

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 24 January 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Ros Kayes – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr Geoffrey Ackerman
Kelvin Clayton
Terry Harrison
Sarah Horniman
Barry Irvine
Julian Jones

Gill Massey
Maggie Ray
Martin Ray
Anne Rickard
Dave Rickard
Sarah Williams

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Play and Recreation Areas, including the Skate Park

The Mayor welcomed the public to the meeting and explained the background to the Public Forum, on the subject of Play and Recreation Areas.

Representatives from the newly formed skate park steering group spoke in support of their proposals to make the outdoor facility fully accessible, including options to enclose the area and to incorporate elements of the Trick Factory.

The speakers were Joe Hewetson, Morgan Scadding, Charlie King, Ian Black and Debbie King.

Vee Driscoll spoke about the wider issue of needing to look at all the town's play areas, especially bearing in mind the impressive and popular West Bay Play Area.

Arthur Woodgate mentioned the partnership working on the West Bay Play Area and how that project showed the need to work with young people and provide facilities for young people of all ages.

Brian Shelley of Bridport Runners asked that provision for runners and a trim trail were included in the review.

James Stone reiterated the comments of Mr Shelley and felt that provision of a trim trail facility would bring athletes in to the town.

Public Forum

Lewis Gerolemou, Barry Bates and Gavin Fryer all expressed their concern regarding the Vearse Farm development proposals and the potential impact on flooding. They stressed the need to ensure that the updated flood maps issued by the Environment Agency were used to assess the impact of any development on this site.

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Sarah Williams, said that she understood that the Environment Agency and Hallam Land were in discussions regarding this issue.

Linda Hull and Clare Smith spoke about their project “Caring Bridport” which was looking for data on what was currently available in terms of health and social care services and any gaps in provision. They hoped to work with BLAP and would be pleased to speak to anyone able to help.

The Mayor, Cllr Ros Kayes, mentioned work previously undertaken by the County Council on this issue.

On this issue, Maureen Jackson of BLAP also highlighted the role of BLAP and previous meetings she had had with Communities Living Sustainably.

The Mayor thanked everyone who had spoken in the Public Forum. In respect of comments made in the Public Open Forum on Play and Recreation Areas and the Skate Park, she added that these matters would be addressed as part of the forthcoming consultation.

39. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Jeremy Brodie, Keith Day and Frances McKenzie.

40. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

42. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

43. BRIDPORT COMMUNITY HUB

The Dorset County Council Project Manager, Roger Ball, and Kelvin Bland, Architect, provided an update on the latest position on the project. They circulated the latest draft of the drawings for the new hub.

Members asked questions and it was agreed that the display boards would be available for members for another two days. There would be further consultation when the plans were issued, which it was hoped would be before the County Council Elections.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

44. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 November 2016 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 November 2016 be received.

(b) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 9 January 2017 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 9 January 2017 be received.

(c) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 18 January 2017 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Maggie Ray.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 18 January 2017 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 91) BEST VALUE AND SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED: that councillors Gillian Massey and Sarah Williams be added to the list of councillors authorised to approve payments.

(Minute 94) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2016/2017 – 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 2016/2017 be approved.

(Minute 95) BUDGET AND ESTIMATES 2017/2018

Members discussed the proposed budget, precept request and challenges facing the Town Council in the coming and future years, as set out in the report and Committee minutes.

The Town Clerk reported a minor amendment to the calculation of the annual increase and percentage shown in the minutes and in the agenda for each of the options. This only affected the calculation of the annual Band 'D' increase for each of the options. The correct figures for the Annual increases were:

Option 1 £4.81 (2.63%) - £4.76 and 2.60% in report
Option 2 £8.23 (4.49%) – £8.18 and 4.46% in report
Option 3 £11.65 (6.36%) -£11.60 and 6.33% in report

It was unanimously agreed that Option 3, recommended by the Finance and General Purposes Committee with the increased precept figures as in the report and on the agenda, should be supported, and that an additional £10,000 for future delegated services should be allocated in the budget - £5,000 under Delegated Services and £5,000 to Town Plan Projects.

