

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 28th JUNE 2011 AT 7.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM BH20 4NS

Present: Councillors Ms D Adkins, Mrs D R Cleaton (Town Mayor), Mrs S D Elmes, K Green (Deputy Mayor), D Hutton, Mrs L Kenyon, E L Osmond, M Russell, Mrs A Selby, Mrs J Spooner, Mrs C Turner, Mrs N Wiggins

Officers present: Mr R M Curtis, Town Clerk
Mrs D T Cousins, Administration Officer

Members of the Public: 1

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Critchley, K Critchley, D Budd and M Wiggins

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NIL

21. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th May 2011

The minutes of the meeting of 16th May 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendments:

- Pg4 item 12 remove 'M Wiggins' insert 'N Wiggins'
- Pg7 Annex B line 22 remove 'case' insert 'cause'
- Pg11 Annex E Line 1 insert: **'MEMBERSHIP OF PANELS AND WORKING PARTIES 2011'**

22. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th May 2011

- Minute 13: Councillor Ms Adkins offered to become the Town Council Representative on Outside Bodies to The Purbeck School and this was accepted by Council.
- Minute 15: Councillor Russell asked the Town Clerk if the public phone box being adopted by the Town Council was to be repainted by BT before adoption. The Town Clerk replied that he had spoken to BT regarding repainting and they were considering his request for a supply of red paint.

23. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

- (a) Rev John Cleaton of Northmoor Park asked the Council to consider a refund for the cost of 'Past Mayor' badges to Mrs N Anderson and Mrs J Patterson. He requested that the Council investigate the policy on refunds of money paid for badges, who made the decision and what was the result?

The Mayor requested the Town Clerk to investigate the minutes of previous Council/Committee meetings to see what had previously been agreed and

that this matter be referred to the next meeting of the Policy Resources and Finance Committee. The Town Clerk confirmed that the two ladies had written to him on this matter and he would certainly investigate.

- (b) Rev John Cleaton referred to the procedure for the nomination for Honoured Townsmen, which was not in the Council Standing Orders and in his opinion needed clarification.
The Mayor requested the Standing Orders Working Party to consider this matter as an item for review at their next meeting.

- (c) Rev John Cleaton requested the Council to consider a review of Standing Orders 2.1 to cover the possibility of the Town Mayor Elect not being elected at the Annual Town Council (Mayor Making) meeting.

The Mayor asked the Standing Orders Working Party to consider this as an item for review at their next meeting.

- (d) Rev John Cleaton suggested to Council that the annual Civic Service be held at 11.00am, as it was for the Remembrance Service. For various reasons, a 3.00 pm service was, in his opinion and many others to whom he had spoken on this matter, not convenient for attendees.

The Mayor spoke for many members of Council on this matter and agreed that an 11.00 am Service would be preferred and that the Rector should be asked if this would be possible for the 2012 Civic Service.

24. **TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS** – to receive any petitions from members of the public, or from Councillors on behalf of their local community members, and any delegations from members of the public.

None Received

25. **TO ANSWER MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**
Councillor Mrs Wiggins asked the Town Clerk whether she needed to declare hospitality received at the Red Lion Public House as she had attended the opening ceremony.

It was confirmed that gifts or hospitality over £25 in value had to be declared under the Councillors' Code of Conduct, however attendance at the launch of a new business in Wareham did not need a declaration of interest since this limit would not have been reached on such an occasion.

26. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
The Mayor had attended the funeral service of former Mayor and Honoured Townsman Mr Jack Spiller which had been held in a Marquee on the Recreation Ground.

The Mayor announced that the Poppy Street Party had been a great success and thanked Councillor Russell for his organisation and fundraising for this event, despite it having to be held in the Corn Exchange instead of East

Street due to very wet weather. Mr Edward Fox had opened proceedings for the event.

On 25th June 2011 the Mayor had been asked to officially open the newly refurbished 'Red Lion' public house.

The Mayor thanked the Council for attending the Civic Service. She had received several phone calls from people saying how much they had enjoyed the event.

The Mayor read out a letter from Mrs Mary Spiller thanking the Council for the use of the Recreation Ground for the funeral of the late Mr Jack Spiller, with the Church being closed (due to restoration of a stained glass window) as a suitable venue for the funeral service at that time. Councillor Osmond commented that he felt it was appropriate to allow use of the Recreation Ground and indicated that it was entirely fitting for Mr Spiller, an ex- Mayor, Town and District Councillor who had given 60-70 years of service to the community in various capacities.

