

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 20 November 2018 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Barry Irvine – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr	Geoffrey Ackerman	Gill Massey
	Sandra Brown	Maggie Ray
	Derek Bussell	Martin Ray
	Kelvin Clayton	Anne Rickard
	Terry Harrison	Dave Rickard
	Sarah Horniman (from 7.16pm)	Barbara Vousden
	Julian Jones	Sarah Williams

ALSO PRESENT One representative of the press.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

New Unitary Dorset Council

The Mayor and Town Clerk reported that despite three requests, the Town Council had been unable to arrange for attendance by a member of the Shadow Dorset Council Executive, as agreed at the previous Full Council meeting. The Mayor advised that this subject would, subject to members' agreement (see minute 37), be tabled for the Open Public Forum at the January 2019 meeting.

Public Forum

No questions or statements were made by members of the public.

31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Keith Day and Ros Kayes.

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Kelvin Clayton declared an interest in Minute 36 as a Trustee of the Bridport Youth & Community Centre and left the room while the item was discussed and a decision made.

33. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

34. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

35. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 September 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 September 2018 be received and adopted.

(b) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 October 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 October 2018 be received and adopted.

Cllr D Rickard commented that application WD/D/18/002368 had been re-submitted with amendments. The Town Clerk advised that, contrary to some comments in the media on this application, the Town Council's comments requesting a contribution to affordable housing was achievable, and had been requested by the District Council Housing Enabling Team.

(c) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 November 2018 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Maggie Ray, who also outlined the reasons for each of the recommendations brought forward for Full Council approval.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 November 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 79) **BRIDPORT TO YEOVIL COLLEGE MINIBUS SERVICE**

Cllr Bussell advised that the constituency MP had been engaged in this matter. Cllr Williams said that he should be approached by the Town Council, as its voice would add weight to the issue. Cllr Maggie Ray said that the contribution requested was not affordable for such a small number of students.

RESOLVED: that a contribution towards the proposed service not be supported; and that a letter is written in the strongest terms to Dorset County Council and Oliver Letwin MP urging them to find a solution; and to Colfox and Beaminster Schools and Yeovil College, requesting that they work in partnership to achieve a solution that satisfies the needs of students.

Cllr Derek Bussell abstained.

****Cllr Horniman joined the meeting at this point****

(Minute 83) COMMUNITY BUS

Responding to Cllr Williams, the Town Clerk confirmed that First Bus had agreed that fares for the month of December on Service 7 could be waived. Cllr Jones expressed concern at the lack of use of the bus, and Cllrs Williams and Brown said that an extension to the pilot would need to look at changing the route and better promotion of the service.

RESOLVED: that the pilot period for the Bridport community bus be extended from six months to twelve months, with a possible extension to the conclusion of the School summer holiday period.

(Minute 86) BUS STATION

RESOLVED: that the remaining £3,029 earmarked reserve for Town Plan Projects, be released for drawings to illustrate the Town Council's proposals for the Bus Station.

(Minute 87) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION
SERVICE/ASSET TRANSFERS

Cllr D Rickard advised that the West Dorset Programme Board on 23 November might offer some proposals that had not previously been made. He reported that the decision not to support earlier proposals to transfer both public conveniences and revenue-raising assets was made by the Shadow Dorset Council Executive, and not by WDDC. There remained a possibility of a motion to WDDC Full Council to provide a 'backstop' that would ensure the new Dorset Council would retain this issue as a priority.

Cllr Williams reported that she and the Town Clerk were due to meet the West Dorset Programme Board on Friday 23 November 2018, and considered that the recommendation should be agreed as no revised proposals had been received as yet.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a proposal to transfer responsibility for public conveniences from West Dorset District Council to Bridport Town Council should not be approved at this time.
- (ii) that the transfer of assets of low and no value be approved in principle, the land at Victoria Grove being subject to completion of a tree survey and consequent remedial works, and that detailed discussions be delegated to the Town Clerk and Town Surveyor.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 7 November 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 7 November 2018 be received and the recommendation therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 34) COMPOSTING TOILETS

RESOLVED: that a feasibility study be carried out into the installation of composting toilets.

36. BRIDPORT YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE TRUST

****Cllr Clayton left the meeting at this point****

The Town Clerk reported on a request from the Trust for bridge funding and a meeting that morning between the Trust and the Town Surveyor. The request was for a £5,000 loan, as the Trust understood that S106 funding agreed by WDDC for a community café could not be claimed by the Trust until the works had been completed. The Trust considered that payment of such a large amount before a claim would hinder its operation and other Trust projects. The Town Clerk and Town Surveyor reported that the funding could be claimed in instalments if agreed by WDDC, and this had been advised to the Trust at the meeting that morning. The meeting had also confirmed those works that would be eligible for S106 funding.

Councillors considered the verbal report of the Town Clerk and Town Surveyor, and expressed concern regarding the precedent that might be set by agreeing the request.

RESOLVED: that the situation be monitored but at this stage, and that a loan was not felt to be necessary, following discussions that had taken place after the publication of the agenda for this meeting. The Trust should be advised to contact the Town Council if a request for instalment-based claims is rejected by WDDC.

****Cllr Clayton returned to the meeting at this point****

37. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

RESOLVED: that the subject for the next Open Public Forum shall be the new Unitary Dorset Council.

38. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 3383 and advised that a fundraising concert for his charities, the Youth and Community Centre

and MindFest would take place at the W.I. Hall in North Street on the afternoon of Sunday 25 November 2018.

*[***After the meeting, the Town Council was advised that the event on 25 November 2018 had been cancelled***]*

- (2) The Leader of the Council reported that councillor attendance at the Christmas Cheer event on Wednesday 5 December 2018 would be much appreciated.
- (3) The Town Clerk reported that the Onion Jack Festival arrangements for 2019 were underway and that a Colonel Welch and his family had contacted the Town Council to convey how dignified and respectful they found the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service.

The meeting closed at **7.41pm**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 22 January 2019