

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 6 November 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Kelvin Clayton (Chairman)

Sarah Carney	Ros Kayes
Karen Hunt	Anne Rickard
Barry Irvine	Dave Rickard
Julian Jones	Steve Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Mr S Green (Remap), Mr M Marsh (Remap), Mr J Burlington, Will Austin (Town Clerk), David Dixon (Project Manager, Bridport Town Council) and one member of the public.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr Joe Burlington, a retired teacher and Chair of Transition Town Bridport, addressed councillors about the climate emergency. He thanked the Council for its work on a Climate Emergency Action Plan and set out issues he considered needed to be addressed: Too great a focus on economic growth, energy use by empty homes, second homes and large homes, homelessness and inequality, the risk of inundation at West Bay and the impact of leisure, tourism, fashion, meat, motor/motorboat racing, etc. Measure to address the crisis might result in a need for government to support employment. Mr Burlington said he did not have the answers and that the plan stood little chance against advertising interests. 50% of carbon was produced by 10% of the population. He thanked the Council for its actions in Bridport.

The Chairman thanked Mr Burlington for his address.

### **26. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Ian Bark and Sarah Williams.

### **27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **28. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 September 2019 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

\*\*\*Cllr Julian Jones joined the meeting at this point\*\*\*

### **29. PRESENTATION FROM REMAP**

Mr S Green and Mr M Marsh presented to councillors on the work of Remap, an organisation that designs and makes bespoke equipment for disabled people.

They explained Remap's values, activities and referral procedures, and advised that 9,000 volunteers across 70 local groups generated an estimated 62,000 hours' work. They had delivered 3,000 projects in the previous year. All equipment was provided free of charge and income was generated from donations, trusts and foundations. Their costs were mainly for materials and travel, and for every £1 raised they estimated that £20 value was generated. Volunteers and clients were sought in the Bridport area.

Following questions and appreciative comments from councillors, the Chairman thanked Messrs Green and Marsh for their presentation, and they left the meeting.

### **30. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

Consideration was given to the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan, ENCL: 3456.

The Town Clerk summarised the process that had resulted in the draft plan. The Council had declared a climate emergency in May and gave a commitment to a plan within six months. A task and finish group had led the drafting, with excellent support from the Project Manager. If approved, the plan would be presented to Full Council on 19 November 2019, with any known financial implications to be considered by Finance & General Purposes Committee on 11 November 2019.

The Project Manager summarised the structure, objectives, resource requirements, approach to community engagement, prioritisation, and the projects within the draft plan which had been tabled with the agenda. He also outlined comments received since the agenda's publication.

Members considered the plan in detail, with a focus on resource and funding requirements, prioritisation, the balance of direct Town Council actions with those requiring influence on others, the importance of public transport, and the impact of tourism.

RECOMMENDED: that the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan be approved, subject to amendments taking account of issues raised by the committee; these amendments to be delegated to the Chairman and Clerk.

### **31. TREE PLANTING ACTIVITIES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3458.

The Project Manager outlined current tree and hedge planting activities by the Town Council, in particular at Asker Meadows. He also explained a proposed contribution to a 'tree nursery' for Bridport, with an estimated 700 trees to be planted at a suitable location. Options under consideration were Riverside Gardens, a field off Sea Road North, and an area of land at Bridport Cemetery.

The Town Clerk introduced the principles of the Woodland Trust Tree Charter, and members were asked to consider a recommendation to Full Council that the Town Council sign the Charter.

\*\*\*Cllrs Julian Jones, Ros Kayes and Rose Allwork left the meeting at this point\*\*\*

RESOLVED: that the current tree planting activity be noted.

RECOMMEND: that Town Council support for a tree nursery be approved.

RECOMMEND: that the Town Council signs the Woodland Trust Tree Charter.

### **32. OPEN SPACES WORKING GROUP**

RESOLVED: that the notes of the Working Group held on 15<sup>th</sup> October be received and the following recommendations be approved.

#### **(Min. 4) Bridport Cemetery**

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a response be sent advising that the Town Council had no plans to amend its policy in relation to use of artificial flowers at Bridport Cemetery.
- (ii) that delegated authority to the Town Clerk and Town Surveyor should continue, allowing the management of the cemetery within existing policy.

#### **(Min. 5) Recycling Facilities in Bridport**

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Dorset Waste Partnership be asked to provide a timetable for expansion of the kerbside recycling arrangements to include recyclable materials not currently accepted.
- (ii) that Dorset Council members for Bridport ward be asked to submit a request to Dorset Council for expansion of recycling facilities in Bridport.

#### **(Min. 7) Green Route Project**

RESOLVED: that the Town Council approves £900 to be set aside as match funding for an Awards for All bid in support of the Green Route Project.

#### **(Min. 8) Sculpture Trail**

RESOLVED: that Bridport Town Council agree to work with Dorset Arts Development Company to pilot for three years a Bridport Sculpture Trail project.

RECOMMEND: that Finance & General Purposes Committee be asked to approve a budget of £5,000 per annum for three years from 2020-21, to support the delivery of the Sculpture Trail project.

### **33. SOCIAL PRESCRIBING**

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3457.

The Town Clerk summarised his engagement with a project led by Dorset CCG, the Jurassic Coast Primary Care Network, Medical Centres, the organisation Help and Care and other stakeholders, aimed at delivering social prescribing in West Dorset. The proposed structure, roles and process were explained, and members were asked to consider a financial contribution.

Members raised concerns about the involvement of an organisation outside the public sector, and the accountability of the initiative.

RESOLVED: that no further action be taken in respect of this initiative.

**34. RIGHTS RESPECTING UPDATE**

The Town Clerk reported on the most recent meeting of the Rights Respecting Steering Group, which considered a project vision, the role of the project co-ordinator, project funding, embedding the Charter in the community, work with schools and the role of the Town Council.

Members asked that a supporting report be provided in future.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**35. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Christmas Cheer - Cllr Anne Rickard reported that the event was proceeding as planned for 4 December 2019.

Bridport Youth & Community Centre Trust – Cllr Kelvin Clayton advised that the Trust would meet the following week and hoped for a number of new trustees. The junior youth club now attracted over 70 attendees.

Cllr Clayton further reported that he had attended a meeting organised by St Mary's Church regard a 'Community Hub'. The focus of discussions had been on market towns, youth and the Church as leader of the initiative.

Dorset Coast Forum – Cllr Dave Rickard advised that the Forum's annual meeting would be held on 21 November 2019.

RESOLVED: that the reports from outside bodies be noted.

**36. FUTURE REPORTS**

No items were suggested for future reports.

**37. CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES**

The Town Clerk reported that:

- Dorset Coast Forum would not now be proceeding with the installation of a boardwalk at East Beach. They had advised that the Coastal Communities funding would now be used for a beach access project elsewhere in Dorset. The Town Council was making representations to retain the funding for Bridport and West Bay.
- Cllr Steve Williams was dealing with a complaint about graffiti in various areas across the town. The Town Council had reported all of the issues to the relevant authorities and landowners.

Cllr Dave Rickard advised that he was pursuing an ongoing issue of reported noise and fumes from a business in West Bay Road.

The meeting closed at **9.20pm**.

**The next meeting of this committee will be held on 8 January 2020**