

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 25th JANUARY 2011 AT 7.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM BH20 4NS**

**Present:** Councillors Ms D Adkins, Mr D A Budd, Mrs D R Cleaton (Deputy Town Mayor) Mr K Critchley, Mrs S D Elmes, Mr K Green, Mrs V Green, Mrs L Kenyon, Mr E L Osmond (Town Mayor), M Russell, Mrs A Selby, Mrs A Tighe

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

Members of the Press 1  
Members of the Public 0

**125. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs P Bowyer-Davis, Mr D Critchley, Mrs C Turner, Mr T Williams

**126. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

NIL

**127. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 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 31 Minute 118 Line 2 delete 'committee' insert 'council'

Line 6 delete 'COuncillor' insert 'Councillor'

Page 32 Minute 122 Line 2 delete 'committee' insert 'council'

**128. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES of the Town Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010.**

**Minute 114 (a) Wareham in Bloom Committee**

Councillor Russell asked the Town Clerk if the issues over insurance for maintenance of the proposed roundabout had been resolved. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Transport Officer at Dorset County Council had agreed that maintenance could be carried out with minor conditions. It was agreed that the Mayor, in his capacity as Chairman of Wareham in Bloom, would arrange a meeting with the Transport Officer at Dorset County Council to discuss any possible issues regarding the roundabout.

Councillor Ms D Adkins reported that she had approached Head of Art at the Purbeck School about a competition to design a roundabout for the approach for Wareham town; they were enthusiastic about the design project and also the prospect of working with Town Council on this community project. They had had many ideas regarding the design and theme for the roundabout and were looking forward to becoming involved.

The Mayor suggested that it may be too late for a design competition, owing to the stage which had now been reached. A site meeting had been arranged, £1000 sponsorship from Viridor had been forthcoming, local companies had offered to clear

the site, stone donated and he had also received an offer for landscaping. The Mayor added that there would perhaps be an opportunity for the school to be involved with some poster designs for Wareham in Bloom. It was agreed that the 'Wareham in Bloom' committee should continue with their current plans for the roundabout.

Minute 118 The Mayor requested that the date for the Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2011 could be moved to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 due to a clash with a Purbeck District Council's Chairman's Meeting. The Town Clerk referred to Standing Orders 3.3 (a) which indicated that six supporting signatures of councillors would be required for any rescission of a resolved item within six months of the resolution having been made. It was agreed that the proposed date change would be put on the next Town Council Agenda as an item, following receipt of the necessary notice and signatures.

129. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Nil Present

130. **TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

Nil

131. **TO ANSWER MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (IF ANY)**

Nil

132. **CCTV PARTNERSHIP GROUP – Automatic number Plate Recognition**

The Town Clerk gave apologies from Inspector Weeks who had been due to attend the meeting. Following conversations with him and also with Inspector Caroline Naughton of Dorset Police HQ, a member of the Dorset CCTV Partnership Group, he had learned that there was now the distinct possibility of funding for four years' worth of maintenance for the two proposed ANPR cameras, including the first year warranty. At the last Council meeting, Council had been informed that one year's worth of maintenance costs (£1100) would be available but in subsequent years the cost was being sought from the Wareham community.

Council was informed that Inspector Naughton was shortly due to attend a meeting of the Dorset Community Safety Partnership, which would finalise the details of the funding on offer. Consequently, he had arranged that she and Inspector Weeks would attend the next Council meeting on 7th March to discuss ANPR cameras, the possible benefits to the Wareham Town community, and any other Police matter concerning Wareham that members may wish to raise.

In discussion, it was clarified that ANPR cameras could perform a dual function of surveillance and vehicle number plate recognition and that there were two cameras proposed: (a) for the A351 flyover and (b) underneath the flyover to capture traffic entering and leaving the business park estate in Sandford Lane. All other CCTV cameras in Wareham (owned and maintained by Wareham Town Council) were for surveillance purposes only.

**RESOLVED** that the updated report by the Town Clerk be noted and further questions on ANPR and policing issues in Wareham be raised at the next meeting when the Police would be represented.

133. **MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor referred to a number of enjoyable engagements over the Christmas period.

