

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE  
of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 21 October  
2015 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: D.G. Rickard (Chairman)  
J.P. Brodie J.S.L. Jones (until 8pm)  
K.C. Clayton (until 8pm) Ms R.C. Kayes  
Ms S.A. Horniman Mrs E.A. Rickard  
W.B. Irvine

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers in the public forum.

### **36. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cllr E.T. Colfox.

### **37. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 September 2015 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **39. REVIEW OF YOUTH SERVICES**

Councillors considered a report from Dorset County Council, ENCL: 3010.

Vanessa Glenn, Head of Service (Family Support) addressed the Committee and explained the background to the review and the need to make savings, due to increasing demand and reduced budgets. There were no fixed proposals or service models at this stage, as they would welcome any ideas as to how the service could be delivered. The County Council was very aware of the levels of deprivation in Bridport and that the range of services delivered at the Youth Centre and the building itself were very highly valued by the community.

Members thanked Ms Glenn for attending.

The following comments were made by members:

- There was a need to retain the Youth Service and Centre in Bridport, bearing in mind that Bridport had some of the most deprived children in the county.
- The Youth Centre and the services it delivered, were very important for families and young people and must be retained and supported.

- The professionalism of the Youth Centre staff must not be lost. Whilst it was understood that volunteer run services were being looked at elsewhere, this was not considered to be appropriate for an area such as Bridport, with its high levels of deprivation.
- The Town Council would want to be fully involved in this review and it valued the current service very highly. However, it did not have the capacity to consider providing the service itself. The particular needs of the area meant that the service must continue to be provided and to be fully funded by the County Council.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee, be given delegated authority to respond to the consultation, to include the comments above, by the deadline of 27 October.

#### **40. TOWN PLAN – REVIEW OF EXISTING PROJECTS**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3011.

The following comments were made:

- Identification of community composting sites should be added to the Plan.
- It was asked if there could be a report to the next meeting on options for community composting and other ways to deal with green/food waste.
- It was also asked if the Home Project could be invited to a future meeting, to talk about their community gardening/food project at St Mary's.

All members would get an opportunity to comment further on the Town Plan.

RESOLVED: that the projects be noted with the comments as above.

#### **41. DAPTC MOTIONS**

Councillors considered the report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3012.

The Committee supported motion 1 on planning enforcement, subject to any enforcement action being swift and efficient, with additional resources allocated to the service. It also supported motion 2 on SATNAVs, subject to additional wording to specify that the maps used needed to be properly licensed and regulated. There were no comments on motions 3, 4 and 5.

RESOLVED: that the responses to the DAPTC motions be approved as above.

#### **42. SOLAR PANELS - UPDATE**

The Town Clerk reported that it was proposed to bring quotations to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee for the panels at Mountfield and the Cemetery and that the position on planning was being clarified.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**43. DORSET COMMUNITY HUB**

There were no further updates.

RESOLVED: that the position be noted.

**44. DEMOCRACY EVENTS 2015**

The Town Clerk reported that the Exhibition, due to close on 24 October, had so far had around 700 visitors and around 900 attended the event on 17 October at the Electric Palace. It was proposed to hold the councillors' workshop on Monday 2 November at 6pm in the Town Hall.

There had been a good number of citizens' charter forms completed and these would be looked at and would be helpful to feed into the review of the Town Plan.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**45. PLASTIC BAGS**

It was agreed that the Town Council should consider what it could do to encourage shoppers to re-use bags and all shops to consider whether to charge for plastic bags. This would also be raised as part of the Litter Free Dorset campaign.

RECOMMEND: that the Town Council consider what actions it can take to reduce the use of plastic bags in the town.

**46. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

CAB and Arts Centre – Cllr W.B. Irvine reported on the recent meetings with the Town Council to discuss the future service level agreements and grants for each organisation. Both the CAB and Arts Centre were very grateful for the continued support of the Town Council, especially in the light of proposed funding reductions from the District Council.

WATAG – Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes raised the issue of bus service 44, with the buses grounding at Lake Lane and the efforts being made by WATAG and the County Council to resolve this problem. WATAG was also congratulated on its early issue of the winter timetables for the X51 and X53.

Bridport Food Group - Cllr Mrs E.A. Rickard reported that the Group had had a good year and was in a very healthy position.

**47. FUTURE REPORTS**

It was asked if there could be a report to a future meeting on the combined local authority proposal being discussed by the District and County Councils.

**48. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

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

**The next meeting of this Committee will be held on 6 January 2016**