

## TOWN (PARISH) OF BRIDPORT

At the **ANNUAL TOWN (PARISH) MEETING** of the Town of Bridport held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 8 April 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs M. J. Ray, Town Mayor  
Chairman of Bridport Town Council (in the Chair)

10 elected members of the Town Council  
7 members of the public

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Town Councillors P.J. Colfox, J.T. May, C.O. Michell, K.G. Wallace and also from Ms Sal Robinson.

### **2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Meeting held on 9 April 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. PRESENTATION**

Polly Gifford of the Arts Centre, Martin Paley of the Citizens' Advice Bureau and Emily Hicks of the Museum gave a report on the activities of their organisations over the past year. Nick Neale from the Leisure Centre had sent his apologies but had submitted a written report, which was read by the Town Clerk.

The Town Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked all the speakers for their presentations and for all their work on behalf of the town. The Museum was also congratulated on its successful first stage Heritage Lottery Fund application, for its redevelopment project.

### **4. BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL**

- (a) The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray, gave a review of her Mayoral Year and the engagements she had undertaken as First Citizen of Bridport during the municipal year 2013/2014.
- (b) The Leader of the Council, Cllr Ms S.J. Williams, gave her review of the municipal year 2013/2014.
- (c) The Town Clerk reported on the activities of the Town Council during the municipal year 2013/2014.

Copies of the reports from the Town Mayor, Leader of the Council and the Town Clerk were available at the meeting.

## **5. MATTERS CONCERNING TOWN AFFAIRS**

Mr Keith Day made a statement on the challenges facing Chancery House, with a reported reduction of 50% in the funding that it receives from Dorset County Council. He hoped that the town would continue to support the facility.

Mr Keith Day also asked, on a separate matter, if it was possible to brighten up and provide some colour along the seafront at West Bay, during the summer.

In response, it was reported that the harbour area and sea front were the responsibility of West Dorset District Council, although it was hoped that more community activities would be held on Fisherman's Green, once that area had been transferred to the Town Council. Town Councillor Gillian Summers added that bunting was put up last year for West Bay Day and it was proposed to do the same again this year.

Town Councillor Gillian Summers asked about the latest position on the Methodist Chapel and the Literary and Scientific Institute. In response, it was reported that both projects were being led by the Bridport Area Development Trust and were supported by the Town Council. It was understood that the second stage Heritage Lottery Fund application for the LSI project was due to be submitted very soon and it was hoped that the Methodist Chapel would be open later this year.

Mrs Jill Lloyd, Chair of the Bridport Community Orchard Group, thanked the Town Council for all its support and for its work on behalf of the town.

Town Councillor David Tett thanked the town organisations for their presentations. As a Trustee of the CAB he highlighted, in particular, their work on behalf of the town.

## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs M.J. Ray, reminded those present of the Freedom March by the Rifles Regiment, which was to be held on Sunday 22 June 2014.

The Town Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at **8:05 pm**.