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

(a) Planning and Transport – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Minute 150 Councillor Mrs S Elmes referred to Application 6/2010/0781 regarding the development and demolition of buildings on Trinity Lane (3 Land Adj.). A wheelwright's forge was previously on the site and within the site a bonding wheel plate facility is embedded, which is of historical interest. The council discussed the possibility of the wheel plate being removed and donated to the town, for suitable re-siting.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk contact the owners of the site requesting that, should planning permission be received for application No. 6/2010/0781, the wheel plate facility at Trinity Lane be removed and donated to the Town of Wareham,

Numbering of minutes: Amendment: delete 10,11,12,13, insert 157,158,159,160

Minute 10: Reference Application 6/2010/0636 Tantinoby Lane (Nursery School). The council discussed Council owned land adjacent to the site at Hauses Field and measures to protect this land from possible encroachment by the applicants, who had appealed against refusal of planning permission. The Wareham District Development Trust had funds available for work at Hauses Field and some could be allocated to protecting Council land and improving the landscaping. Councillor K Critchley agreed that there was some urgency over the implementation; he drew attention to Town Council funds of £1000 which had been earmarked in the next Financial Year's budget for environmental improvements and which could also be used for this project.

**RESOLVED** that a Premises Working Party meeting be convened on this matter and a report be made to the next Town Council meeting.

(b) Policy, Resources and Finance –10<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Risk Assessment document, part 3.5: the Town Clerk reported that he had contacted the Internal Auditor who considered that the 'testing of disclosures' were not relevant to smaller Town Councils, being more appropriate to larger local authorities e.g. District/County Councils or companies with a large number of investments, for example. Chairman of Policy, Resources and Finance Committee, Councillor K Critchley, stated that he would refer back to the Auditor as he understood it to be the declaration of interests in outside bodies and was an indication of the Council's openness. In discussion, it was suggested that Members could be reminded to update the disclosure of their interests by means of an annual memorandum and this was agreed by the Town Clerk for implementation at some stage in the new Civic year following elections in May 2011.

(c) Amenities – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Minute 61 page 16 Item 1 line 4 The Premises Working Party to meet at the cricket ground on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Minute 61 page 16 Item 2 Planning Permission. If Planning Permission was required the Council agreed that it would be sought through Wareham Town Council since a 50% discount would apply, provided the Cricket Club took responsibility for the administration.

Minute 63 Line 7, ref: Town Hall water heaters - noted that investigations had taken place and a quotation considered. A further quotation had now been received and a decision would be made shortly.

Minute 65 Hauses Field – oak trees. Councillor Russell enquired where the actual boundary was sited and was updated by the Town Clerk; it was requested that legal ownership be investigated.

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

**Purbeck District Council**

Councillor K Critchley presented his report – **See Annex A**

**Dorset County Council**

Councillor Mr Budd presented his report on behalf of Dorset County Council-**See Annex B**

**Wareham and District Development Trust**

Councillor Mrs S Elmes presented her report -**See Annex C**

**Wareham Seniors Forum**

- Councillor Mrs A Tighe reported that Mrs Mary Wainwright had started a new initiative for a Carers Group.

**Wareham Carnival Committee**

- Councillor Mrs Tighe reported that the Committee would be meeting on the first Wednesday of the month and, following the next two meetings, fund raising quiz nights in Harry's Bar had been organised.

**DAPTC and Purbeck Transport Policy Development Panel**

Councillor Mrs C Turner's written report was given to the Council - **See Annex D**

The Mayor thanked Councillors for their reports.

136. **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 the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Elmes.

**RESOLVED** that the report of up to date expenditure and income against budget and accounts dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 totalling £11672.58 be approved and signatories be authorised and instructed to sign cheques in payment of this total sum.

137. **PART NIGHT STREET LIGHTING**

The Council considered a letter from Dorset County Council, enclosed with the agenda, which proposed a reduction in most street lighting services in Wareham between the hours of midnight and early morning. The Council was requested to identify any issues which merited special consideration. The proposed reduction in street lighting in residential areas was discussed. Councillor Adkins suggested a variation in the timings of the lightings to take account of busy periods, particularly at weekends. Following discussion, however, it was agreed that the practicalities of timing variations may mean that they were not be possible. Councillor Mrs L Kenyon was concerned about the potholes around the town and that lack of adequate lighting could cause a danger to pedestrians and drivers. Councillor K Critchley questioned whether the low lighting levels would have an effect on the CCTV cameras in the Town.

