.	Colfox	Ms G.E.	Summers
P.J.	Colfox (until 8.00pm)	D.R.	Tett
Ms R.C.	Kayes	Ms A-M.A.	Vincent
Ms G.E.	Massey	K.G.	Wallace
J.T.	May	Ms S.J.	Williams
C.M.	Ray		

## PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Andy Pennington raised concerns about the future of the no.47 bus. He emphasised the need to maintain the service, which was important for people travelling to Yeovil for college and to work.

Ms Lyndsey Grabb also spoke regarding the future of the no.47 bus route and how important it was that the service was maintained.

Mr Charles Couzens and Ms Monica King updated members on the Bridport Co-housing scheme. Following discussions with planners and taking into account comments from the public consultation events, there had been some slight design changes. There would be a further public consultation exercise before the planning application was submitted.

The speakers were thanked for attending.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting, County Councillor Jill Haynes, Dorset County Council Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, and Alison Waller, Head of Commissioning at Dorset County Council. They were to speak on the Bridport Adult Social Care Consultation under item 6 on this agenda. The Chairman said that she would bring that item forward, to be the first main agenda item.

## 49. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Mrs E.A. Rickard to her first full Council meeting, following her election in December.

**50. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

**51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**52. STANDING ORDER 14 (b)**

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

**53. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

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

With reference to the item in the minutes, members discussed the outcome of the Broomhills planning application and the need to monitor the implementation of the conditions, particularly the traffic conditions. The Town Council's request for a 40 mph limit on the A35, which was not agreed by the County Council's Planning Committee, was being referred to the A35 Working Group and the Highways Agency.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 December 2013 be received.

(b) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 6 January 2014 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

Under the Local Plan item, it was reported that the decision of the Local Plan Inspector on the future of the draft Plan was still awaited, following the recent exploratory meeting at the District Council.

Under the further reference to Broomhills, the future of the West Bay Road depot was raised. The Town Council had not been notified of any proposals to change the use of the depot, but this was an issue that members could raise with the Director of the Dorset Waste Partnership, who had agreed to attend the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee on 26 February 2014.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 6 January 2014 be received.

(c) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 21 January 2014 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 21 January 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 104) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2013/2014 – 3rd REVISION

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

RESOLVED: that the 3rd revision of the estimates for the year 2013/2014 be approved.

(Minute 105) BUDGET AND ESTIMATES 2014/2015

In discussion of this item and the following resolved item on WDDC Budget Consultation, it was emphasised that the Town Council should continue to raise the difficulties caused by the reduction in the Council Tax Support Grant. It was important to continue to make representations to West Dorset District Council and the Government on the need for the grant to fully cover the reduction in the tax base, which, it was understood, remained the intention of the Government.

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

- RESOLVED:
- (1) that the use of reserves as set out in section 4 of the report be approved for 2014/15,
  - (2) that the draft estimates for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix A be approved to deliver the projects in Appendix C,
  - (3) that the proposed fees and charges set out in Appendix B to the report be approved for 2014/15,
  - (4) that in terms of the precept, Option 2 in the report be approved, which would increase the precept by £42,529 and, including the Local Council Tax Support Grant, would raise £522,761 analysed as follows:

Precept (funded through the Council Tax): £470,753  
Local Council Tax Support Grant: £52,008

The annual Band D charge to increase from £148.80 to £161.79.

- (5) that a cross party Working Party of 5 members be established, to look at the budget in detail during the next year.

(Minute 109) LAND TRANSFERS – FOOTBALL GROUND AND CAR PARK

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

- RESOLVED: (1) that the transfer of the Football Club land (from West Dorset District Council) to the Town Council be approved and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to finalise the transfer and arrange for the documentation to be sealed.
- (2) that the Finance and General Purposes Committee receive a report back on the terms of a new lease with the Football Club (the Club was seeking a lease of up to 99 years) and the proposed arrangements to manage the car park..

(Minute 116) REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT AND APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2014/15

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

- RESOLVED: that the review of internal audit be noted and the arrangements for appointing a new internal auditor for 2014/15 be approved.

(Minute 117) REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

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

- RESOLVED: that the Risk Assessment and Management Strategy policy document be approved.

(Minute 118) BRIDPORT CAR BOOT FUND CONSULTATION

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

- RESOLVED: that West Dorset District Council be notified that the Council had no comments on the application documents, but felt that the name of the scheme should remain unchanged as “Bridport Area Community Fund”, as this reflected the purpose and coverage of the scheme.

(Minute 119) FREEDOM MARCH BY THE RIFLES 2014

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

RESOLVED: that the update be welcomed and the proposed Freedom March be supported, with arrangements for the event, to take place on Sunday 22 June 2014, to be reported at the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

(Minute 121) COMMITTEE AND OUTSIDE BODY MEMBERSHIPS

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

- RESOLVED: (1) that Cllr Mrs E.A. Rickard be appointed to vacancies on the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee, Best Value, Scrutiny and Town Plan Sub Committee, Youth Council Working Group and the Christmas Festival Committee and also be appointed to replace Cllr C.M. Ray on the Bridport Food Group.
- (2) that Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes represent the Town Council on the West Bay Forum.

(Minute 127) PROPERTY MATTERS – MAGISTRATES’ COURT ACCESS

RESOLVED: that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was agreed that in the public interest the public be temporarily excluded, whilst the Committee considered this item.

The item was taken at the end of the meeting and at that time it was:

RESOLVED: that the proposed grant of a deed of easement of access rights at Mountfield to the Courts Service be approved, on the terms as set out in the report and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to finalise the agreement, as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the report.

**54. DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL –  
BRIDPORT ADULT SOCIAL CARE CONSULTATION**

Councillors received a presentation from Cllr Jill Haynes, cabinet member for Adult Social Care and considered ENCL: 2780, the options paper and questionnaire.

Cllr Haynes explained the background to the consultation. The County Council had to identify savings, but also look at how best to provide these services in response to the wishes of local people. People were living longer, with more complex needs and it was necessary to hear from local people as to how these needs could best be met.

The intention was to consider the outcome of the consultation and agree proposals by the end of the financial year and then go out for further consultation.

Members asked questions and emphasised the importance of people in the area responding to the consultation. The Town Council would agree its response at the next meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee.

RESOLVED: that the decision on a response to the Bridport Adult Social Care consultation be delegated to the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee. As the response deadline was 7 March 2014, the date of the next Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee be brought forward from 19 March to 26 February 2014 at 7.00pm in Mountfield.

#### **55. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL 2014/15**

The Town Clerk reported that the following nominations had been received:

Town Mayor - Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray  
Deputy Town Mayor - Cllr G.J. Ackerman  
Leader of the Council - Cllr Ms S.J. Williams

No further nominations had been received. Therefore the received nominations were put to the vote and it was:

RESOLVED: that the Town Council's preferred candidates for the following offices in 2014/15, to go forward to the Annual Town Council meeting (Mayor Making), be approved as follows:

Town Mayor - Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray  
Deputy Town Mayor - Cllr G.J. Ackerman  
Leader of the Council - Cllr Ms S.J. Williams

#### **56. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 2781.

The Town Clerk reminded members that the annual Spirit of Bridport Community Fair was to be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 1 February from 9.00am to 3.00pm.

The Town Clerk added that he was pleased to announce that two Town Councillors had been shortlisted in the national Local Government Information Unit and CCLA Councillor Achievement Awards 2014.

Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes had been shortlisted in the community champion category and Cllr D.R. Tett had been shortlisted in the judges' special award category. The winners would be announced at a ceremony in London on 25 February 2014.

The meeting closed at **8.20pm**

**The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 15 April 2014**