

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 23 September 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Cllr	G.J. Ackerman	C.M. Ray
	Miss S.A. Brown	D.G. Rickard
	Ms R.C. Kayes	Mrs E.A. Rickard
	Ms G.E. Massey	D.R. Tett
	J.T. May	Ms A-M.A. Vincent
	C.O. Michell	Ms S.J. Williams

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor asked that the Council stand in memory of former Town Councillor Bryan Wheeler, who had sadly recently died.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

22. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs E.T. Colfox and Ms G.E. Summers

23. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

25. STANDING ORDER 14 (b)

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

26. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 30 June 2014 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

(Min 12) New Highways Issues – it was asked if the request for road maintenance/ pot hole work at the other locations listed could be followed up with Dorset County Council, as they would be working in this area in October at Coneygar Road.

(Min 5) Issues Raised by WATAG – it was reported that the Leader of the Council, Chairman of Environment & Social Wellbeing and the Town Clerk were to meet with the County Council on 29 September to discuss bus services, which would include the changes to the evening X31 service.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 30 June 2014 be received.

(b) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 28 July 2014 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 28 July 2014 be received.

(c) PLANS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 1 September 2014 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms S.J. Williams.

(Min 40) Ongoing Highway Issues – it was reported that the application for the temporary car park in West Bay Road was on the agenda for the Plans Committee on 29 September 2014 and it was understood that it could then be going to the District Council's Development Control Committee on 16 October 2014, the same date as the Highways and Transportation Sub Committee. The Head of Parking and Traffic had been invited to that Sub Committee meeting. It might therefore be necessary to look at the date of that meeting and the Town Clerk was asked to follow this up.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Plans Committee held on 1 September 2014 be received.

(d) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 23 July 2014 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 23 July 2014 be received.

(e) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 10 September 2014 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 10 September 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 64) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2014/2015 – 1ST REVISION

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

RESOLVED: that the 1st revision of the estimates for the year 2014/2015 be approved.

(Minute 73) EXTERNAL AUDIT 2013/14 - OUTCOME

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

Members congratulated the Finance and Officer Manager on the outcome of the external audit and the reported good feedback from the first visit of the 2014/15 internal audit.

RESOLVED: that the conclusion of the annual audit be noted and the completed Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2013/2014 be approved.

(Minute 75) OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT – AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

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

RESOLVED: that the following amendment to Standing Orders be approved, as below, and the protocol for recording meetings be agreed, as in the appendix to the report.

Para 39(d) to be revised to read: “members of the public are permitted to film or record Council meetings, to which they are permitted access, in a non-disruptive manner and in accordance with the Council’s agreed Protocol. The Chairman of the meeting has the authority to stop a meeting and take appropriate action if any recording is deemed to be disruptive.”

(f) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 15 September 2014 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 15 September 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted as set out below: -

(Minute 9) DORSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP CONSULTATION – STREET CLEANING / LITTER BIN POLICIES

It was reported that there was a lot of public concern about the proposal to allow dog waste to be put in ordinary waste bins and also a feeling that the responsibility and funding for dog bins could be passed to local town and parish councils. These issues needed to be considered in the Town Council's response.

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

RESOLVED: 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.

(Minute 13) FIRE SERVICES CONSULTATION

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

As agreed at the Committee, 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.

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

RESOLVED: that the comments above be approved as the Town Council's response on the Fire Services consultation.

27. ADULT SOCIAL CARE

Councillors received an update presentation from Councillor Jill Haynes, the Dorset County Council Cabinet member for Adult Social Care covering in particular, the community hub proposals, ENCL: 2882.

Councillor Haynes reported that the County Council had looked at two possible sites for a community hub – land behind the Fisherman's Arms and land behind the Library and CAB. The latter site was at this time the most favoured, as it was central and would enable close working with the CAB and the Library.

The proposal to Cabinet was that a detailed feasibility study of the site be undertaken, including the design and what could go into the hub.

If the hub was established at this location, it would free up other land which could be used for supported housing, which the consultation had indicated people wanted to see, following the closure of Sidney Gale.

It was emphasised that the Sidney Gale site would not be closed until replacement care facilities were in place.

In response to questions from members, it was stated that:

- any proceeds from the sale of County Council land would go into the County Council Capital “pot” but it was hoped that Bridport would have a very strong case in bidding for funding from that pot, for the necessary replacement care facilities.
- the separate supported housing, which could be on the freed up Fisherman’s Arms site, could be in a 2/3 storey building, with flats to allow independent living and communal areas. It could also include a dementia suite, respite care and other much needed facilities.
- the CAB would be an integral part of the Community hub.
- the financial case of purchasing the land behind the CAB for the community hub was one of the issues to be considered by the Cabinet.

Members thanked Councillor Haynes for attending the meeting and it was hoped that there would continue to be consultation with the Town Council and the local community on the proposals, including what was to go into the new hub.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

28. WATER SPORTS CENTRE LEASES

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2883.

RESOLVED: that the outline terms for the leases at the Water Sports Centre, West Bay, be approved as set out in the report, to include insurance, and the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, be given delegated authority to complete and sign the leases.

29. DORSET ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS – MOTIONS FOR AGM

The Town Clerk reported that the motions, which should include one on the Annual Town Meeting submitted by the Town Council, had not yet been issued for councils to agree their position and mandate their representatives attending the AGM.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Town Council and the Town Mayor, be given delegated authority to agree the Town Council’s position on the DAPTC motions for the AGM meeting. All members to be notified.

30. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported her list of engagements, ENCL: 2884 and also said that she had been approached regarding support for a new ukulele project and it was proposed to bring a report on this to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- (2) The Town Clerk reported that the Dorset Police had just stated that Bridport was to retain a full time public enquiry counter service. The details were to be received, but this was generally welcomed.
- (3) It was also reported that the County Councillor, Ms R.C. Kayes, was hoping to work with a cross party group of town councillors to agree grants to local community groups, to be funded from her County Council delegated budget of £5,000, which could be used to support local projects. More information would be reported at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at **8.10p.m.**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 25 November 2014