

At a MEETING of **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 18 September 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Martin Ray – Deputy Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr Sandra Brown	Ros Kayes
Derek Bussell	Gillian Massey
Kelvin Clayton	Maggie Ray
Keith Day	Anne Rickard
Terry Harrison	Dave Rickard
Sarah Horniman	Barbara Vousden
Julian Jones	Sarah Williams

Also present: W Austin (Town Clerk), County Councillor Jill Haynes, Alan Fleming (Dorset County Council Building Better Lives Strategic Lead), Police Inspector Neil Wood, three Town Council officers, 23 members of the public and one representative of the press.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Dorset County Council Building Better Lives programme

Cllr Jill Haynes and County Council officer Alan Fleming gave a presentation on proposals to provide a care village and other developments on land at Flood Lane and the site of the former Fisherman's Arms. Cllr Haynes explained that, contrary to media reports, there were no proposals for a day centre for people with learning disabilities.

The presentation set out increasing demands for care services and associated key worker accommodation, and explained that the private market was not delivering low cost care homes or housing for clients. The development would, it was hoped, provide a care home, extra care housing, supported living accommodation, respite care, and key worker accommodation, along with associated community facilities.

The Deputy Mayor invited questions and comments from councillors and members of the public. These focused on the number of homes to be provided, public and private care provision, how different care needs would be met, the type and conditions of accommodation for key workers, planning issues on the proposed development sites, and the future of one part of the site that would be sold to a private developer, subject to planning.

Following the discussion, Cllr Haynes advised that consultation would take place with the Town Council and others in due course.

Local Policing

Inspector Neil Wood reported on the three current local policing priorities, which were (i) 'county lines', whereby vulnerable local people were being exploited by criminal drug dealing gangs from other areas, (ii) dealing with a small number of repeat offenders who were responsible for most local crime, and (iii) rough sleeping,

street drinking and anti-social behaviour in the area of Mountfield and the Community Orchard. He also advised that he would seek to establish a form of contract to agree attendance and reporting to Town Council meetings.

Members questioned and commented on opportunities for engagement by the Police, the number of officers available for local policing, and the effect of drug dealing on local people's lives.

Local Government Reorganisation

Due to time constraints a discussion on Local Government Reorganisation was deferred.

Public Questions and Statements

Dan, a young resident, spoke on behalf of a group aiming to establish an indoor skate park in Bridport. He said that the group needed a site for the facility and hoped the Council would help identify one.

22. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Geoff Ackerman and Barry Irvine.

23. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Town Mayor (Chairman).

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25. STANDING ORDER 14 (b)

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

26. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 June 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 June 2018 be received.

(b) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 30 July 2018 were presented by Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 30 July 2018 be received.

(c) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 September 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 September 2018 be received.

Commenting on these minutes, members expressed concern about proposals to introduce chargeable residents' parking permits at East Cliff.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 5 September 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Kelvin Clayton.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 5 September 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 19) LOW CARBON DORSET PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: that the potential measures identified in the Low Carbon Dorset Programme report be considered and taken forward.

(e) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12 September 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Maggie Ray.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12 September 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 52) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2018/19 – 1ST REVISION

RESOLVED: that the 1st revision of the estimates for the year 2018/19 be approved.

(Minute 56) EXTERNAL AUDIT 2017/18 - OUTCOME

This recommendation was deferred as the report of the external auditor had not yet been received.

(Minute 59) SITTING OUT LICENCES/CONTROL OF A-BOARDS

RESOLVED:

- i. that devolved responsibility for sitting out licences and control of A-boards be sought with effect from 1 October 2018.
- ii. that decisions arising from detailed discussions with Dorset County Council be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Town Surveyor.

(Minute 60) MOUNTFIELD EXTENSION

RESOLVED: that the capital funding, alongside earmarked and revenue budgets that support the Mountfield extension, be approved for expenditure in 2018/19, if needed.

