

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE
of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday
6 June 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Ms R.C. Kayes (from item 2)

E.T. Colfox

Ms A-M.A. Vincent

D.G. Rickard

Ms S.J. Williams

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes be elected Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/2013.

Councillor Ms R.C. Kayes in the Chair

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Cllr Ms A-M.A. Vincent be elected Vice Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/2013.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs: G.J. Ackerman and P.J. Colfox.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 March 2012 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes declared a personal interest, should the issue of the South West Quadrant be raised, as she was a member of the Industrial & Provident Society.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

Mr Brian Atkinson made a presentation on his proposals to conduct an environmental audit of the Town Council's building and services, with a view to making recommendations on a carbon management plan. He said that he would report his findings back to this Committee.

Members thanked Brian for the presentation and for undertaking this project, which it was agreed would be very beneficial for the Town Council.

RESOLVED: that the presentation be noted.

7. DRAFT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION – COMMENTS OF TOWN COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP

Councillors considered the minutes of the meetings of the Local Plan Working Group, ENCL: 2543.

Members considered the comments from the first meeting of the Working Group, that looked at Part 2 of the draft Local Plan on Environment and Climate Change.

It was felt also that para 2.4 could be strengthened to specify that the planning process should look to positively mitigate against climate change and not just to be reactive.

RESOLVED: that the comments from the Local Plan Working Group on the Environment and Climate Change section of the draft Local Plan be endorsed, with the additional comment as above.

8. COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANELS

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2542.

RESOLVED: that the update on Community Justice Panels be noted.

9. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Consideration was given to ENCL: 2546.

Members considered the BLAP report on the recent affordable housing seminar. The BLAP report was welcomed.

In discussion of the report, members emphasised that it was important that housing provided as affordable, continued to remain so. It was felt that this matter should be raised with the local MP, Oliver Letwin.

RECOMMEND: that concerns regarding schemes that could allow affordable homes to be bought and subsequently sold on the open market, with the consequent impact on the level of affordable housing, be raised with Oliver Letwin MP.

10. LAND AT PARK ROAD

The Town Clerk presented a design for a new notice board on the site and the proposed new name of Jubilee Green. The proposals were supported by the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the proposed name of the land at Park Road - Jubilee Green - and the new notice board, be approved.

11. BOROUGH GARDENS

It was reported that an Open Day was to be held on 13 June to launch the consultation on the options for improving the Borough Gardens.

RESOLVED: that the consultation on improvements to the Borough Gardens be noted.

12. HEALTH SERVICES

The Committee expressed concerns regarding the outcome of the County Health Scrutiny consideration of the proposals for Bridport Community Hospital. In terms of the mental health service changes, it was noted that there had been a further period of public consultation, but that locally it was still proposed to remove the beds from the Hughes Unit.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

13. DOG FOULING – DISTRICT COUNCIL SCRUTINY REVIEW

Consideration was given to ENCL: 2545.

It was noted that there was an opportunity to submit comments and evidence to the District Council and it was felt that the information should be collated and brought back to this Committee, to allow a submission to be made on behalf of the Town Council. It was to be reported back to the District Council in October 2012.

RESOLVED: that the proposed review be noted and the Town Council prepare a response, to be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

14. CONSULTATION ON DAY SERVICES AND VOCATIONAL SERVICE PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Consideration was given to ENCL: 2544.

Members discussed the proposals and expressed concerns about the potential impact of the changes on the services provided in Bridport. It was felt that the Town Council should be asked to agree a response.

RECOMMEND: that the Town Council agree a response to the County Council consultation on the future development of day and vocational services.

15. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Food Festival – the Festival was taking place on Asker Meadows on 16 June.

Spirit of Bridport – the Chairman reported that the Festival Programme was being finalised and Spirit were working with the Town Council and the Police on the planning for the Olympic Torch coming through Bridport on 12 July.

Citizens' Advice Bureau – Cllr Ms A-M.A. Vincent reported on a recent meeting of the CAB and its current budgetary position.

16. FUTURE REPORTS

There were no additional items raised.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items raised.

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

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 29 August 2012