

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 30 November 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr G.J. Ackerman – Town Mayor

Cllr	K.A. Day	Mrs M.J. Ray
	J.D. Hunt	D.G. Rickard
	Ms R.C. Kayes	K.G. Wallace
	P.J. Lathey	C.D. Wild
	Ms F.K. McKenzie	Ms S.J. Williams
	C.M. Ray	

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Town Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Janis Moore, said prayers.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Tony Edwards, Chairman of the Bridport Local Area Partnership, thanked the Town Council for its ongoing support of the Partnership.

27. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs: R.J. Stoodley and D.R. Tett.

28. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C.D. Wild declared a personal interest as Chairman of the Bridport Environment Group, which had made representations to Dorset County Council in respect of the street lighting issue, which was also a recommendation on this agenda. It was not considered to be a prejudicial interest.

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

30. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

31. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meetings of the Plans Committee held on 4 October and 1 November 2010 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams. Each set of minutes were considered separately.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meetings of the Plans Committee held on 4 October and 1 November 2010 be received.

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

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 24 November 2010 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 24 November 2010 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Minute 57) TOWN HALL AND BUCKY DOO WORKING PARTY

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor Mrs M.J. Ray. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the current position on the relocation of the Town Hall toilets be noted and West Dorset District Council be advised that, based on the options available to it, the Town Council's preferred location remained South Street Car Park. Although it had been hoped that the toilets could have been sited nearer the entrance, it was noted that for planning and highways reasons, the District Council had advised that this was not an option. The revised plan did seek to address the concerns raised and West Dorset District Council be asked to progress the revised proposal.

(Minute 62) REPLACEMENT STREET LIGHTING – TOWN CENTRE

Members raised a number of concerns in relation to the ongoing street lighting replacement programme including:

- the number and type of columns being installed as part of the contract, in particular the proposals for the town centre. The definition of the town centre should also be looked at to consider inclusion of the bottom of South Street to cover the row of cottages beyond the Woodman.
- in relation to the town centre proposals, there was a need to take expert and independent advice to ensure that the scheme was in keeping with the area and all options should be looked at, including the possibility of putting the lights on buildings and looking at the heights.
- the terms of the contract between Dorset County Council and SEC were questioned and it was asked if further information could be obtained on this issue. It was felt that the County Council should be asked to contribute towards the costs of lighting that was in keeping with the town

centre and that for towns like Bridport, this should have been included in the contract.

- Whilst it was recognised that columns were continuing to be installed outside the town centre, members still had concerns about this process, the number of columns and the consultation process. It was asked if this could also be discussed with SEC.

Councillor Ms R.C. Kayes moved an amendment to refer to the concerns that it was understood that Dorset County Council would not consider a contribution towards the costs of lighting in keeping with the town centre and also to refer to the need to take independent advice.

The suggested amendments were agreed and the amended recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor Ms R.C. Kayes. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

- RESOLVED: (1) that as part of the SEC street lighting replacement programme, the Town Council confirms its wish to have "heritage style" lighting installed in the town centre, this being the area designated as the Primary Shopping Area in the Local Plan (subject to consideration of inclusion of the bottom of South Street) and expresses its concern that it appeared that Dorset County Council was not willing to meet the costs of this lighting.
- (2) that further discussions take place with the County Council and SEC, and independent advice be sought, on the numbers of columns and other options for the street lighting in the town centre; and potential funding sources be identified, with a report back to the January meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. The concerns of members as set out in the preamble to this resolution to be also raised as part of these discussions.

(Minute 64) MULTI USE GAMES ARENA

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor K.G. Wallace. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

- RESOLVED: that the Town Surveyor progress a scheme to install a multi use games arena, as outlined in this report and bring forward a project plan to be considered for funding in 2011/12.

(Minute 65) EXTERNAL AUDIT 2009/2010

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor D.G. Rickard. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

- RESOLVED: (1) that the formal completion of the audit be noted,
- (2) that the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2010 be now formally approved (as unchanged from when reported to Council on 22 June) and
- (3) that further public notice of the completion of the Audit be given, as required by the External Auditor.

(Minute 66) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2010/2011 – 2ND REVISION

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor Mrs M.J. Ray. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the 2nd revision of the 2010/2011 estimates be approved.

(Minute 67) MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES REVIEW

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor D.G. Rickard. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that West Dorset District Council be notified that the Town Council would wish to offer to pay allowances after May 2011, following consideration of the recommendations of the independent West Dorset Panel.

(Minute 73) BROADBAND

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor K.G. Wallace. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that the current position be noted and the Town Clerk write to the local MP to ask that he follow up on the possibility of the potential extra funding (that may be available as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review and the change in the BBC licence fee) being used to help establish Broadband throughout the whole of Dorset.

(Minute 74) BRIDPORT AND DISTRICT TOURISM ASSOCIATION

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor D.G. Rickard. It was put to the vote and declared to be carried and

- RESOLVED: (1) that the Town Council joins the Bridport and District Tourism Association at an annual cost of £20.
- (2) that Councillor K.G. Wallace be nominated as the Town Council's representative.

(Minute 75) DEMOCRACY DAY

The Committee Chairman, Councillor C.M. Ray, referred to minute 75 which was not a recommendation. However, he stated that it had been a very successful event and the Town Clerk referred members to the presentations displayed around the Chamber. These had been prepared by the students, as part of the Democracy Day, to show which policies they would like to see introduced into Bridport. The issues raised would be considered as part of next year's review of the Town Plan.

This was noted by members.

(c) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 17 November 2010 were presented by Councillor D.G. Rickard, Vice Chairman of the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 17 November 2010 be received.

32. BOURNEMOUTH, DORSET AND POOLE MINERALS DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – DRAFT MINERALS CORE STRATEGY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2308.

RESOLVED: that the consultation be noted, the general approach of the strategy be supported and that no further comments be made at this stage, pending the identification of site specific allocations.

33. PLANNING OBLIGATIONS GUIDELINES – DRAFT PROTOCOL FOR ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2306.

RESOLVED: that the response on the proposed protocol for the allocation of funding from planning obligations be approved as set out in the report.

34. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 2307 and particularly highlighted the support shown by the town for the Remembrance Day Parade and Service.
- (2) The Leader of the Council reported that he had attended the West Dorset Partnership Annual Assembly on 25 November, where there was a presentation on the new planning system. West Dorset District Council had been chosen to be a pilot for the new neighbourhood planning system, to be introduced through the Localism Bill. Local communities, including local

councils, were being asked to indicate if they would be interested in being selected as a pilot area for neighbourhood plans, to be introduced under the new system. The sizes of the pilot areas had not yet been decided. However, expressions of interest from communities were being sought before the end of December. Members generally supported the suggestion that the Town Council should consider this opportunity and the Leader stated that the Town Council would be asked to formally express its interest at the Plans Committee on 6 December.

- (3) The Town Clerk reported that: -
- (a) the Christmas festival was to take place on 8 December with the lights being switched on at 6pm.
 - (b) the proposed name for the new public toilets being built in West Bay, by the District Council was to be the "Mound Public Toilets".

The meeting closed at **7.50 p.m.**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 1 February 2011