

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr	G.J. Ackerman	C.M. Ray
	E.T. Colfox	D.G. Rickard
	P.J. Colfox	Mrs E.A. Rickard
	Ms R.C. Kayes	D.R. Tett
	Ms G.E. Massey	

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

The Mayor made a presentation to Cyril Whitlock, in recognition of his 25 years service as a macebearer. The Mayor said that the Town Council was very grateful indeed to Cyril for his service to the Town Council and his support to a number of Town Mayors. The Mayor was joined by all members in paying tribute to Cyril.

### **45. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Ms A-M.A. Vincent and Ms S.J. Williams.

### **46. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

### **47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All the previously recorded interests declared under this item in the Committee minutes were noted. Cllr P.J. Colfox added that he would declare an interest in land at Vearse Farm and would leave the room should that site be raised for discussion under the Local Plan modifications item (agenda item 8).

### **48. STANDING ORDER 14(b)**

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

### **49. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

#### **(a) PLANS COMMITTEE**

In the absence of the Committee Chairman and Vice- Chairman, the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 February 2015 were presented by Committee member, Councillor G. J. Ackerman.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 February 2015 be received.

(b) PLANS COMMITTEE

In the absence of the Committee Chairman and Vice- Chairman, the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 March 2015 were presented by Committee member, Councillor G. J. Ackerman.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 2 March 2015 be received.

(c) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 10 February 2015 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor D.G. Rickard.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 10 February 2015 be received and the recommendation therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 44) SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT MOTIONS

The Chairman said that he would wish to amend the recommendation to read “ that under the Sustainable Communities Act, the Government be asked to support the licensing and regulation of **the maps used in** Satellite Navigation devices, to ensure that they did not encourage vehicles to use unsuitable roads with the corresponding disturbance for local residents.”

The amendment was accepted by the meeting. The recommendation, after being moved and seconded, was put to the vote, declared to be carried and

RESOLVED: that under the Sustainable Communities Act, the Government be asked to support the licensing and regulation of the maps used in Satellite Navigation devices, to ensure that they did not encourage vehicles to use unsuitable roads with the corresponding disturbance for local residents

(d) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11 March 2015 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 11 March 2015 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 151) BEST VALUE MINUTE 29 - INVESTMENT REVIEW 2014/15 AND STRATEGY 2015/16

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

RESOLVED: that the Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15, attached as an Appendix to the report, be adopted without amendment for 2015/16.

(Minute 151) BEST VALUE MINUTE 31 - REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

RESOLVED: that Standing Orders be amended, to allow for the electronic distribution of agendas, as set out in the report.

(Minute 151) BEST VALUE MINUTE 32 - ASSET REGISTER

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

RESOLVED: that the Asset Register be approved for 2015 and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to make any final amendments.

(Minute 161) INTRODUCING THE CARE ACT CONSULTATION

It was noted that there were no specific comments from the Town Council but it was stated that any comments could be raised via the County Councillor.

RESOLVED: that the consultation be noted.

(Minute 164) CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

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

RESOLVED: that the calendar of meetings for 2015/16 be approved.

**50. DORSET CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP – REVIEW OF DORSET HEALTH SERVICES**

This item was moved by the Town Mayor to be the first item on the agenda.

The Town Mayor welcomed to the meeting the following representatives from the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group:

Tim Goodson, Chief Officer  
Kath Florey-Saunders, Head of Review, Design and Delivery, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities  
Blair Miller, a Bridport GP

Following a presentation on the current review, the following issues were raised by members:

1. Some concerns were expressed about the involvement of private companies in aspects the review and in general it was asked if there was a “privatisation agenda” in the provision of health services?
2. What plans were there for better dementia care in West Dorset?
3. There were concerns about the ability to meet the needs of mental patients locally.
4. Travel times were an issue, with many patients having to travel long distances for specialist treatment. Public transport links were poor.
5. Assurances were sought on the future of local health services, including the minor injuries unit at Bridport Hospital.

In response to the questions, it was explained that the review was very much led by clinical priorities. It had been agreed by clinical professionals that the current system needed to be looked at. Where it was necessary, there was some involvement of private companies, including in the review, but there was no “privatisation agenda”. This was a clinically led process, looking at how to provide improved services locally and developing better relationships with other care providers.

Dementia care was one issue being looked at, as part of the review, including options for new care services.

In terms of travel times, the review was looking at how to provide services closer to home. Some specialist services have to be provided in major centres, but many services can and would continue to be offered locally.

The Clinical Commissioning Group representatives were thanked for attending the meeting and it was asked if the Town Council could be kept informed on the progress of the review.

## **51. STANDING ORDER 11 - MOTION**

The motion was moved by Cllr D.G. Rickard and seconded by Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes.

It was noted that this issue had been discussed at the last Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee, which considered the position statement on fracking approved by the West Dorset Partnership and it was considered that this was an issue that affected the Bridport area.

Following discussion, the motion as set out in the agenda was put to the vote and declared to be carried. It was therefore:

RESOLVED: that this Council notes that:

“1. Exploration for fossil fuels reserves that can only be exploited by hydraulic fracturing, or other unconventional methods, undermines action on climate change and diverts resources away from investment in a safe, secure and sustainable low

carbon energy future.

2. There are possible significant adverse impacts from both trial and industrial scale production of fossil fuels by hydraulic fracturing, including:-

- a) immediate impacts on communities in West Dorset, living near deposits.
- b) serious long term impacts, over a very wide area, including water shortage, water pollution and air pollution from the extraction process, in addition to the CO<sub>2</sub> produced when the fuel extracted is used - as highlighted by the European Commission and the UN.
- c) Government legislation in progress allows companies to exploit shale gas reserves under privately owned land, even if the owners object.

This Council calls for:

- 1. Independent assessment of the effect of any proposed extraction:-
  - a) on the availability of water,
  - b) on water quality,
  - c) on the atmosphere, including an assessment of the carbon dioxide equivalent, per unit of usable energy extracted, of all emissions, including:
    - i) those by the ultimate users,
    - ii) those produced in the extraction process, and
    - iii) those likely to come from leakage at all stages (including from any Carbon Capture and storage schemes employed.)
- 2. All planning applications for the use of unconventional methods of extraction, that put the water supply at risk, to be refused.
- 3. The Mineral Planning Authority, Dorset County Council, to consider a ban on new fossil fuel extraction licences within its area.

This Council supports the application of the precautionary principle to its own decision-and policy-making on unconventional fossil fuels, and calls upon Government to respect its decisions.”

## **52. LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION ON FURTHER MODIFICATIONS**

Copies of the proposed comments, which had been recommended by the Local Plan Working Group, had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the proposed comments as circulated prior to the meeting be approved.

## **53. FOOTBALL CLUB CAR PARK FEES**

RESOLVED: that the fees for the Football Club Car Park shall be £2 all day, 50p for 2 hours, and £1.00 for 4 hours (Mon-Sat, 8am -6pm), as from 1 April 2015.

## **54. COMMUNICATIONS**

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 2961.
- (2) As this was the last meeting of the full Council prior to the Elections in May, the Town Mayor thanked all the councillors for their work over the past four years.

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

**The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 4 June 2015  
(Mayor making)**