

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

PRESENT: Cllrs: Kelvin Clayton (Chairman from item 2)

Ian Bark	Ros Kayes
Sarah Carney	Anne Rickard
Karen Hunt	Dave Rickard
Barry Irvine	Steve Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Five members of the public and one representative of the press.

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: that Cllr Kelvin Clayton be elected Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

Councillor Kelvin Clayton took the Chair.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: that Cllr Dave Rickard be elected Vice Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Nathalie Sherring, Chief Officer of Dorset Race Equality Council, addressed the meeting on the organisation's work, including a caseload of individual issues, the celebration of cultures and work with statutory and voluntary agencies. She also highlighted a current project in Bridport involving multi-cultural meet-ups to bring communities together and reduce isolation.

Members asked questions for clarification, and thanked Nathalie for her attendance.

Mr Thomas Fowler asked whether the One Planet Living Working Group would be expanded to include wider representation, and whether the Council would support pressure on Dorset Council to establish a citizens' assembly.

Mr Tony Peacock, adviser to Chideock Parish Council on pollution, asked whether the measure of carbon neutrality had been defined, and said it was important not to cheat the figures. He further asked whether anyone was looking at water power, and highlighted the need to look at a traffic-free or diesel-free town centre to address pollution.

Cllr Vanessa Glenn of Chideock Parish Council reported that Chideock was a pollution hot spot due to the A35, and asked how the parish council could link up with the committee, as Bridport was also affected by the A35. The Town Clerk advised that councillors would consider ways to liaise, and that the A35 Working Group run by Sir Oliver Letwin MP was an appropriate partnership forum as it engaged town

and parish councils, the local MP, and decision making bodies - the highway authority and Highways England.

Responding to Cllr Glenn, Cllr Dave Rickard said that East Road failed the pollution standard. Responding to Tony Peacock, he said that a past water survey had identified only one possible location for water power, which would not be sufficient to make it commercially viable.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for their input.

### **3. APOLOGIES**

No apologies for absence were received.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13 March 2019 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Kayes referred to a loss of beds at Dorset County Hospital, and said this should be discussed by the committee. The Town Clerk agreed to invite representatives of the Hospital Trust, the CCG and Dorset Healthcare to a future meeting.

### **6. CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

The Town Clerk summarised his report, ENCL: 3429, which advised the detail of a motion agreed by the Town Council on 16 May 2019 declaring a climate emergency, and set out issues councillors would need to consider in taking this forward.

The Project Manager and Community Initiatives Officer set out the relevant underlying policies and projects from the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, a report by Low Carbon Dorset which remained relevant. He had begun looking into Citizens' Assemblies and referred to the Council's work towards a Town Plan. He advised that the Town Plan, Neighbourhood Plan and any Citizens' Assembly created should not overlap and would need to be coordinated.

Members considered:

- The development of the One Planet Living Working Group as a means of bringing issues and the community together. The Chairman advised he would circulate an advice note.
- Other agencies that may need to be involved, including those with major decision-making responsibility.
- The need for effective engagement and promotion.
- A focus on action, perhaps via a task and finish group.
- Past learning from the DA21 Forum.
- The role of a Citizens' Assembly and councillors.

RESOLVED: that a Climate Emergency Action Plan Working Group be established, the membership to be Cllrs Kelvin Clayton, Dave Rickard, Rose Allwork and Ian Bark, and Raja Rahman.

RESOLVED: that this group should devise an action plan and report back to the committee.

**7. ONE PLANET LIVING WORKING GROUP**

This item had been subsumed into the previous agenda item, Climate Emergency.

**8. OPEN SPACES WORKING GROUP**

RESOLVED: that the standing membership of the Open Spaces Working Group be Cllrs Julian Jones, Barry Irvine, Rose Allwork, Ros Kayes, Dave Rickard, Gill Massey, Geoff Ackerman and Martin Ray.

RESOLVED: that all other members be invited to attend the Open Spaces Working Group.

RESOLVED: that the next agenda should include a proposed carbon offsetting scheme and play area improvements.

**9. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Cllr Clayton reported on the possible co-option of a youth representative to the committee. Members considered this and

RESOLVED: that Cllr Jones would discuss the matter with Nathan, and report back.

**10. FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

Cllrs Kelvin Clayton and Ros Kayes declared interests in this item as trustees of Bridport Youth & Community Centre Trust.

Cllr Clayton reported on a proposed project by the Bridport Youth & Community Centre for the provision and funding of free lunches for 5 weeks during the summer on a Tuesday and Thursday, aimed at young people eligible for free school meals. By putting on activities the Centre might attract young people and the meal would follow this. Young people would also be encouraged to help to make the food.

Members were supportive of the aims of the project, and considered that care would be needed to avoid stigmatising those in receipt of free school meals.

RESOLVED: that £750 be awarded from the committee budget to Bridport Youth & Community Centre for the provision of free lunches for 5 weeks during the summer, subject to a report back on the outcome of the initiative.

**11. COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM**

This item was not required to be considered.

## **12. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Town Clerk introduced this item, inviting members to consider the committee's priorities for the Town Plan. He advised members of existing projects with committee relevance:

- Play area improvement plan and delivery
- Community bus
- Climate change strategy audit review

He further reminded members of the recent motion declaring a climate emergency.

Members considered these and other matters, and

RESOLVED: that the following be considered for inclusion in the Town Plan and committee work programme:

- Play area improvement plan and delivery
- Community bus
- Climate change strategy audit review
- Climate emergency
- Public art
- Green Heritage Interpretation project
- 20mph zone in Bridport town centre

## **13. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Irvine reported that the Arts Centre Director was leaving his post.

Cllr Kayes reported on a Bridport Youth & Community Centre Trust away day to consider long-term planning, and thanked the Town Council for its ongoing support. A younger persons' youth club and drop-in sessions had been established, and 'mocktails' were to be provided as part of the Food Festival.

Cllr Bark reported that Community Allotment taster plots had all been taken up. The group met on Thursdays. Monthly community orchard sessions on Sundays had been well-attended, and issues at Jubilee Green had been addressed.

## **14. UPDATES ON OTHER ONGOING ISSUES/CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk reported on the possible transfer of a community building to the Town Council. The idea was well-received by councillors, and the history of the building was discussed.

The Chairman referred to a proposed public art project by Isla Chainey. The Town Surveyor was liaising with her to consider further and identify possible sites.

The meeting closed at **8.58pm**

**The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 4 September 2019**