

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE  
of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 15 September  
2014 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: D.G. Rickard (Chairman from item 2)  
G.J. Ackerman Mrs E.A. Rickard  
Ms R.C. Kayes Ms A-M.A. Vincent  
Ms S.J. Williams

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers in the public forum.

#### **1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: that Cllr D.G. Rickard be elected Chairman of the Committee for the  
municipal year 2014/2015.

Councillor D.G. Rickard 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 2014/2015.

#### **3. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 March 2014 were  
confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **6. CHILDREN SERVICES REVIEW**

The Committee received an update on the review from the Dorset County Council's  
Head of Service - Family Support, Vanessa Glen.

It was stated that the services were being restructured, looking at the best outcome for  
children and young people. This included reviewing care and support services for  
children, looking to provide a consistent model of care within the service. Also, the  
early help preventative model was being looked at, to move to multi-professional  
teams, located across the county, including Bridport, in the Children's Centre.

These proposals were being finalised and would go to County members in  
November and then out for consultation with stakeholders.

The proposals for youth centres would also be considered by members in November. Whilst no decisions had yet been taken regarding buildings, they wanted to keep both the children's centre and the youth centre buildings in Bridport. The professional care teams, including those currently at the Youth Centre, would relocate to the children's centre, but the County Council would like to talk to the community about support for future youth work at the Youth Centre. It was emphasised that the model of delivery in Bridport was one that they wanted to support and it delivered a high level of service. However, the County Council had to look at options for future resourcing of the youth centres.

Members welcomed the reassurances about the Children's Centre and the Youth Centre buildings in Bridport and commented that the future operation and support for the Youth Centre was something that the Town Council and the community would need to consider.

On a separate issue, members asked if the youth offending teams were aware of the West Dorset neighbourhood justice panels' project and it was said that this would be raised with Clive Hawkins at the County Council.

Members thanked Vanessa Glen for attending the meeting and looked forward to taking part in the consultation later this year.

Members agreed that it might be necessary to move the time of the Committee's next meeting, depending on when the consultation on the review was available.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted and the Children Services review be considered further, as part of the formal consultation later this year.

## **7. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE WORKSHOP REPORT BACK**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2875

It was reported that a follow up meeting was to be held later this year, to look at the next steps and begin to produce a plan to address immediate flooding issues. It was also noted that this process would need to involve the County Council and District Council, who were reviewing their emergency planning arrangements.

It was also proposed that a working group of members from this Committee meet to discuss the longer term priorities for the Council to address climate change challenges, such as building adaptations etc., which could feature as part of the neighbourhood plan.

RESOLVED: to note the outcome of the Communities Living Sustainably /Town Council Workshop on community resilience and agree that a working group of members from this Committee meet to consider long term priorities, whilst a follow up workshop be arranged to draw up a Plan for the immediate challenges of flooding and extreme weather events.

**8. COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANELS UPDATE**

The Town Clerk reported that a meeting of the Steering Group was to be held in October, to receive an update on the roll out of the project and the future plans of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**9. DORSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP CONSULTATION - STREET CLEANING / LITTER BIN POLICIES**

Councillors considered the consultation at ENCL: 2879.

Members expressed concerns at the proposed reduction in the number of bins and possible reduction in the frequency of emptying. Also, the proposal to remove dog bins, and use general litter bins, was questioned.

It was felt that all members should have the opportunity to comment prior to the Council responding.

RECOMMEND: that all members be invited to comment on the survey and the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Committee Chairman, be given delegated authority to respond.

**10. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT LATEST POSITION**

The Town Clerk reported that the Act now allowed parish and town councils to make proposals to the Government, for a change in legislation that would improve the economic, social or environment well-being of their area. As part of developing a proposal, there should be consultation with the community.

The Chairman suggested two issues that could be looked at:

- Maps being used for satellite navigation should be licensed.
- Providing local assistance on energy use for small and medium sized businesses with less than 200 employees.

RESOLVED: that the proposals above be developed further for consultation and reported back to the Committee.

**11. SOLAR PANELS – FURTHER OPTIONS**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2876.

It was reported that Dorset Community Energy Ltd were offering a free survey of buildings and if suitable, then could install and maintain solar panels providing free electricity, with Dorset Community Energy Ltd receiving the feed-in tariff.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council express its interest in being part of this Programme, seek a site survey and the feasibility report be presented to this Committee, prior to a decision on whether to proceed.

**12. ADULT SOCIAL CARE NEXT STEPS**

The Town Clerk reported that Councillor Jill Haynes, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, will be attending the Town Council on 23 September 2014 to provide an update.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**13. FIRE SERVICES CONSULTATION**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2877.

Members commented that it appeared that the preferred option of the Fire Authority was that it merges with Wiltshire & Swindon Fire Authority, to create a single Combined Fire Authority.

Members emphasised that it was important to receive assurances that the level of service, response times and local resources in the Bridport area would not be adversely affected, if such a merger went ahead. Any service reductions should not be at the local level.

RECOMMEND: that a response on the Fire Services consultation be approved, including the comments above.

**14. MANAGEMENT OF OPEN SPACES – POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2878.

RESOLVED: that a draft management of open spaces policy be considered at a meeting of the Open Spaces Working Group, to be held in October 2014, and reported back to this Committee.

**15. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Dorset Coast Forum: Members generally supported the Forum's proposed litter Free Coast Initiative and also asked for information on any advice given in other towns on environmentally friendly food packaging used by food take away outlets.

Cllr D.G. Rickard reported that he had attended the Coast Forum's last meeting and they had issued a lot of information on resilience and climate change, which would be useful for the ongoing work with Communities Living Sustainably.

Cllr G.J. Ackerman reported that the Bridport CAB had received a grant of £1,000 from the Hall and Woodhouse Community Chest awards.

**16. FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no additional reports requested.

**17. CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items raised.

The meeting closed at **8.40 p.m.**

**The next meeting of this committee will be held on 5 November 2014**