



**Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 3 March 2020 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.00pm.**

**Members Present:** Councillors H Goodinge (Mayor), L Kirk (Deputy Mayor), D Budd, D Cleaton, M Cotton, K Critchley, B Ezzard, Z Gover, K Green, V Green, M Humphries, S Kemp, M Russell, R Schofield, C Turner

**Officers present:** T Bailey, Committee Clerk

**140. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor B Dean and Dorset Councillor R Holloway.

**141. Declarations of interest**

Councillor Kirk declared an interest in the payments list in reference to a payment of mileage.

Councillor Ezzard and Councillor Budd declared an interest in Friends of Wareham Railway Station.

Councillor Goodinge, Councillor Ezzard and Councillor Kirk declared an interest in the Purbeck Youth Club

Councillor Ezzard declared an interest in the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership

**142. Public participation time**

There were 2 members of the public present.

**143. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Town Council held on 21 January 2020 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 18 February 2020 were presented by the Mayor.

**Resolved that** the minutes be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to an amendment to Minute 137 to read 'delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group' in place of 'delegated to Dr David Evans and Mrs Hilary Evans'

**144. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of 21 January 2020 or 18 February 2020.

**145. Reports by Dorset Councillors and representatives on outside bodies**

Councillor Ezzard gave an update on her report to note that the Liberal Democratic Party who numbered 29 members, against the Conservative Party who numbered

43, had formed a shadow cabinet. Councillor Ezzard had been appointed the Adults and Health Councillor on the Shadow Cabinet.

Dorset Council had agreed and approved to be plastic free in all their offices and all their buildings throughout the Council.

Councillor K Green presented his DAPTC report.

#### **146. Financial statements and payments**

The financial statement and a list of payments were presented for approval.

**Resolved** that payments be made in the sum of £26,763.97 (£21,485.82 Cheques and £5,278.15 Direct Debits), be approved and signatories be authorised to sign the cheques).

#### **147. To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may wish to place before the Council**

The Mayor listed the various events that she had attended over the past 6 six weeks.

25 January: Gave a talk to Friends of the Wareham Library on life as a Mayor in Wareham.

3 February: Attended the Day and Community Centre, run by Tricuro, to open the new café.

14 February: Hosted a Valentine's supper and raised £1,634 for her charities.

23 February: Presented an award to the Kings Arms pub and Horse and Groom pub from CAMRA. The Horse and Groom had won both rural pub of the year and pub of the year,

Attended a passing out parade at the Fire Station in Wareham to award certificates to eleven children who had passed out after attending a five day course.

#### **148. Report from the Mayor on the Railway Crossing meeting**

The Mayor presented her report and provided a further update that the Chairman of Network Rail had invited Michael Tomlinson MP and a small group of interested parties to Basingstoke, to where the signals are operated from so that the issues of safety etc could be seen. Councillor Turner would be attending this visit, but no date was available as yet. It was understood that it would not be a large group that would be attending as this was a high security venue.

Councillor Russell noted his interest in attending the meeting and asked that this request be investigated further.

There would be a meeting at the Town Hall following the visit to Basingstoke for a small number of interested parties.

#### **149. Committee reports and Sub-group reports**

##### **(a) Amenities Committee**

Councillor D Budd presented the (unconfirmed) minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 5 February 2020.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Councillor K Critchley presented the minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 16 January 2020.

(c) Personnel Committee

Councillor D Budd presented the (unconfirmed) minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 28 January 2020.

(d) Planning and Transport Committee

Councillor Mr K Green presented the minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee meetings held on 8 January 2020, 29 January 2020 and the (unconfirmed) minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2020.

(e) Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

Councillor K Critchley presented the (unconfirmed) minutes of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting held on 11 February 2020.

**150. Recommendations from the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee**

Recommendation from the meeting of Policy and Resources Committee on 11 February 2020, to consider approving the

- The Equalities Policy
- The Petitions Policy
- The Member/Officer Relations Policy

It was proposed and seconded that the policies be approved.

**Resolved** that the policies be accepted.

**151. Fixed Asset Review**

The Fixed Asset Register had been prepared following the 2019/20 asset review and was presented.

It was noted that the number of Councillor Gowns needed to be amended.

Councillor Ezzard raised that she had donated money for a bench which had been located outside the post office. Further to its recent removal, Councillor Ezzard requested that it be relocated in Wareham. The Chair of Amenities confirmed that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Amenities Committee.

**Resolved** to accept the Fixed Asset Register subject to a minor amendment.

**152. Mayor/Deputy Mayor nominations for the 2020/2021 Civic Year**

**Town Mayor Elect 2020/2021**

It was proposed by Councillor K Critchley and seconded by Councillor K Green that Councillor L Kirk be Town Mayor Elect for the Civic Year 2020/2021 and unanimously

**RESOLVED** that Councillor L Kirk be confirmed as Town Mayor-Elect for Civic Year 2020/21.

The nomination of Deputy Town Mayor-Elect was deferred to the next meeting of full council as standing orders stipulated that the nominated Deputy Town Mayor Elect be noted on the Agenda.

**153. Standing Orders**

It was recommended that this item be further deferred until the meeting 14 April, in order to be considered in the presence of the Council's appointed Proper Officer.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

**154. VE Day Celebrations Street Party**

A report had been prepared by the Operations Manager for Council to consider whether permission could be given for the use of the Howard's Lane car park as a venue for VE Day celebrations.

The Chair of Amenities gave his full support and stated that he felt Howards Lane would be a superior venue to St Johns Hill Car park.

It was proposed and seconded that Howards Lane be offered as possible venue for VE Day Celebrations and unanimously

**Resolved** that the Howard's Lane car park be offered as a possible venue for the VE Day street party.

**155. Any other items the Mayor deems urgent**

The Mayor had no urgent items. Councillor Critchley raised that it might be preferable for the Town Mayor to put forward a single report to the Annual Town Meeting rather than each Chairman giving their own report. The Chairmen's individual reports could be listed on the website for public perusal.

The Mayor welcomed the suggestion, which was supported by fellow Chairmen, and agreed to discuss further with the Town Clerk.

The Mayor reminded the Council that the Mayor, known as the Moderator, from Wareham, Massachusetts will be attending the Town Meeting. The Mayor invited Councillors to join her in greeting the Moderator in the Council Chamber for coffee and cake on the morning of 27 March 2020.

**156. Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Town Council was scheduled to be held at **7.00pm on Tuesday 14 April 2020.**

Mayor.....

Date.....