

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in Mountfield, Bridport on Tuesday 1 February 2011 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr G.J. Ackerman – Town Mayor

Cllr	N.K. Cast	D.G. Rickard
	J.D. Hunt	R.J. Stoodley
	Ms F.K. McKenzie	D.R. Tett
	C.M. Ray	K.G. Wallace
	Mrs M.J. Ray	Ms S.J. Williams

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

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

35. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs: Miss S.A. Brown, P.J. Colfox, K.A. Day, Ms R.C. Kayes and C.D. Wild.

36. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

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

38. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

Two questions pursuant to standing order 14(b) had been submitted by Councillor P.J. Colfox.

Councillor P.J. Colfox had given notice of the following two questions:

- a. Would the Council be willing to support a viable scheme put forward by the Bridport Gig Rowing Club for a community water sports facility which might or might not include the Methodist Chapel or other suitable building with a view of the sea that could form a viewing platform for Regattas and Races at sea? Such a facility is in the town plan and would be of immense benefit to residents, visitors and local businesses alike.
- b. Re earmarking of £100k for the fishing jetty at West Bay. The District Council appear to propose to transfer this money to the highways budget. Could this Council please pass a resolution asking its members who also represent

Bridport on the higher level councils actively to fight for this money to be reallocated to West Bay and for example to the Multi-Water Sports facility, which forms part of the town plan.

The Town Clerk reported that in respect of question (a), the future of the Methodist Chapel was due to be discussed later under agenda item 5 and the consideration of the recommendations from the Finance and General Purposes Committee (minute 110). In respect of question (b), the Town Council was being asked to respond to the District Council on this matter under agenda item 7.

39. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meetings of the Plans Committee held on 6 December 2010 and 10 January 2011 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 6 December 2010 and 10 January 2011 be received.

(b) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the special Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 9 December 2010 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor C.M. Ray.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the special meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 9 December 2010 be received.

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 19 January 2011 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 19 January 2011 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Minute 95) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2010/2011 – 3RD REVISION

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

RESOLVED: that the 3rd revision of the 2010/2011 estimates be approved.

(Minute 96) BUDGET AND ESTIMATES 2011/2012

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

- RESOLVED:
- (1) that the use of reserves as set out in paragraph 4 of the report be approved for 2011/12,
 - (2) that the draft estimates for 2011/12 as set out as Appendix A to the report be approved,
 - (3) that the proposed fees and charges set out in Appendix B to the report be approved for 2011/12, and
 - (4) that the precept levied by the Town Council for 2011/12 shall be £398,194 (option 1 in the report). The Band D charge to remain unchanged at £119.47.

(Minute 99) REPLACEMENT STREET LIGHTING – TOWN CENTRE

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

RESOLVED: that the outline proposals for the replacement street lighting in the town centre - no additional columns, columns replaced to be “heritage style” and other lighting required to be on buildings - be agreed for further development with the County Council and SEC. The Committee to receive a report back to a future meeting on how the scheme will be delivered – timescale, wayleave approvals and funding etc.

(Minute 100) PART NIGHT STREET LIGHTING

The recommendation was moved by Councillor C.M. Ray and seconded by Councillor Mrs M.J. Ray.

Members generally supported the intention to reduce energy costs and reduce carbon emissions and made the following comments:

- before they could comment in full they would need more information and to see the detail. It was understood that the main town streets (south, east and west) and the A and B routes into town would remain lit. Members agreed that well used routes into and out of the town centre should continue to be lit.
- there could not be a blanket policy that covered all residential areas, as some areas would continue to need street lighting. Public safety needed to be considered and the local police should also be consulted on public safety issues. It was understood that the Town Council would have an opportunity to suggest areas to remain lit, before the new scheme was introduced in Bridport.

RESOLVED: that the Dorset County Council proposals for part night street lighting be noted with the comments above.