The Mayor requested that Item 11 on the Agenda - 'Police issues in Wareham' - be moved forward to Item 9 in order that Acting Inspector Jon McCarthy could give his presentation.

27. **POLICE ISSUES IN WAREHAM**

Acting Inspector Jon McCarthy from Neighbourhood Police gave a short presentation on current Police issues in Wareham and answered questions on completion from the Council.

- It was clarified that he was the Deputy Neighbourhood Inspector and Inspector Tracy Baker was the Neighbourhood Inspector.
- Both police officers alternated between Wareham and Bridport.
- Members concerns:
 - Speeding 'boy racers' on motorcycles/noise issues in Sandford Road and at roundabout near railway station
 - anti-social behaviour at the bus stop in Bere Road and other areas of north Wareham.

A/Inspector McCarthy noted all concerns and indicated that there was a new 'Community Speedwatch Programme' which would involve members of the public. He particularly noted the issues regarding speeding and informed council that it would be taken up by the Police for ways to be found of dealing with this and other forms of anti-social behaviour that had been highlighted.

The Mayor thanked A/Inspector McCarthy for his presentation and attendance at the meeting.

28. **TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:-**

- (a) **Planning and Transport Committee** – meeting of 6th June 2011.
Councillor Mrs Selby presented the minutes of the meeting and advised the Council that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 18th July 2011.

(b) **Museum Committee 7th June 2011**

The Mayor (Chairman of Museum Committee) presented the minutes of the meeting and asked Council if it would support an event to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in 2012.

Councillor Mrs Elmes proposed that the Town Council support an event for the Jubilee Celebrations and it was seconded by Councillor Mrs Selby.

RESOLVED that a Queen's Jubilee Event be supported by Wareham Town Council in 2012 and that it be brought back to the Town Council at a future meeting to consider the options for a 'whole town event' involving other partners in the community.

(c) **Amenities Committee 8th June 2011**

Councillor Green (Vice Chairman) presented the minutes of the meeting and advised the Council the date of next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 20th July 2011.

(d) **Human Resources Panel – 8th June 2011**

Councillor Mrs Kenyon (Chairman) presented the minutes of the meeting and advised the Council that the date for the next meeting was not yet scheduled. Reference was made to the inclusion of an 'ex officio' member at the meeting. The Town Clerk clarified that any member could attend any meeting of Council or committees with the exception of the Human Resources Panel and that there was no reference to 'ex officio' members in Standing Orders. A discussion took place on the Standing Orders working party and the need for a meeting to review Standing Orders as soon as possible to clarify this and certain other issues.

(e) **Policy, Resources and Finance Committee 13th June 2011**

Councillor Mrs Elmes (Vice Chairman) presented the draft minutes of the meeting.

To add: Present: Mrs N Spooner and Mrs J Spooner. Annual Return of Accounts including item 9 page 3 was to be approved by the Council and was on the Council agenda. The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 25th July 2011.

(f) **Wareham in Bloom Committee 22nd June 2011**

Councillor Osmond presented the minutes of the meeting and advised the Council that the date for the next meeting was scheduled for 14th September 2011.

29. **REPORTS BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES.**

District Council

Councillor Osmond presented his report (see **ANNEX A**)

Wareham Poppy Street Party

Councillor Russell read out a letter to the Town Council from the Poppy Party Committee thanking them for their support on a very wet day and he was delighted to announce that over £2000 had been raised by the event.

Wareham Carnival Committee

Councillor Ms Adkins announced that many events had been organised for the Carnival Week this year and she highlighted them. She hoped Councillors would support the Carnival by attending as many as possible.

30. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES IN WAREHAM

The Council considered the report of the Public Convenience Working Party, following the delegation of this item from the last Town Council meeting. Council was requested to consider the report and recommendation prior to submitting its views to Purbeck District Council's Policy Development Panel.

- Councillor Mrs Elmes suggested that self-cleaning toilets were needed for Howards Lane and that a bid be put forward to Viridor or similar grant funding organisation for part funding, which was fully supported by the Council on a vote. Councillor Russell abstained from the vote due to his membership of the Viridor grant funding panel.
- Councillor Mrs Turner suggested that a disabled access toilet be included in any recommendations to Purbeck District Council.
- Councillor Mrs Selby suggested that 'Baby Changing facilities' be taken into account in any plans put forward.

