

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE  
of Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 1 November  
2017 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Kelvin Clayton (Chairman)  
  
Julian Jones                      Dave Rickard  
Ros Kayes                         Barbara Vousden  
Anne Rickard

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

### **30. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Sarah Horniman and Barry Irvine.

### **31. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 September 2017 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **33. PUBLIC ART WORKING GROUP**

Councillors considered a report from the Working Group, ENCL: 3248.

The Chairman reported back on the first meeting of the group.

The Committee felt that it would be interesting to see what other towns were doing, that supported public art. It would also be helpful to await the outcome of the parks for people expression of interest application, to see what funding could be available. The Working Group has agreed that it would be necessary to identify costs and address issues such as insurance.

RESOLVED: that, in principle, the proposal for public art installations around the town be supported, subject to further reports on the detail, including costings, location etc.

### **34. PUBLIC DRINKING WATER / REFILL DORSET**

Jill Beed, Tourist Information Centre Assistant, presented options for water bottles that could be marketed by the Tourist Information Centre, to encourage people to use reusable bottles. The bottles would include the town branding.

Members indicated their preference for recycled bottles shown and felt that up to £500 should be allocated by the Finance and General Purposes Committee for

purchase. The sale price to be set by the TIC, to cover the costs. It was also felt that the TIC could hold a list of businesses participating in the Refill Dorset scheme, showing where people can refill their bottles.

RESOLVED: that the purchase of reusable bottles for sale by the TIC be agreed and the Finance and General Purposes Committee be asked to allocate up to £500 for their purchase, to be met from the Environment Committee's budget.

**35. ALLOTMENTS – CURRENT AND FUTURE PROVISION**

Councillors considered a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3247.

Members noted the current position on allotments in the town and the numbers provided by the Town Council. Also, it was noted that work was continuing, to look at options for additional new sites.

The Town Surveyor was congratulated on the management of the allotments.

RESOLVED: that the current position on allotment provision be noted and a further report be submitted on the options for additional provision.

**36. COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM**

The Town Clerk reported on the recent meeting of the Coastal Community Team held on 25 October 2017.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**37. COMMUNITY BUS PROJECT**

The Town Clerk reported on the latest position and the continued work into options for a round town bus and a link bus. More information was needed on the costings, including potential income, as part of a Business Plan that will be brought to members to consider. The Town Council will be asked to earmark funding in next year's budget, to contribute to the costs of the services, subject to members' approval of the Business Plan.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted and further reports be received on this issue.

**38. HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING**

Councillors received a report from the BLAP Working Group.

It was noted that the Working Group meetings were discussing a number of issues relating to homelessness in the area. Working with other agencies, it was looking at the extent of rough sleeping and what further action might be needed.

On a related issue, members also discussed the potential impact of the roll out of Universal Credit to Bridport, as from early December 2017. Bearing in mind the reported timescales for making payments, there was concern about the impact locally. There was likely to be increased demand on the services provided by the Citizens' Advice Bureau and there was a discussion about what the Town Council could do to help.

The following proposals were suggested:

- that the CAB be contacted to see what the position was and whether there was any support that the Town Council could provide, in terms of assistance with information for the public.
- check whether there was a need for space for training to assist people in completing forms. It was asked if the Job Centre could be used for this purpose.
- a letter should be sent to the MP raising concerns about the implementation in Bridport and asking if the timescale for the roll out could be reviewed.

RECOMMEND: that the timescale for the implementation of Universal Credit in Bridport be noted and the following proposals set out above be supported.

**39. RIGHTS RESPECTING – NEXT STEPS**

RECOMMEND: that a formal public launch of the Charter be arranged and local organisations be invited to the launch and to discuss the wider roll out of the Charter.

**40. YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE**

The Chairman reported on the current position and in particular the consultations with young people regarding the youth club and services that they would like to see. The fundraising for the centre was also going very well.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**41. SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEERS – COUNCIL POLICY**

There was a discussion about the Town Council's support for volunteers, who may support the Council at times and it was asked if examples of any policies and support offered by other councils, could be looked at.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk report back on the potential support for volunteers.

**42. PLAY AREA SURVEY**

The Town Council would be asked to agree a capital programme for 2018/19, including making provision for play area improvements, following the Play Area Survey. This would be looked at as part of the budget making process.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**43. DAPTC MOTIONS**

Councillors considered a report on the DAPTC AGM motions, ENCL: 3249 and generally agreed to support the motions.

RESOLVED: that the motions listed for discussion at the DAPTC AGM on 4 November 2017 be supported.

**44. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Christmas Cheer - Cllr Anne Rickard reported that arrangements were being finalised for this year's event on 6 December 2017.

**45. FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no additional issues raised.

**46. CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES**

There were no further updates.

The meeting closed at **8.45 pm**.

**The next meeting of this committee will be held on 10 January 2018**