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

- RESOLVED:
- (a) that the draft estimates for 2017/18 be approved as attached in Appendix A, subject to the allocation of the additional £10,000 as above.
 - (b) that the proposed fees and charges for 2017/18 be approved as set out in Appendix B, with a fundamental review of all charges during the year.
 - (c) that the level and proposals for the use of reserves for 2017/18 be approved, as set out in section 4 of the report.
 - (d) that the Medium Term Financial Plan be approved as a guide for future years, as in Appendix C, noting that each year's budget will be subject to separate approval.
 - (e) that in terms of the precept, Option 3 be approved, which would increase the precept by £33,909 and, including the Local Council Tax Support Grant, would raise £582,700 broken down as follows:

Precept (funded through the Council Tax): £569,698
Local Council Tax Support Grant: £ 13,002

The annual Band 'D' charge to increase from £183.22 to £194.87 (6.36%).

(Minute 96) MARKET – ADOPTION OF THE FOOD ACT 1984

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

- RESOLVED: that the provisions of Part III of the Food Act 1984 be adopted and a further report be submitted with proposals for a market rights policy.

(Minute 99) REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT AND APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2017/18

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

RESOLVED: that the existing internal audit arrangements continue for 2017/18.

(Minute 100) RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT: ANNUAL REVIEW

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, as attached to the Committee report.

(Minute 101) MANAGEMENT OF 'A' BOARDS AND SITTING OUT LICENCES

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

RESOLVED: that in principle, the Town Council takes responsibility for the management of 'A' boards and sitting out licences, subject to the details being reported to the next Highways Working Group and approved by the full Council.

Under the Town Surveyor's report (min no.101) members thanked the Town Surveyor and his team for their work on the Tourist Information Centre refit.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 11 January 2017 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Dave Rickard.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 11 January 2017 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 49) "IMPROVING DORSET'S HEALTH CARE" NHS CONSULTATION

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

RESOLVED: that the key issues to be addressed in the Town Council's response to the NHS Consultation "Improving Dorset's Healthcare" be approved as set out in the minutes and the

final detailed response be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with a working group of members.

(Minute 50) OPEN SPACES WORKING GROUP – AUDIT OF PLAY AREAS

Members welcomed the contributions earlier in the Public Open Forum. The proposed consultation exercise would be an opportunity to get the views of users and non-users, both on what is currently provided at play areas and what people would like to see. This could pick up ideas for a new trim trail and the initial proposals for the skate park.

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

- RESOLVED:
1. that a public consultation exercise be undertaken, to see what people would like to see at all play areas.
 2. that following the consultation, a ten year replacement / maintenance Plan be brought forward, with proposals for all the sites.

(Minute 51) PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS (RELATED TO DOGS) CONSULTATION

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

- RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to make a general response, taking account of the comments in the minutes and in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

(Minute 52) PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS (RELATED TO ANTI-SOCIAL DRINKING, AGGRESSIVE BEGGING AND FEEDING OF GULLS) CONSULTATION

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

- RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to make a general response, taking account of the comments in the minutes and in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

45. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL 2017/2018

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

Town Mayor – Cllr Anne Rickard

Proposed by Cllr Sarah Horniman and seconded by Cllr Gill Massey.

Deputy Town Mayor - Cllr Barry Irvine
Proposed by Cllr Maggie Ray and seconded by Cllr Martin Ray.

Leader of the Council - Cllr Sarah Williams
Proposed by Cllr Dave Rickard and seconded by Cllr Anne Rickard.

No further nominations had been received.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council's preferred candidates for the positions of Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and Leader of the Council for 2017/18 be approved as listed above, to go forward to the Annual Town Council meeting (Mayor Making), where the elections to these posts shall take place.

46. REPORT BACK FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Martin Ray reported on the recent meeting of the Bridport and District Tourism Association. Simon Miles had been elected as the new Chairman. The Association was pleased with the plans for the Town Council's management of the Tourist Information Centre. It also hoped that when the Development Control Committee at the District Council was to consider the St Michael's Trading Estate planning application, that this meeting would take place in Bridport. At this stage the application had not been registered.

There were no further reports.

47. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 3170 and that she would be attending the Community Fair in the Town Hall on 4 February, followed in the evening by her Mayoral charities quiz, at the same venue.

The Mayor mentioned a report she had received regarding Magna Housing and empty properties and it was asked if the position could be confirmed.

- (2) The Leader of the Council reported that a Town Councillors team was to participate in the Mayoral Quiz on 4 February.
- (3) The Town Clerk also mentioned the Community Fair, to be held on 4 February, from 9am to 2pm, in the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at **8.35pm**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 28 March 2017