



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 25th February 2019 in the Public Hall, Beaminster at 7.00pm

Two business owners addressed the Council with regard to their concern at the decision to permit a mobile vendor to trade in the Memorial Playing Field car park for two hours per week. They stressed the impact that it could have their business and urged the Council to reconsider.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman read a letter received from Cllr Baker in which he had tendered his resignation from the Council for personal reasons. The Town Clerk was asked to extend the Council's best wishes to him and his family.

2109 PRESENT – Cllr Turner (Chairman), Cllr Beswarick, Cllr Body, Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Mrs Cooke, Cllr Corbett, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Faulkner, Cllr Norris and Cllr Mrs Page.

2110 IN ATTENDANCE – Mrs Christine Bright (Town Clerk), West Dorset District Cllr A Alford, Dorset County Cllr Mrs R Knox; also two members of the public.

2111 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS FOR:

(a) Dorset Police

In the absence of a representative from Dorset Police members had previously been circulated with a short report from PCSO Alex Bishop in which he had advised there had been reports of:

- possible poaching in the Beaminster area over recent weeks. On Beaminster Down, a gold Renault Megane had been seen with two males with dogs and lamps. In Netherbury there had been animal entrails and blood found in a hedge, possibly from a larger animal such as a deer
- Anti Social Behaviour and criminal damage at the pavilion in the Memorial Playing Field, currently under investigation

(b) West Dorset District Council

Cllr A Alford advised the District Council, with only two meetings scheduled, were winding down ahead of the new Unitary Authority from 1st April.

Cllr Mrs Page expressed her gratitude to Cllr Alford for his support during his term as a District Councillor.

(c) Dorset County Council

Cllr Mrs Knox advised arrangements had been put in place for the transition to the new authority including a transitional Planning Committee that would deal with applications if a decision was required prior to the election on 2nd May

Dorset Waste Partnership would be discontinued from 1st April however the public would continue to receive the same service provided by the new Dorset Council.

Dorset Council's first budget, incorporating the Waste Partnership's budget, had been approved and all staff were aware of their working arrangements from 1st April.

2112 APOLOGIES – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Baker.

2113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest had been received.

2114 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28TH JANUARY 2019

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 28th January 2019 having previously been circulated were amended to read:

Prior to the commencement of the meeting **Cllr Mrs Page** informed members of the death Mr John Cunningham.

Min No 2102 - RBL Beaminster Branch – regrettably the grant budget had been **spent** for the current financial year therefore no grant was approved.

Min No 2112 – the date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 25th **February** 2019.

Following the amendments the minutes were signed as a correct record.

2115 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

- (a) **CAB** – Cllr Dawkins reported Bridport CAB were to fund an advisor to assist with universal credit advice, he also relayed the Trustees gratitude to the Town Council for the grant awarded.
- (b) **Beaminster Youth Club** – Cllr Mrs Cooke advised a Trustees meeting was scheduled for 27th February and would provide a report at the next Council meeting.
- (c) **Town & Larger Council's** – Cllr Mrs Page reported on discussion that had taken place during the meeting with regard to the proposal to put forward a vote of no confidence in the leader of Dorset County Council. The proposal would cite the lack of engagement by the County Council in the Programme Board process and the absence of consultation with Town and Parish Councils by Task & Finish Groups. Furthermore the meeting believed that the Shadow Executive Boards attitude to DAPTC representatives had been demeaning.

2116 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No matters were raised under this heading.

2117 PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

Members had previously been circulated with the schedule of payments, cheque numbers 104965 to 104982 issued, together with direct debit payments between 1st February 2019 and 28th February 2019 totalling £11,859.43; also receipts totalling £3,018.85.

Members were also asked to approve cheque number 104787 payable to Trevor Parsons Landscaping in the sum of £36,191.05 previously omitted from the December schedule of payments.

Members **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule, including cheque no. 104787 a copy of which is attached.

2118 RECREATIONS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Members had previously been circulated with minutes of the Recreations & Amenities Committee meeting held on 12th February 2019.

- (a) Min No. 110 (b) – fallen tree feature** – the Town Clerk advised that due to the weight of the Oak butt identified the costs to install were prohibitive and had endeavoured to source a tree from a local tree surgeon, a response was awaited.
- (b) Min No. 110 (c) – Picnic Bench** – the Town Clerk advised the response received from the Trustees of the Youth Club had been negative therefore an insurance claim for the replacement bench had been submitted to the Council's insurers.

There being no further items raised for discussion members **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes.

2119 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2018/19

Members had previously been circulated with the first 2018/19 Internal Audit Report and **NOTED** the recommendations therein and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the action taken as outlined in the officers response .

2120 DISCOVER BEAMINSTER

Members were asked to consider a quotation in the sum of £60 for the digital design of letterhead options incorporating the new Discover Beaminster Logo for use on all Town Council documentation. **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the quotation received from Sitoagency.

2121 RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME

Prior to consultation with businesses, in particular employees who came into the town by car members **AGREED** to compile a questionnaire to find out more about the particular problems they faced.

2122 BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE

A number of issues had been considered by members of the Town Council in recent weeks, some successfully others proved more problematic. Members **AGREED** to initiate a Forum to ensure the wider community were kept informed of all issues that may, or may not directly affect them.

A Working Group was formed, representatives from the Town Council were **AGREED** - Cllrs Cheeseman, Corbett and Mrs Page. Representatives from the wider community would be sought and Terms of Reference compiled.

2123 CONSULTATIONS

No consultation documents had been received.

2124 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Dorset Councils** – the Town Clerk outlined the details of the launch of the Governments Future High Streets Fund together with an invitation to consider a bid for funds in early 2020. Members considered the Initiative criteria to be applicable to Beaminster, it was **AGREED** to draw this to the attention of the new Forum for discussion.
- (b) **Beaminster Museum** – members NOTED a letter of thanks received from the Trustees for the pledge of a grant towards their extension project.

2125 PROGRESS REPORT

Members had previously been circulated with the latest progress report, the content of which was **NOTED**.

- (a) **Public Conveniences** – the Town Clerk advised a grant of £70,000 had been awarded by West Dorset District Council to the Town Council for the provision of public toilets in the town from 2022. Members **AGREED to** refer the project to Public Hall Working Party for consideration in conjunction with other works planned on the building.

2126 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

One item was identified:

- Recinding motion in respect of trading in Memorial Playing Field car park (if received in the office within the guidelines)

2127 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 25th March 2019.

2128 MEETING

The meeting which commenced at 7.00pm, closed at 9.10pm.

CHAIRMAN
25th March 2019