

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE of
Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 9 January 2019
at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Kelvin Clayton (Chairman)

Derek Bussell
Sarah Horniman
Barry Irvine
Julian Jones

Anne Rickard
Dave Rickard
Barbara Vousden

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

41. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ros Kayes.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

43. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 November 2018 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

44. ONE PLANET LIVING WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting held on 18 December 2018 were received and the recommendation therein amended and approved as below: -

(Min 5) Working Group Terms of Reference/One Planet Living Framework

RESOLVED: that the Town Council carry out a community-wide sustainability audit, initially through intelligence gathering from Working Group members, and then engaging with the wider community. This to be reported back to the next meeting, along with information on future possible actions. The next meeting to be deferred pending completion of this preparatory work.

A further recommendation that Bridport Local Area Partnership be contacted directly to consider a potential partnership co-ordination role was not approved. It was felt by the committee that such an approach should not be made until the requirements of the project were clear.

45. YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE

The Chairman reported that:

- Somerset MIND had established drop-in sessions at the Centre on Mondays, which began on 14 January.
- A New Year's Eve event at the Centre had been very successful.
- The Trust had engaged a Public Relations resource on a part-time basis, but applications for ongoing funding to continue this support had been unsuccessful.
- The Youth Club membership had risen to about 70.
- The Mayor's Concert on 8 February at 7pm would be supporting the Trust as one of his chosen charities.

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had assisted in the Trust's end of year reporting by drafting its annual report for submission to the Charity Commission.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

46. COMMUNITY BUS PROJECT

The Town Clerk updated members on the Council's round-Bridport bus service, Service 7 operated by First Wessex, which had been running since August 2018. A trial period of six months had been extended to twelve with an option to extend further to the end of summer 2019. This was to allow for changes to the bus route and timetable to encourage more passengers.

The Bus Working Group had developed a revised route and timetable, with the main aims being:

- More regular visits to the town centre and Morrisons
- Shorter journey times to the town centre
- Addition of the Hospital to the route
- Removal of parts of the route that are not well used or are difficult for the bus to negotiate

The revised route would break the round-town journey into three sections, and would no longer include West Bay, as this appeared to be adequately served by the existing X53 bus service.

The new route and timetable provided for alternating circular routes around two of the three sections, enabling the bus to visit the town centre more frequently, and reducing the longest journey times to the town centre by up to half an hour.

The route and timetable had been submitted to First Wessex for registration with the Traffic Commissioner and was planned to take effect by the end of February 2019.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

47. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Clerk reported that a revised draft of the Neighbourhood Plan was being produced, taking account of the Regulation 14 consultation responses, including one from WDDC, and technical advice from AECOM. Changes to date included the creation of a new Heritage section to separate this from landscape policies, and

the inclusion of Pymore as a specific settlement. The town centre had been re-designated as the Centre of Bridport to distinguish it from the town centre as defined by the Local Plan.

Work was now needed to provide more supporting evidence for Centre of Bridport and Housing policies, as AECOM advised this was needed if the policies are to meet the requirements of the independent examiner. Without such evidence the Joint Committee would need to decide whether or not to proceed to examination with the policies as currently drafted. The NP Steering Group would be working with AECOM and WDDC to establish the supporting evidence.

The aim was to submit the draft NP to WDDC and for subsequent examination in February, and for the document to be the subject of a referendum in May. This latter date was subject to the examination stage being within the required timescale, and WDDC had advised the date could not be guaranteed.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

48. TOWN CENTRE WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting held on 11 December 2018 were received.

The Town Clerk reported that although this working group reported to the Planning Committee, given the focus in the terms of reference on environmental issues such as air pollution, litter/waste, and other matters within this committee's remit, it was considered appropriate to report the proceedings to the Environment & Social Wellbeing Committee. He invited members to offer any input for the next working group meeting, which was expected to be in February.

Members discussed possible increases in construction traffic from the Vearse Farm development, speed limits in the town centre, and the merits of shared space solutions such as that implemented in Poynton, Cheshire. Members also welcomed attendance by youth representatives.

RESOLVED: That the committee requests consideration of a 20mph speed limit in the town centre, and the possible use of a shared space solution.

49. BRIDPORT 'FESTIVAL CUP'

The Town Clerk reported on options for producing a cup for Bridport's festivals and other events. He advised that reusable cup would encourage greener events, would create less waste, and would arguably be a nicer to drink from than single-use plastic glasses. Printing on the cups could be an advertising and marketing tool. Sale of the cups could make money over the long term.

Two options were presented to members:

- Option 1: Stack cups – handle design that enables spiral-pattern stacking for easy portability. Washable, durable and reusable.
- Option 2: Conventional cup. Washable, durable and reusable.

Two companies had been approached and the optimal purchase given likely take-up was 2,500 cups at a cost of £1,475. Funding was available from the Environment Committee budget.

Members welcomed the proposal in principle, and considered the likely demand for a reusable cup, the extent to which event organisers would engage with its use, and how a design would be finalised.

It was noted that the Folk Festival had previously provided similar cups.

RESOLVED: that the purchase of a Bridport festival cup proceed as outlined by the Town Clerk, subject to:

- i. Consultation with the Folk Festival to establish how many cups they had sold and whether they thought it was a worthwhile initiative;
- ii. Assurances from the main Bridport event organisers that they would be prepared to sell the cups at events;
- iii. A request to event organisers for a contribution to the up-front cost of purchase;
- iv. A request to event organisers not to use single-use plastic cups regardless of whether they engage with a Bridport festival cup;
- v. Informal consultation with committee members on the design; and
- vi. Investigation of potential sales to inform the optimal number of cups to be purchased.

50. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

No updates from outside bodies were reported.

51. UPDATES ON OTHER ONGOING ISSUES

The Committee considered the following updates reported by the Town Clerk:

- The Tourist Information Centre had registered as a crisp packet recycling point and was awaiting confirmation and equipment from Terracycle.
- An informal meeting had been organised by the Chapel in the Garden, at the Chapel at 5.30pm on 10 January, to look at provision for rough sleepers. This followed concerns highlighted on local social media. BLAP would attend as they had a working group looking at this issue, and Cllr Clayton would attend, but the invitation is open to all.
- A standstill committee budget of £5,680 for 2019/20 had been recommended by Budget Working Group, which would be considered at Finance & General Purposes Committee. Additional capital funding had been identified for specific projects including the One Planet Living Working Group.

The meeting closed at **8.47pm**.

The next meeting of this committee will be held on 13 March 2019