

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 9 April 2019 at 7.00pm.

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

Cllr	Geoffrey Ackerman	Ros Kayes
	Derek Bussell	Maggie Ray
	Kelvin Clayton	Martin Ray
	Keith Day	Anne Rickard
	Terry Harrison	Dave Rickard
	Julian Jones	Barbara Vousden
	Gill Massey	Sarah Williams

ALSO PRESENT: 12 members of the public

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

The Mayor welcomed the public to the meeting and introduced the open public forum topic. This was the redevelopment of the Bus Station.

The Town Surveyor introduced potential plans for the Bus Station, incorporating a community building to house an indoor skatepark, café, toilets and other facilities. The plans also included a bus area to form part of a transport hub. He reported that feedback so far had been very positive from WATAG, Bridport Business Chamber and others.

The following members of the public spoke in the Open Public Forum:

- Arthur Woodgate, supported by young people and parents, with regard to any new indoor skate park, outlining the history of the Trick Factory and the importance of a replacement facility for young people of all ages and abilities. His address included a statement of support from the Rotary Club, and there was support from parents and the organisers of the Jurassic Fields Festival.
- Stuart Broom of the Jurassic Fields Music Festival regarding a new recording studio as part of any development plans for the Bus Station.
- Lesley Archibald and Roz Copson in respect of the Harmony Centre's wish to potentially relocate from the Youth Centre to The Grove building in Rax Lane to operate both their existing services, and a new Community Front Room that would help people in crisis. This was to be provided under a contract awarded to Harmony. Harmony advised that there was a need for Town Council support, and outlined the history of the organisation, a small charity with few trustees.

Councillors and members of the public discussed the following in respect of the Bus Station:

- Parking requirements as part of any development, including coach parking.
- The height, design and sustainability of any building.
- Potential sources of funding.
- Planning and property ownership considerations.
- The need for youth facilities in Bridport.

Councillors and members of the public discussed the following in respect of the address by representatives of Harmony:

- The impact on the Youth & Community Centre of Harmony vacating, including a request for a meeting between the Youth and Community Centre trustees and those of Harmony.
- The reasons for vacating the Youth & Community Centre.
- The issues for the Town Council in determining the appropriate mix of tenants at The Grove.
- Support for a Community Front Room in Bridport.
- The timescale for Town Council decisions on The Grove.

The Town Surveyor said he could not comment on possible tenancies until he had prepared a report for councillors, and the timing was in part dependent on Dorset Council as owner of the premises.

The Town Mayor thanked everyone who had spoken. The issues raised regarding local government reorganisation were to be considered by the Town Council later on this agenda.

53. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sarah Horniman.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All the previously recorded interests declared under this item in the Committee minutes were noted.

Cllr Ros Kayes declared a pecuniary interest in minute 59 as a Mental Health Practitioner and left the room while the item was discussed and a decision taken.

Cllr Sarah Williams declared an interest in minute 57(d)(2) as a trustee of the Bridport Area Development Trust and specifically the Service Level Agreement grant to the West Bay Discovery Centre. She left the room while the item was discussed and a decision taken.

55. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

56. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

57. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 January 2019 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 January 2019 be received.

(b) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 February 2019 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 February 2019 be received.

(c) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 March 2019 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Sarah Williams.

(d) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 March 2019 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 20 March 2019 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 119) GRANTS TO LARGER ORGANISATIONS

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the current arrangements be noted.
- (2) that the West Bay Discovery Centre (part of the Bridport Area Development Trust) be awarded a Service Level Agreement (SLA) grant for £3,000 per annum for 2019/20, subject to the provision of accounts and the annual review of the SLA.
- (3) that all SLA-supported grants be for a term of five years from 2019/20, with an option to review following from Dorset Council's review of discretionary funding.

(Minute 125) SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE TOWN SURVEYOR

RESOLVED:

Play Area Improvements

- (1) that the capital funding be agreed.
- (2) that a rolling programme development be agreed.
- (3) that the Town Surveyor be given delegation to agree details with the Steering Group.

The Grove

That £10,000 be agreed for enabling works, to be funded from Delegated Functions.

Bus Station

That an additional £2,000 be agreed, to be funded from Town Plan Projects.

Asset Transfers

That the change from freehold to leasehold transfer be agreed.

Cllr Julian Jones asked how the additional funding for the Bus Station was to be used. The Town Surveyor advised that the committee had discussed and agreed additional funding for drafting of plans and for consultation.

(e) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 13 March 2019 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Kelvin Clayton.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 13 March 2019 be received.
- (ii) that the Motion regarding a Climate Emergency be discussed at the Council meeting on Thursday 16 May 2019.

Cllr Dave Rickard asked what progress had been made in respect of the project for the next phase of the Rights Respecting work, for which the Town Council had agreed to take responsibility. The Town Clerk reported that he was awaiting confirmation that grant funding could be paid to the Council by the project's potential funder.

58. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

RESOLVED: that the subject for the next Open Public Forum should be deferred until the May meeting, after the new Town Council has been elected.

RESOLVED: that a maximum period of 15 minutes be allowed for a Public Open Forum at the Annual Town Council meeting on 16 May 2019.

59. REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, Cllr Ros Kayes left the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED: that a representative to the Borough Harmony Centre Trust's Community Front Room Steering Group be considered at the Annual Town Council meeting in May 2019.

60. REPORT BACK FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies.

61. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 3416.

The Town Clerk advised that parts of the new cyclepath would be reduced to 2.5 metres in width, a sympathetic gesture to wildlife.

The Town Clerk reported that a donation of £1,000 had been promised from the 16th Infantry Association in respect of the US War Memorial, commemorating the 75th anniversary of Operation Overlord, to be erected and unveiled at Mountfield on Saturday 18 May 2019.

The Leader of the Council thanked all her fellow councillors, staff and volunteer groups in the town for their efforts over this latest council term.

62. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

63. HONORARY TOWNSPERSON PROCESS

The Town Clerk summarised a report and after discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the matter be considered at the Annual Town Council meeting on 16 May 2019.

(12 for, 2 against, 1 abstention)

The meeting closed at **8.39 pm**.

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 16 May 2019

The Annual Council (Mayor Making) will be held on 30 May 2019