

Minutes of the meeting of **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 22 November 2022 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Ian Bark – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllrs	Geoffrey Ackerman	Gill Massey
	Rose Allwork	Maggie Ray
	Dave Bolwell	Martin Ray
	Sandra Brown	Anne Rickard
	Kelvin Clayton	Dave Rickard
	Karen Hunt	Steve Williams

ALSO PRESENT Will Austin (Town Clerk) and Paul Fuszard (Finance & Office Manager).

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Sergeant Mike Brown of Dorset police gave an update on staffing levels and areas of current concern, and answered questions from members. He concluded by reminding everyone that the annual blue light service would be held at St Mary's Church on 15 December 2022 at 7:00pm.

The Town Mayor thanked Sergeant Brown for attending and he left the meeting at this point.

Town Councillors then discussed the issues surrounding the balancing of heritage conservation with the needs of the climate and energy crises.

It was suggested that NALC be requested if they could generate a national summary of responses and interpretation of the NPPF and to question why it was acceptable for a national policy to have vastly different interpretations from county to county.

The Town Clerk was requested to pursue this and to arrange a meeting with the Head of Planning and conservation officers from Dorset Council.

39. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Barry Irvine, Julian Jones and Sarah Williams.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

41. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2022 were confirmed as a true and correct record, and signed by the Town Mayor.

42. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

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

43. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7 November 2022 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Dave Bolwell.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7 November 2022 be received and adopted.

(b) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 November 2022 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Gill Massey, who also outlined the reasons for each of the recommendations brought forward for Full Council approval.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 November 2022 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted, as set out below (each recommendation was moved, seconded and declared to be carried):-

(Minute 39) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2022/23 – 2ND REVISION

RESOLVED: that the 2nd revision of the estimates for the year 2022/23 be approved.

(c) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 9 November 2022 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 9 November 2022 be received and adopted.

44. BRIDPORT INVESTMENT PLAN

Consideration was given to the draft Bridport Investment Plan, ENCL: 3765, supported by a video introduction by the Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer.

The Town Clerk outlined the draft plan. Following extensive discussions, it was then

RESOLVED: that the draft Bridport Investment Plan be approved as tabled, subject to any minor amendments arising from further proofing.

45. BUDGET WORKING GROUP

The Town Clerk reported that the budget setting for 2023/24 will be a very challenging process and that the next meeting was to take place at Mountfield at 2:30pm on Friday 25 November 2022.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

46. TOWN CRIER'S REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Crier, ENCL: 3763.

RESOLVED: that the Town Crier be thanked for his work, and that his report be noted.

47. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

RESOLVED: that the subject for the next Open Public Forum shall be
(i) the practical implications of a 20mph speed limit in Bridport, and
(ii) youth work carried out by the Bridport Youth & Community Centre Trust, at the next meeting on the 24 January 2023, at a venue to be decided.

48. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 3764.

The Leader of the Council had attended the AGM of DAPTC.

The Town Clerk reported that

- a) He had met with representatives of Morrisons and Chris Loder MP to discuss fuel prices at the local filling station,
- b) Hayward & Co had submitted three planning applications relating to the redevelopment of St Michael's Trading Estate, which would be considered at the December Planning committee, and
- c) The use of Zoom at council was to be discontinued, unless specifically requested at least one day in advance of a meeting, by one or more members of the public.

The meeting closed at **9:21pm**

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 24 January 2023 at a venue to be confirmed.