(Minute 61) PLAY AREAS

RESOLVED: that work should proceed with the Play Area Steering Group, to develop the improvement plan.

(Minute 62) WEST BAY CAR BOOT SALE

RESOLVED:

- i. that the trial period should be extended to the end of October 2018 to allow for work on appropriate policies and procedures, resources and a licence be completed.
- ii. that the Market and Business Liaison Working Group consider the arrangements for income collected from the car boot sale, and make a recommendation to the Best Value & Scrutiny Sub Committee.

(Minute 63) 3G SPORTS PITCH

RESOLVED: that the Council proceeds with expenditure from the available £60,000 capital funding, the initial step being the development and submission of a planning application.

(Minute 64) ASSET TRANSFERS – JELLYFIELDS AND GUNDRY WEIR

RESOLVED: that the Council approves the transfer and delegates detailed discussions and agreements to the Town Clerk, in conjunction with the Town Surveyor.

(Minute 65) EAST STREET PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Members considered the potential impact of the Shadow Dorset Council's decision in respect of service and asset transfers, on this recommendation. There remained a commitment to ensuring that the public conveniences were available for public use.

RESOLVED: that the Council delegates detailed discussions and agreement to the Town Clerk, in conjunction with the Town Surveyor.

(Minute 66) BUS STATION REDEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED: that the Council agrees the proposed facilities as set out in the report in principle, for submission and discussion with West Dorset District Council.

(Minute 67) PLOTTINGHAM CAR PARK

RESOLVED:

- i. that the Council agrees the introduction of annual residents' permits for use at Plottingham Car Park, at an appropriate fee.
- ii. that the setting of the fee for residents' permits at Plottingham Car Park be delegated to the Clerk and Leader of the Council.

Commenting on these minutes, members expressed deep concern at the decision of the Shadow Dorset Council Executive not to support the transfer of public conveniences and assets to the Town Council. It was felt that eighteen months of discussion and negotiation had been time wasted, and that West Dorset District Council should have done more to ensure that the proposals were agreed. There was also concern that the Shadow Council had the power to affect the sustainability of local councils in future. Cllr Keith Day said he would investigate to establish whether the decision could be called in for further scrutiny. Cllr Sarah Williams reported that there was a meeting of the West Dorset Programme Board on 21st September at which next steps would be discussed.

Members were also concerned that the decision left the future of public conveniences in Bridport in doubt. The Town Clerk said he would contact the Shadow Dorset Council to ask whether, in light of the decision, the Council would commit to maintaining the facilities.

27. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2018

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3360.

The Town Clerk reported that Remembrance Sunday activities for 2018 would include afternoon tea for up to 90 relatives of those named on the War Memorial the unveiling of a commemorative memorial plaque and clock at the Town Hall, period music outside at Mountfield, a beacon to be lit at the top of Millennium Green. In addition, throughout the day the 'Poppy Rope' made by local schools and organisations would feature in Bucky Doo Square, alongside the 'silent soldier', who could be seen on the west wall of the Town Hall.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

28. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

No changes to membership of committees or outside bodies were proposed.

29. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

RESOLVED: that the topic for discussion at the next full Council meeting would be the new unitary Dorset Council, to include discussion of public conveniences.

RESOLVED: that an elected representative of the Shadow Dorset Council be invited to participate in this discussion.

30. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Deputy Town Mayor reported the list of engagements, ENCL: 3359.
- (2) The Leader of the Council reported that the Shadow Dorset Council Executive had approved a recommendation to retain funding for the Bridport Local Area Partnership for 2019-2020. This, along with other discretionary grants, would be the subject of a robust review during the next year. The Leader also reported that Daryl Chambers, the Town Surveyor, had been appointed as a director of the National Association of British Market Authorities. This was a prestigious appointment reflecting Daryl's excellent skills and experience, and Bridport Town Council's longstanding relationship with the Association.

The meeting closed at **9.01pm**.

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 20 November 2018