

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2010 AT 7.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM BH20 4NS

Present: Councillors Mrs D Adkins, Mrs P Bowyer-Davis, Mrs D R Cleaton (Deputy Town Mayor), Mr D Critchley, Mr K Critchley, Mrs S D Elmes, Mr K Green, Mr E L Osmond (Town Mayor), M Russell, Mrs C Turner

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

At the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor called for a minute's silence in memory of Mr Charles Patterson, six times Mayor of Wareham and Honoured Townsman, who had passed away on 7th December 2010.

106. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mr D A Budd, Mrs V Green, Mrs L I Kenyon, Mrs A Selby, Mrs A Tighe, and Mr T Williams.

107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NIL

108. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2nd November 2010.

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

Page 22 – Minute 92 delete 'Policy Development Group' insert 'Policy Development Panel'

Page 23 – Minute 92 delete 'Group' insert 'Panel'

Page 24 – Minute 96 (d) delete 'a self closing gate' insert 'self closing gates'

Page 26 – Minute 100 line 3 delete 'Planning' insert 'Finance'

109. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on 2nd November 2010

Nil

110. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

Nil Present

111. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Nil

112. TO ANSWER MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (IF ANY)

Nil

113. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to a number of engagements and also announced that the assistant caretaker, Mr Dave Wheatley had resigned and that his last day in service was Friday 17th December 2010. A collection and card was circulated to Councillors.

114. **TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:-**(a) **Wareham in Bloom Committee** – 17th November 2010

Minute 34 Roundabout at North Causeway: Councillor Russell suggested a public competition to design a roundabout. Councillor Adkins suggested approaching Purbeck School about the possibility of an 'In School Project' to create a design. Councillor K Critchley was concerned about maintenance and public liability insurance. It was

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk investigate the insurance and maintenance issues before any further progress on the project and that Councillor Ms Adkins approach the Art Department at the Purbeck School regarding a roundabout design competition for students.

Minute 35 Delete 'INITITIVES' insert 'INITIATIVES'

(b) **Museum Committee** - 23rd November 2010

Nil questions

(c) **Human Resources Panel** – 29th November 2010

Nil questions. A confidential minute had also been made and the Chairman of the Committee stated that it could be seen by any Member on request to the Town Clerk.

(d) **Policy, Resources and Finance Committee** – 8th December 2010

Minute 71: Lease Renewal for the Scout and Guide Hut - the Chairman of the Committee referred to a Recommendation that the counterpart lease be signed at the Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Lease be signed by the Chairman of Policy, Resources and Finance Committee, Councillor K Critchley, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs D Cleaton. Note: following the meeting the counterpart lease was duly signed.

(e) **Planning and Transport Committee**

8th November 2010 - Nil questions

29th November 2010 - Nil questions

13th December 2010 – page 30 Item 133: Delete 'Turner' Insert 'Kenyon'

(f) **Amenities Committee** – 10th November 2010

Page 11 HAUSES FIELD – ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR/BMX

Councillor Critchley asked whether the Restorative Justice session had taken place. The Mayor commented that the scheduled meeting needed to be rearranged and he was due to attend the session on Wednesday 22nd December; unfortunately due to personal commitments the Town Clerk would be unable to attend on this date.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Keith Critchley attend the Restorative Justice session with the Mayor to represent Wareham Town Council on 22nd December 2010.

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

Purbeck District Council

The Mayor presented his report – **See Annex A**

Dorset County Council

The Mayor presented the report on behalf of Dorset County Councillor Budd -**See Annex B**

Wareham and District Development Trust

Councillor Sue Elmes presented her report-**See Annex C**

DAD Wareham Branch

Deputy Mayor Mrs Doreen Cleaton thanked the Mayor for his attendance at the DAD Christmas Party and explained that a 'breakaway organisation' was being formed and details of the Wareham Branch and new name for the group had yet to be decided.

The Mayor thanked Councillors for their reports.

116. **REPORT OF UP TO DATE EXPENDITURE AND INCOME AGAINST BUDGET, PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS, ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY MEMBERS AND INSTRUCTION TO SIGNATORIES TO SIGN CHEQUES**

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor K Green, seconded by Councillor M Russell and

RESOLVED that the report of up to date expenditure and income against budget and accounts dated 21st Dec 2010 totalling £10242.89 be approved and signatories be authorised and instructed to sign cheques in payment of this total sum.

