

Minutes of the MEETING of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 7 March 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr C.D. Wild (Chairman)

Cllrs: Mrs G.L. Fifield
Ms R.C. Kayes

C.M. Ray
Mrs M.J. Ray
K.G. Wallace

PUBLIC FORUM

On behalf of Mrs Lisa Bulled the Town Clerk read an e-mail outlining her concerns (see minute 14) that some local licensed premises (should they choose to do so) would be providing patio heaters for smokers to smoke outside their premises once the new prohibition of smoking legislation comes into force on 1 July 2007. Mrs Bulled (a smoker) was worried about the impact of these patio heaters on the environment and would like smokers to think about these implications.

Mr John McHugh congratulated the Town Council for forming a committee of this type and hoped that it would impress upon West Dorset District Council and Dorset County Council the need to enforce its statutory obligations. He will be particularly interested to see that as much time and effort as possible is given to controlling litter, graffiti, fly posting and dog fouling by the principal authorities.

11. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: G.J. Ackerman and Ms F.K. McKenzie.

12. MINUTES

The minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Committee held on 8 November 2006 were confirmed as a correct and true record and signed by the Chairman.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Mrs. G.L. Fifield declared a personal interest being a member of the Bridport Environment Group.

Cllr. C.D. Wild declared a personal interest being a member of the Bridport Environment Group.

14. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACT 2006

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 1747.

RECOMMENDED: that

(a) the report be received,

- (b) a meeting with interested organisations be arranged to discuss the issues of Global Warming and Climate Change as a precursor to the town council arranging a public “Environment and Energy Day”,
- (c) the town council hosts an open public meeting following (b).
- (d) the above topic be included in a future Town Council newsletter.

15. PILOT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT: MOUNTFIELD

(a) The Town Clerk reported the progress regarding the “greening” of the Mountfield Office building. He outlined the purpose and the scope of the audit, together with the advice given by a local environmental company and from the Team Leader of the DCC Energy Team. He had also contacted the Carbon Trust, which had published a useful good practice guide for small businesses.

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The focus of the audit would be to initially gather as much information as possible so that the town council can identify where energy savings could be possibly achieved and or to instigate improvements to reduce the carbon footprint of the building. He advised that some of the work could be undertaken in house by the Town Surveyor and where appropriate, external assistance may have to be procured.

RECOMMENDED: that;

- (a) the report be received,
- (b) the environmental audit initially focuses on the collating of information concerning energy and water usage and the use of materials and operating systems,
- (c) the Town Surveyor reports the findings obtained from (b) to a future meeting of this Committee.

16. OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION TASK FORCE

(a) Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces and Recreation Task Force held on 20 February 2007. In respect of 3.1, the Town Clerk advised he would investigate the whereabouts of a possible Management Plan and or a Deed of Stewardship. In respect of 3.3 attention was drawn to the graffiti at Chancery House.

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RESOLVED: that the minutes be received and the actions identified by the Task Force be endorsed.

17. INCLUSION WORKING PARTY: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to the draft Terms of Reference, ENCL: 1745.

RECOMMENDED: that the draft Terms of Reference be received and the first meeting of the working party be arranged after the forthcoming May elections.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk reported receipt of letters from the: -

- (a) South West Multi-Cultural Network, advising that their Annual General Meeting would be held at St Mary's Church Hall, South Street, Bridport on Saturday 24 March 2007, from 1100 to 1200, followed by a family social event, 1200-1500.
- (b) Paul Lashmar outlining a summary of the discussions that the St Andrews Road, West Allington and Victoria Grove Residents Associations had with the Local Police, concerning the levels of anti social behaviour and the Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Initiative.

Arising from this summary, the Town Clerk advised that PC Scott McGregor had contacted him to inform him that the Police are planning to organise a meeting with a range of local organisations and community groups to discuss Bridport's implementation of the Neighbourhoods Policing Initiative. This meeting may then lead to the holding of a Public Forum. The Town Clerk advised PC Scott McGregor that the town council would be supportive of such moves and would make their premises available for the proposed meetings.

- (c) Mrs Linda Bullock had provided a copy of her letter to WDDC Licensing Committee, raising concerns, along with other residents of Chardsmead Road and lower Victoria Grove, about the level of noise emanating from the music provided at West 1 premises in West Street during the nighttime.
- (d) Mr J.M. Hughes of Lodgers, with a suggested idea of introducing a cleanliness competition with a view to reducing general litter levels. The Town Clerk had forwarded this letter on to WDDC being their direct responsibility for this matter.
- (e) that the Smoke Free legislation in public properties comes into force on 1 July 2007. It is current council policy that all its premises and meetings are smoke free.
- (f) updating the current position regarding the MSC Napoli and the operation to remove its cargo.

19. DOCUMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE

The following documents, ENCL. 1748, were laid on the table for inspection by Town Councillors:

	Received
1. WDDC Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee agenda and Corporate Performance 2006-2007: Half-Year Report.	21/11/06
2. Environment Agency	
(a) Flood Warden Newsletter – Wessex South December 2006.	02/01/07
(b) Informing you – Our priorities for South Wessex area 2006-07.	02/01/07

The meeting closed at **8.05 p.m.**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on a date to be agreed