(Minute 101) DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION

Members noted that so far, the Town Council had also been contacted regarding proposals for the following County Council services:

Library Service - Bridport was listed as one of the 14 main libraries to continue, but members noted that there was to be consultation on the library provision in up to 20 other communities, where there were currently library buildings and expressed their concerns and support for the maintenance of these community libraries.

School Crossing Patrol Service (SCP) - the County was withdrawing funding from the service over the next 12 months. There were two patrols in this area, in St Andrews Road and Sea Road North and there would be a period of time to decide whether there was local support for funding these services. Members felt that the County Council should continue to provide and fund the School Crossing Patrol Service and that in view of the health and safety considerations, that this was not something that local communities should be asked to fund.

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

- RESOLVED:
- (1) that the report be noted and the response on the Dorset County Council Budget consultation be approved,
 - (2) that further reports be received on the implications of specific service proposals, as outlined in the report and the responses on the Dorset County Council's proposals for the Library Service and School Crossing Patrols be approved as set out above, and
 - (3) that this Committee receive regular updates on the County Council budgetary proposals.

(Minute 104) REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT

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

- RESOLVED:
- (1) that the review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Arrangements be noted and endorsed,
 - (2) that the existing internal audit arrangements continue, and
 - (3) that the internal audit programme for the year 2011/2012 be approved.

(Minute 105) REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

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

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

(Minute 106) FREEDOM MARCH – 26 MARCH 2011

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

RESOLVED: that the arrangements for the Freedom March be approved.

(Minute 110) WDDC – ASSET TRANSFERS

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

- RESOLVED: (1) that in response to the invitation received from West Dorset District Council in respect of asset transfers, the Town Council indicate its interest in the following land and properties:
- Football field, Bridport
 - Recreation Ground, Flaxhayes, Bridport
 - Land at Victoria Grove, Bridport
 - Land at South Mill Lane, Bridport
 - Park Road, Bridport
 - Salt House West Bay, Including Fisherman's Green and Public Convenience Block
 - the Boot, Asker Meadows,
- (2) that each of these assets be looked at in detail by the Open Spaces Working Group, with further reports to this Committee and the full Council, before a firm commitment is given to proceed with the transfers, and
- (3) that in response to the offer on the Methodist Chapel, West Bay that West Dorset District Council be notified that in view of the restrictions on the potential use of this building and the Town Council's current and future commitments, it was not in a position to take ownership of this property but would continue to support the museum option (interpretation/visitor attraction), subject to the museum confirming its interest, and to look at how this can be best progressed, whilst not precluding other suitable options.

(Minute 111) PLOTTINGHAM LEASES

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

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to renew the leases for each of the existing Plottingham tenants - Bridport Sea Scouts and Bridport Sea Cadets - on the existing terms, including a nominal rent of £10 a year for no more than 25 years.

40. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2336.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the independent allowances panel, as set out in the report, be approved and the basic allowance for 2011/12, within the scheme of allowances, shall be £733 - 15% of the West Dorset District Council basic allowance - subject to confirmation from West Dorset District Council of its allowances for next year.

41. WEST BAY FUNDING OPTIONS

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2338.

Members agreed that they would not wish to see the funding, earmarked for the sea angling jetty, used for highways improvements and that they would support the retention of the funding for amenity projects in West Bay, such as the transfer of the Salt House, Fisherman's Green and the public toilet building (to be converted for use as water sport storage).

RESOLVED:

(a) that the Town Council would wish to see the funding earmarked for the sea angling jetty retained for water based and local amenity projects in West Bay, including to support the transfer of the Salt House and other assets at that location as set out above, and

(b) this matter be considered further at the Open Spaces Working Group and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to respond to West Dorset District Council.

42. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 2332.
- (2) The Town Clerk reported that the Spirit of Bridport event would take place in the Arts Centre on Saturday 5 February 2011, from 10am to 2pm.
- (3) The Leader of the Council reported further on the Spirit of Bridport event and hoped that members would support the event, if they were able to do so.

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

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 19 April 2011