**RESOLVED** that a response be sent to Dorset Council with the following observations:

- It is appreciated that town centres will remain lit all night under the proposals, however there is often a high level of activity after midnight in the town centre of Wareham, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights, and it is felt that midnight may be too early to be reducing street lighting to those residential areas which lead off the town centre and in other residential areas.
- There are public safety concerns regarding the number of damaged roads and potholes following severe winter weather which have occurred and which need to be highly visible to pedestrians and vehicle drivers; reduced street lighting may affect these highway and footway users.
- There are six CCTV cameras owned and maintained by Wareham Town Council in the town centre, at Worgret Road and at the A351 flyover (North Causeway). Please note that any reduction in street lighting will affect the light levels available for these cameras and they may not be as effective in these conditions. It is requested that Dorset County Council check with Wareham Town Council, before any reductions are made, to ascertain the location of these cameras.
- The timing of the letter, arriving on Christmas Eve before an annual office closure period, and following a Town Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> December, was not good. The Council has only now had the opportunity to discuss the consultation response.

138. **THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 'GREAT POPPY PARTY WEEKEND'  
10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011.**

Council considered a letter from the Royal British Legion National Chairman regarding the organisation of a 'Poppy Party' over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011 in celebration of the Royal British Legion's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Councillor M Russell reported on a number of suggestions regarding a suitable celebration. Following discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED**

- (a) that Councillor M Russell liaise with the Royal Armour Centre, Bovington regarding the possibility of a military band performing at the Wareham Recreation Ground and to report on this aspect, and any further suggestions, to the next meeting of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011 and;
- (b) that this matter be brought back to the next Town Council meeting for further consideration.

Councillor Mrs A Tighe offered to contact the Wareham Carnival Committee regarding support and assistance for any celebration and this was agreed.

139. **CHANGE OF COUNCIL MEETING DAYS**

The Town Council considered a suggestion to change Town Council meeting days to Wednesdays rather than Tuesdays in future years, to avoid clashes with certain Purbeck District Council meetings and other meetings. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor K Critchley that Town Council meetings remain on Tuesdays for the next Civic Year 2011/2012 and this was seconded by Councillor Ms D Adkins. With one vote against, it was duly:

**RESOLVED** that Town Council meetings remain on Tuesdays for the next Civic Year.

140. **COUNCIL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – CIVIC YEAR 2011/2012**

The Council considered the proposed Town Council Calendar of Meetings for 2011/2012 Civic Year, using the Draft A Calendar showing Tuesday meetings.

**RESOLVED** that Draft A Town Council calendar of Meetings for the next Civic Year 2011/2012 be approved, with the exception of the date of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 which will be considered at the next Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

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

- The Town Clerk had received correspondence regarding proposed changes to the Dorset Library Service. It appeared that Wareham's public library in South Street was safe from proposed cuts which would, however, affect smaller communities in Dorset. Any councillors wanting copies of the correspondence and report could request them from the Town Clerk, however a copy would be e-mailed to all Members in due course, for information.
- The new Honoured Townsman Board would soon be ready and it was planned for it to be unveiled at the next Town Council meeting. It was agreed that Honoured Townsmen would be invited to attend, including Mrs Jane Patterson, widow of the late Charles Patterson who had contributed £100 towards the making of the board in 2010.

142. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Noted that the date of the next meeting is **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 7.00 pm.**

**The meeting closed at 8.50pm**

..... Mayor

**ANNEX A**

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Report by Councillor K Critchley:**

**Former Councillor Charles Patterson**

At the meeting of Purbeck District council held on Tuesday the 11th of January, Councillors, officers and members of the public stood in silent tribute to the memory of Charles Patterson who had served on Purbeck District Council representing Wareham ward from 1980-1984 and from 1991-1995.

**Overview and Scrutiny**

A change to overview and scrutiny procedure rules was made under a notice of motion presented by Councillor Budd. Under the new rules the chairman of the committee should not be a member of the ruling group.

**Census 2011**

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District Councillors received a short presentation from Jackie Custard, Census Area Manager. The Census will be carried out this year on March the 27th and she explained that a number of new approaches were being implemented in order to improve census return rates. These include the post-out of all household questionnaires based on a newly developed national address register. Online completion - for the first time people will be able to complete and submit their answers online or fill in and return the paper questionnaire. Questionnaire tracking and targeted field follow-up: for households which have not returned a completed questionnaire. As with previous Censuses, it is a legal requirement for forms to be submitted.

### **Council Tax Base**

A recommendation that the Councils Tax bases for the year 2011/2012 be approved was accepted with Wareham's parish base being £2,238.78.

### **Car parking in Wareham and Corfe Castle Annual Consultation Meeting**

A report from the annual consultation meeting held on the 18th of November 2010 was considered. The issue of parking charges was not discussed at this point. Charges will be considered as part of the budget setting process, however a request made by the Wareham and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce for free parking in the District Council's Wareham car parks on Sundays was refused.

