

At a MEETING of the **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Tuesday 18 June 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Cllr	Geoffrey Ackerman	Julian Jones
	Rose Allwork	Maggie Ray
	Ian Bark	Martin Ray
	Dave Bolwell	Anne Rickard
	Sandra Brown	Dave Rickard
	Sarah Carney	Sarah Williams
	Kelvin Clayton	Steve Williams
	Karen Hunt	

ALSO PRESENT Dr Blair Millar, Bridport GP, Mr Riaz Dharamshi, Deputy Medical Director at Dorset Healthcare, Ms Inese Robotham, Chief Operating Officer at Dorset County Hospital, and three members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Lynda Scott-Williams of Remap distributed information and requested that councillors take a pro-active approach in recommending people to their services, as and when they meet residents that may need it.

The Mayor thanked Mrs Scott-Williams for her address.

The Town Clerk introduced a request from a member of the public that the Town Council consider leading an application to become a Plastic Free Town as designated by the organisation Surfers Against Sewage.

A discussion considered the value of such a designation in the context of the town's already strong environmental credentials and activity, and how to engage businesses and the community in the issue.

23. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Ros Kayes and Gill Massey.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Sarah carney declared a personal interest in respect of Minute 28 as a governor of Dorset County Hospital.

25. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

The Clerk was asked to consider how matters for question and comment on the minutes could best be incorporated into the agenda.

26. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

27. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 June 2019 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Anne Rickard.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 June 2019 be received.

(b) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 10 June 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 10 June 2019 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below: -

(Minute 7) REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Finance and Officer Manager was thanked for all his work and for the good audit report.

RESOLVED: that the Report of the Internal Auditor for 2018/19 be noted.

(Minute 8) ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2019

RESOLVED: that the Annual Accounts for 2018/19 be approved.

(Minute 10) SERVICES ADMINISTED BY THE TOWN SURVEYOR

RESOLVED: that £27,500 be released from capital and other funding for resurfacing of the Skate Park.

(Minute 11) COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

RESOLVED: that the review of community governance be deferred for one year, subject to any expeditious development at Vearse Farm.

(Minute 17) APPOINTMENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED: that the list of representatives on outside bodies be approved as attached to those minutes and that, in addition, councillor Barry Irvine be appointed to the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

(c) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 5 June 2019 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 June 2019 be received.

28. HEALTHCARE MATTERS

Dr Blair Millar, Bridport GP, Mr Riaz Dharamshi, Deputy Medical Director at Dorset Healthcare, and Ms Inese Robotham, Chief Operating Officer at Dorset County Hospital spoke about healthcare provision in both Bridport and Dorchester and estimated future provision, based on funding availability.

Members questioned and commented on local healthcare issues and recent changes in provision, including:

- Travel times to other locations for treatment.
- Retention of beds at Bridport Hospital.
- The future of Bridport Hospital.
- Future funding arrangements.
- Recruitment difficulties.
- Public transport cuts.
- Affordable housing for key workers.
- Delays in ambulance services.
- Parking at Dorset County Hospital.

The Town Clerk thanked the healthcare representatives for attending.

29. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2018/2019

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3439.

The Responsible Financial Officer summarised the process, culminating in the preparation of the annual accounts and highlighted

- Annual Internal Audit Report,
- Section 1, the Annual Governance Statement, and
- Section 2, the Accounting Statements for the year 2018/19

Each of the above were considered separately and each was moved and seconded, put to the vote and declared to be carried. It was therefore:

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19 be noted, as attached to the report.
- (b) that the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19, Section 1, be approved as attached to the report.
- (c) that the Accounting Statements 2018/19, Section 2, be approved as attached to the report.
- (d) that the Annual Return be signed and submitted to the External Auditor.

30. PROPOSALS TO DORSET ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS AGM

Consideration was given to the proposals to the DAPTC AGM, for consideration by NALC, ENCL: 3437.

RESOLVED: that no proposals be submitted to the DAPTC AGM.

31. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

RESOLVED: that the topic for discussion at the next full Council meeting would be Community Bus Services and the proposed Bus Station development.

32. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 3438.

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Centre Working Group had met on 17 June and that traffic surveys would take place in the town centre on Wednesday 17 July 2019. Funding would be agreed under delegation as a result of the short notice. Although no decision could be made by Full Council, members indicated informally their support.

The Town Clerk also reported on proposals for a Democracy Day, and letters of thanks from the Food and Folk Festivals for Town Council support.

The meeting closed at **8.46pm**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 17 September 2019