Councillor Mrs Wiggins proposed that the list of bullet points from the Working Party be put forward answering the questions asked Purbeck District Council and Councillor Mrs Elmes seconded the proposal

RESOLVED: That the recommendations in the Working Party Report be submitted to Purbeck District Council's Policy Development Panel with the additional suggestions of Council.

31. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL RETURN OF ACCOUNTS and ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

(a) The Council received the Annual Return of Accounts 2010/2011 for approval by 30th June 2011 - in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations as amended in 2006. It was noted that Section 1 pg2 of 6 (item 9) had been amended and the correction was initialled by signatories at the request of the Town Clerk. It was recommended that the Annual Return of Accounts be approved.

It was proposed by Councillor K Green and seconded by Councillor Mrs Elmes and

RESOLVED that the Annual Return of Accounts 2010/2011 be accepted and approved.

(b) The Annual Governance Statement (Section 2 of Return - page 6) 2010/2011 was received by the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Adkins and seconded by Councillor Mrs Elmes and

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement 2010/2011 be accepted and approved.

32. **AUTHORISED SIGNATORIES – NATIONAL SAVINGS INVESTMENT ACCOUNT**

Council had been requested to authorise the following named persons as signatories of the Council's National Savings Investment Account in accordance with banking regulations: Councillors Mrs D Cleaton, K Green, K. Critchley, D. Budd, and Mrs A Selby (i.e. Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairmen of Standing Committees).

It was proposed by Councillor Osmond, seconded by Councillor Mrs Elmes and unanimously:

RESOLVED that Councillors Mrs D Cleaton, K Green, K. Critchley, D. Budd, and Mrs A Selby be authorised as signatories of the National Savings Investment Account.

33. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS, ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY MEMBERS AND INSTRUCTION TO SIGNATORIES TO SIGN CHEQUES**

On this occasion, due to the continued absence of the Finance Administrator recovering from an operation, there were no accounts for payment following the cheque signing at the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting on 13th June.

34. **ANY OTHER ITEMS THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT (for report or for the next agenda only).**

The Mayor informed the Council of a letter which had been received from the Headteacher of the Lady St Mary First School regarding a proposed change of name from 'The Lady St Mary First School' to 'Wareham St Mary Primary School (CE VC)'. She suggested that 'Wareham Lady St Mary Primary School' would be a more suitable title for the school. This was not an official agenda item, however it was agreed that a 'straw poll' could be conducted of individual Members' opinions for the Mayor's suggestion and relayed to the Headteacher as an aid in reaching a decision on this matter.

Results of straw poll:

9 members were for the Mayor's suggestion, 2 members were against, 1 member abstained.

The Town Clerk was requested to forward the results of the straw poll to the School.

35. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Council noted the date of the next meeting, scheduled for 7pm **Monday 8th August 2011.**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

..... Town Mayor

Wareham Town Council Meeting 28th June 2011

ANNEX A

PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT 28TH JUNE 2011**BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW**

Prior to the meeting of the 7th June 2011, a presentation was given by the Boundary Commission due to the 2009 legislation - which means that we as a council which elects by thirds are affected by the presumption in favour of all our wards comprising 3 members each. If we retain 24 members, unless there are compelling reasons for variations to this, our current 14 ward structure will be reorganised into 8 wards of 3 members. A review could mean that numbers of members could increase or decrease by 3.

The Commisioners listened to the debate taking into account planning etc so we can provide any projected changes to voter numbers, changes in population patterns etc, the rural geography, parish boundaries, how PDC conducts its business and the workload on members.

Following the preliminary stages and armed with what the Boundary Commission are minded to recommend in terms of member numbers they will ask us and other consultees to produce aspirational warding patterns. Following this, the Boundary Commission will consult on their draft proposals for 10/12 weeks with a view to implementation by an order from Parliament in Jan/Feb 2012. All Members have had to complete a comprehensive schedule of their work load taking everything into account. Whole Council elections will then follow in May 2012.

LICENSING BOARD

A request had been received from the hackney carriage operators for an increase in fares, and after due consideration it was agreed that the initial charge of Tariff 1 be increased to £2.80 and the first mile to £3.43, with the subsequent four miles to £2.52 with every mile after 5 miles being £2.40.

There were also increases agreed on Tariffs 2 & 3 covering public holidays, soiling etc.

Councillor E L Osmond