**ANNEX B**

**COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**County Council Budget**

Since my report last month the full impact of the Governments Grant Settlement has become clearer. The overall savings target has increased from £48 to £55 million, with the next financial years savings increasing from £27 to £31 million in round millions, hence the unavoidable need to cut back on services. The County Council will be setting its budget on 17<sup>th</sup> February.

**Railway Crossing**

Network Rail informed me by telephone last week that they propose to apply for planning permission for a ramp access bridge at Wareham Station. We discussed the need for wide public consultation particularly in the north of the town, but I made it clear that the public view was that they wanted to maintain a ground level crossing.

The railway station and the existing footbridge are both Listed Buildings having been built in 1886 for the opening of the branch line to Swanage. The planning application will be a matter for Purbeck District Council.

**Winter Maintenance**

In response to a request from Wareham St Martin Parish Council, I have asked that Bere Road north west from its junction with Westminster Road to the A35 at Woodbury Cross be added to the winter maintenance schedule on the grounds that this road is well used as a connection to the A31 and A35 trunk roads and also provides access to the Trigon Landfill site.

The Head of Highways accepts the latter point and consideration will be given to adding the C7 road to next winter's maintenance schedule; however he points out that there are alternative routes to the A31 and A35 which are gritted. The County Council currently grit approximately 25% of the highway network which carries around 80% of the county's traffic.

**Dorset Waste Partnership**

The proposed budget for the DWP in 2011-12 is in round numbers £20.8 million which is some £1.6 million less than if the partnership had not been established, although a significant element of the savings can be attributed to a reduction in waste arising there is little doubt that the partnership will save the partner Councils including Purbeck District Council significant sums of money in these difficult financial times.

**Household Recycling Centre**

Just to remind Members that the Household Recycling Centre at Westminster Road will be closed today for essential maintenance and will reopen on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**ANNEX C**

**Report by Councillor Mrs S Elmes:**

**Dorset Waste Forum 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011.**

I attended a meeting of this Forum last Friday. We were given presentations on the Joint Waste Management Strategy for Dorset, Dorset Waste Education and promotions, Waste treatment in Dorset and the Dorset Waste Partnership. There was then a question and answer session.

Dorset is doing very well in the amount of waste that we recycle and the new Waste Partnership between all the District and Borough Councils and Dorset County Council is a Pathfinder initiative. It has been so well received by Government that DEFRA is giving extra money to help improve our services. The aim is to save money and make waste collection more efficient by sharing collection vehicles, doing collections across borders and having a unified system of disposal.

Alongside this initiative, there are several schemes to educate the population in saving resources, including food, more composting and recycling old furniture and textiles. The partnership is currently in negotiations with various companies on waste treatment now that the contract with New Earth Solutions has come to an end. A copy of the presentations is expected by email in the near future and will be will passed to the admin office.

**Purbeck Community Café.**

The Purbeck Community Café Executive Committee was inaugurated on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at a meeting at the Purbeck Youth Centre. Officers were appointed at this meeting. The Chair is Rev. Andy Bowerman, the Vice Chair is Kevin Vasey, the Secretary is myself, Sue Elmes and the Treasurer is Julia Ballard. A bank account is being opened at Barclays Bank.

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February, the first of a pilot scheme of eight sessions will start at the Salt Pig, and run every Friday evening until the end of March. Once it has been established that this is what the young people of the town want, then suitable permanent premises will be found and finance and grants will be applied for to fund a facility that will hopefully be run for all age groups in the town.

**ANNEX D**

**Report by Councillor Mrs C Turner**

**(a) DAPTC MEETING 21 JAN 2011**

**High speed broadband project.**

Helen Heanes and Darren Roberts of Dorset County Council gave an update on the Dorset Public Sector Network. The object is to provide a county wide single network that would be available to all. At present suppliers have been narrowed down to three who are putting in bids for the provision of the necessary works required to set up the network by the end of April with contracts due to be awarded by the end of May 2011. The team was unsuccessful in a recent bid for funds but they are well placed to make a new bid to Broadband Delivery

UK in April, which has a new larger pot of Government money. They would like to know about any existing broadband groups and are soon to put out road shows to gather information and give advice e.g. Data protection law.

**Chief Executive reported on:**

**Grit bins.** Following the recent bad weather DCC advice on provision of grit bins has been updated and is due out soon. It is probable that they will lean towards the provision of a community dumpy bag.

