

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the MARKET AND BUSINESS LIAISON SUB COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Tuesday, 30 June 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Cllr: G.J. Ackerman (Chairman from item 2 onwards)

Cllrs: Miss S.A. Brown Mrs E.A. Rickard
 Ms S.J. Williams

Also in attendance: Roy Gregory (Market Traders), Richard Smith (Chamber of Trade and Commerce), Amanda Streatfeild (BLAP), Terri Foxwell (Bridport TIC Manager) and Ken Hussey (Market Superintendent).

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Cllr: G.J. Ackerman be elected Chairman of the Sub Committee for the ensuing municipal year 2015/2016.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cllr Ms G.E. Massey and Scott Condliffe (Bridport and District Tourism Association).

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2015, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICE IN BRIDPORT

The Town Clerk reported on the ongoing service review of the TIC service. The public survey consultation was closing on 3 July.

The Town Council's position remained that it wanted the District Council to continue to fund and manage the Bridport TIC. However, bearing in mind the review, it was also looking at the options to safeguard the service in Bridport. This was being looked at by the Town Council's budget and service review working group.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

6. ADVERTISING EVENTS – USE OF BANNERS ON STREET LIGHTS

The Town Surveyor reported on the use of the banners on street lights, intended to advertise events. There was a discussion about whether the banners should include sponsors’ logos and it was generally felt that the banners were for information for community events and sponsors’ logos should not be included.

Richard Smith, on behalf of the Chamber, said that he had questioned this, as he had already committed to sponsorship for their banners for an event later in the year. He would though go back and confirm that this would not cause a problem for their sponsors.

The Town Clerk stated that the Town Council would ensure this this was covered in the terms and conditions on the use of the banners.

RESOLVED: that the Town Surveyor report back to the Finance and General Purposes Committee in September to confirm the policy on the use of the banners on street lights as above.

7. TOWN EVENTS

The Town Surveyor reported on the forthcoming events.

He also reported on the request from the Hat Festival to use Asker Meadows for parking. This was something that he would look at, although it might not be possible to arrange for this year.

There was a discussion about town events generally and it was it felt that it would be helpful to have a review at the end of the summer on the events, to assist future planning.

RESOLVED: that there be a report back to the next meeting of this Sub Committee with a review of this year’s events.

8. COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM – SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

The Town Clerk reported that the application for support to establish a coastal community team would be submitted by the deadline of the end of 30 June.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

9. REPORT BACK FROM MEETING OF SUB COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

The Town Clerk reported that the ongoing issues being looked at by the Working Group included: web site, social media, town wifi and car parking.

It was agreed that a further meeting should be held in September.

RESOLVED: that the working group meet again in September.

10. MARKET OPERATION

The Town Surveyor reported that the market income was slightly up, compared to the same time last year

The Park and Ride Service was due to start on Saturday 18 July and the West Bay Wednesday evening markets were to start on 8 July.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

11. MARKET TRADERS

Roy Gregory, on behalf of market traders, said that it would be good to look at town events in the review mentioned previously as, although they brought more people into the town, it would be interesting to see how this impacted on local trade and business.

He also raised again the need to ensure market stalls were not taken down too early and that efforts were made to attract people into town in the afternoon on market days.

It was noted that a review of market terms and conditions, which would include setting up and taking down times, was to be undertaken later this year.

The update was noted.

12. CHAMBER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Richard Smith, on behalf of the Chamber, said that he was keen to move forward on the review of the web site and the use of other media to promote the town.

He had met with the West Dorset District Council Parking Services Manager to discuss parking issues. He had been told that the positioning of the machines in the Waitrose Car Park was to be looked at, along with a review of the signage, to highlight the need to input registration numbers and the fees payable. He also said that they were looking at the layout at the West Bay Road Car Park

The Chamber remained keen to see payment on exit introduced in car parks. It had been reported that CCTV cameras (which would be needed for pay on exit) could not be used to track vehicle movements. However, it was understood that the restrictions on CCTV usage might relate only to on street parking enforcement not in car parks. This was something that it was hoped the District Council would look at again.

It was also hoped that a year round park and ride service could be looked at.

Finally, it was understood that the District Council were to look at the frequency of payment for business parking permits.

The update was noted.

13. BRIDPORT & DISTRICT TOURISM ASSOCIATION

The Town Surveyor reported that, although Scott Condliffe was unable to attend, he had asked that car parking be raised as an ongoing issue.

As reported earlier, this had been raised by the Chamber and also by the Town Council. Potential options – additional parking capacity/park and ride – continued to be looked at.

14. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

There were no further items requested.

The meeting closed at 11:10 am.

The next meeting of the Sub Committee will be held on 20 October 2015 at 10am