117. **TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET LINES 2011/2012**

The Council's proposed Budget for Financial Year 2011/2012 was received, following the recommendation of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee. It was noted that Members of that committee had worked very hard to finalise the figures, and allocated £8,000 from reserves to help with various projects, so that a 0% increase in Precept (the Town Council's share of the Council Tax from Purbeck District Council) could be proposed, using the same Council Tax base as last year. Councillor K Critchley, Chairman of the Committee, explained that there was a slight difference (£218) in the chargeable figure since there were always slight fluctuations due to population/household changes, however this was not set by the Town Council but by the District Council. It was then proposed by Councillor K Critchley, seconded by Councillor K Green and

RESOLVED that the budget for Financial Year 2011/2012 be approved and that a Precept figure of £106,968 be set and requested from Purbeck District Council in January 2011.

118. COUNCIL MEETING DATES – 8th March and 17th April 2011

The committee considered changing the dates of two Town Council meetings due to a clash with a District Council meeting on 8th March 2011 and a PDC Policy Group meeting on 17th April 2011, which would be advantageous to four District Council Members who also serve on Wareham Town Council. It was proposed by Councillor K Critchley, seconded by Councillor Mrs Elmes and

RESOLVED that forthcoming dates for the Council meetings be changed from Tuesday 8th March to **Monday 7th March 2011** and from Tuesday 19th April to **Wednesday 20th April 2011**.

119. CHANGE OF COUNCIL MEETING DAYS/CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2011/2012 CIVIC YEAR

The Council considered changing Town Council meeting days to Wednesdays rather than Tuesdays in future civic years to avoid clashes with Purbeck District Council and other meetings. Council also considered a proposed Town Council Calendar of Meetings for 2011/2012 Civic Year. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that these matters be deferred until the next Council meeting on 25th January 2011.

120. CCTV PARTNERSHIP GROUP – Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Cameras

The Council considered a response to correspondence received from the Dorset Community Safety Partnership regarding the installation of ANPR cameras in Wareham at the A351 flyover at two locations, above and below the bridge. Installation costs would be met by the Safety Partnership.

Councillors were concerned that the benefits might not be apparent for the residents and taxpayers of Wareham, although the benefits to the Police were more obvious. The Council already paid for maintenance of six non-ANPR CCTV cameras in the town, including one camera at the A351 flyover. Members were also concerned to hear of an extra £1100 per annum extra maintenance cost for the ANPR cameras which would need to be paid for by the local community, since there was no Town Council budget for this item. It was

RESOLVED that more information regarding the benefits of new ANPR cameras for Wareham Town was needed and that Inspector Weeks of Wareham Police be invited to the next meeting on 25th January 2011 to give fuller details before any decision was taken.

121. DORSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP – DORSET WASTE FORUM MEETING

The Council considered correspondence from Dorset County Council regarding a meeting of the Dorset Waste Forum on 20th January 2011. Councillor Mrs Elmes volunteered to attend the meeting.

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs S. Elmes be duly nominated to attend as the Wareham Town Council Representative to the Dorset Waste Forum meeting on 20th January 2011.

122. **DORSET COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE – POSSIBLE CLOSURES**

The committee considered an update from Dorset County Council (Cultural Services, Library and Arts Service) regarding possible changes to Library Services as a result of County Council budget changes. The correspondence from Mr Paul Lievers, Head of Cultural Services was considered. It was considered that the library service in Wareham was crucial to the surrounding community. Town Council considered that, while understanding that there had to be some savings, they were strongly opposed to any attempt to close public libraries in general. It was:

RESOLVED that a reply be sent (copied to the town’s MP) to the County Council to express the Town Council’s disappointment at the possible lack of funding for a valuable community and educational resource and to express strong opposition to any attempt to close public libraries in general in the County.

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

The Mayor reported that there were changes to the local bus timetables regarding service 103 and 103A and made reference to a letter from Dorset County Council outlining the changes. Councillor Mrs Elmes suggested that the Town Clerk be requested to refer to the changes to services in the next issue of the Wareham Directory, which was agreed by the Town Clerk.

124. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Noted that the date of next meeting was scheduled for **Tuesday 25th January 2011.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

.....Town Mayor