**Dorset Direct.** It is well worth Clerks visiting DD to see its systems and what it can provide.

**DAPTC grant.** In the present financial climate the present grant from DCC, which represent a fifth of income, is not certain but indications that it will continue are good.

**Training Calendar** is out. Two dates to pick out are 10 March at Athelhampton House on the Localism Bill and 23 March a course for potential chairmen.

Chairman reported that:-

**Dorset Radio.** The likelihood of the BBC setting up a Dorset Radio station has receded but Oliver Letwin will still pursue it.

**Travellers Sites.** All has gone quiet on this issue but there is still time to get in the survey issued at last meeting.

**UBR on cemeteries.** If a revaluation is received it needs to be checked. One clerk reported that he had called out the valuer to see the cemetery and get his information right as the various areas are rated different i.e. historic, current etc. DAPTC will issue a paper on it soon.

**Schools admissions.** A lot of complaints received about this and it seems that the admission system is not answerable to any DCC committee.

**Works lists.** Jobs needed doing inc.pot holes etc. need to be generated locally. Mixed response reported by committee members.

**Youth service.** It is concentrating on main clubs but cuts are coming. Chairman has been trying to get a rep to come to a DAPTC meeting but with no success.

**Dorset Waste Partnership.** This starts on 1 April and will be implemented over 18 months so we will see changes. Local system will continue until it joins the countywide scheme.

**Housing Market.** Shelter has released a report into the cost of housing and for the first time have included the effect on employment in it.

**(b) PURBECK TRANSPORT POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011**

The Panel met at the Council Chamber of PDC.A presentation was given firstly by Steve Williams and then by Rick Clayton to all Members. In addition to the regular members of the panel Cllr Eric Osmond and Cllr D Budd Cllr Johns and Cllr N Cake also attended. Cllr Beryl Ezzard chaired the meeting. The presentations outlined the South East Dorset Transport Strategy. This is the preferred strategy and we are being consulted on this document. We were introduced to the strategy components: smarter greener choices, walking and cycling, better public transport, enhancement to highways, demand management, freight and land use and non transport interventions.

**The Smarter Choices** - short to medium term delivery:

Personalised travel planning - travel awareness - is your journey really necessary -

Can you share a vehicle, can you do your journey at any other time - not during peak Travel times etc.

Cycling network and parking for cars and cycles.

Walking, crossings and footpaths, access to stations etc.  
Travel plans, workplace, and residential.  
Airports and stations, leisure facilities.  
Promote public transport / use enhanced information to promote this.  
Car clubs, car sharing.

**Park and Ride Schemes.** Reduce long term parking in towns and city centres to promote park and ride schemes. Enhance parking charges in towns and city centres so users make more use of park and ride schemes. However, if you look at the proposals Purbeck does not gain anything apart from the railway link coming on line and extending hopefully to Brockenhurst or Bournemouth eventually. Even the park and ride schemes for Poole only start at Mannings Heath and when I questioned the use of the Creekmoor Park and Ride, I was informed that this was not viable at this time (even though a great deal of money has been spent on the site and at the present time it is unused). All of the sites to benefit are in the Poole, Bournemouth, Christchurch corridor with bus showcase corridors and highway improvements.

From the Purbeck point of view, the proposals are:

The X43 bus from Swanage to Weymouth will once again run this summer

A351- there are proposals for new cycle ways and route management.

The Swanage to Poole bus route 40 will be upgraded - possibly running more frequently and possibly including Valley Road (not yet definite). There is to be improved access to Durlston County Park - bus possible.

New houses are to be built in Huntick Road, Lytchett Matravers and as such there will be money in the funds for a footpath/cycle way to be established along Huntick road through to the school.

A350 Blandford Road will also have a footpath.

### **Long term**

Park and Ride schemes

Greener travel options - car sharing etc.,

Quality passenger information at transport interchanges and shops

We as individuals were all urged to take a good look at the SEDTS proposals and to complete the survey - remembering that this is the final chance to make a difference!!

The Panel then looked at alternative forms of transport funding - possibly raising revenue from motorists at the main visitor attractions in our area - Monkey World, Bovington Tank Museum, Lulworth Castle, also from caravan and camp sites as all of these bring visitors to the area who use our roads and infrastructure but give nothing back to enable the roads to be maintained. Chris Nichols will take away our opinions and in due time will come back to the Panel with his findings for further consultation.

This was a very long meeting (2p.m. - 5.20.p.m.) and I have only covered a small amount of what was covered - unfortunately there were no real outcomes and so the Panel will meet once again in March for further deliberation.