



Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 21 January 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 Dean, B Ezzard, Z Gover, K Green, V Green, M Humphries, S Kemp, M Russell, R Schofield, C Turner

Officers present: V Ricketts, Town Clerk; T Bailey, Operations Manager

Prior to the meeting, the Mayor asked the Council to stand in silent tribute to former Mayor Les Burns who had sadly died.

111. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

112. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

113. Public participation time

There were 7 members of the public present. Dangerous cycling on a footpath was raised. It was, however noted that this footpath was in Arne Parish and Councillor B Ezzard advised that she would raise this with the Parish Council.

114. Presentation of artwork

The Council was presented with a framed drawing of the Town Hall by Mr Cliff Towler, which he had drawn for the cover of the first edition of the Wareham Tower Chimes. The Mayor thanked Mr Towler for the kind gift and advised that it would be prominently displayed.

115. Representation from Dorset Waste Partnership

The Council received a presentation from Mr Marten Gregory of Dorset Waste Partnership titled 'household waste and where it goes'. The Mayor thanked Mr Gregory for the presentation and asked that he attend the Annual Town Meeting on 2 April 2020.

116. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Town Council held on 10 December 2019 were presented by the Mayor.

Resolved that the minutes be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

117. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

Initials.....

S:/MEETINGS/FullCouncil/TownCouncilMeetings/Minutes/2020

118. Reports by Dorset Councillors and representatives on outside bodies

Councillor B Ezzard advised of her written report and added that she would be attending a meeting with the Transport Minister and Michael Tomlinson MP on 23 January regarding the railway crossing.

Councillor K Green advised that he had attended a DAPTC meeting at which the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service (DRFS) had given a presentation on free fire safety initiatives available to the elderly. He requested that the DRFS be invited to give the presentation to Council. The Town Clerk advised that she had invited the DRFS to attend the Annual Town Meeting on 2 April 2020.

119. Financial statements and payments

The Town Clerk presented a list of payments for approval.

Resolved that payments be made in the sum of £29830.13 (£22385.39 BACS and cheques and £7444.74 Direct Debits), be approved and signatories be authorised to sign the cheques).

120. To receive such communications as the Mayor may wish to place before the Council

The Mayor advised that she had attended carol services at Gillingham, Ferndown, Weymouth and Wareham as well as a visiting Pine Martin Grange and Anglebury Court. She had further enjoyed Christmas lunch at the parish hall where Councillor C Turner had organised lunch for 59 residents of Wareham. The Mayor had also attended the launch night of the Wareham Carnival and had been presented with cheque donations for the Parish Hall Christmas Lunch and Wareham in Bloom.

The Mayor congratulated Tara Bailey, Operations Manager and Heath Dyke, Operations Officer, for attaining the IOSH Managing Safely qualification and First Aid training.

Finally, the Mayor advised that she had sold 60 tickets for the Valentine's Night Supper.

121. Committee reports and Sub-group reports

(i) Amenities Committee

Councillor D Budd presented the (unconfirmed) minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 27 November 2019.

(ii) Planning and Transport Committee

Councillor K Green presented the (now confirmed) minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee meeting held on 9 December 2019.

(iii) Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

Councillor K Critchley presented the minutes of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting held on 26 November 2019 and the (unconfirmed) minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2019.

A Member enquired regarding the awarding of grants and donations and was advised that a Task and Finish Group would be meeting the following day, making recommendation to PR&F Committee on 11 February 2020.

122. Recommendations from Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

Members considered the following recommendations from the minutes of the meeting on 17 December 2019:

Minute 71 – Paperless Council

Resolved to recommend to Council that coloured paper is no longer used for agenda packs due to the cost.

Minute 73 - Delegate Authority to the Town Clerk

Members were asked to consider an action, requested by the auditor as part of the Audit Action Plan, to agree delegation of commercial hire to the Town Clerk:

Resolved to recommended that the Council consider giving formal delegated authority to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair of Policy, Resources and Finance, to be able to negotiate and agree commercial hires of Council properties which do not fit within the fees and charges policy, with a retrospective report of amounts negotiated.

Resolved that the recommendations of Minute 71 and Minute 73 be approved.

123. Budget 2020/2021 and precept

Members were advised of the tax base calculation for 2020/2021 which had been received from Dorset Council. With this information, and following a resolution made at the previous Council meeting to agree the budget for 2020/2021, it was unanimously:

Resolved to set the 2020/2021 precept of £357,615, equivalent to £163.03 on a Band D property, and an overall budgeted expenditure of £490,615

124. Resolutions Report

The Town Clerk presented a report on the previous resolutions of Council and its Committees for the 2019/2020 municipal year. Members noted the progress made against the resolutions.

125. Standing Orders

In accordance with SO 13.6 (b) of the Council's current Standing Orders this item stands adjourned without discussion to the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

126. Health & Safety Policy

Members were presented with a draft Health and Safety Policy for consideration. The Town Clerk advised that, as there was currently no policy in place, it was essential to adopt a policy with immediate effect.

Resolved that the Health and Safety Policy be adopted and reviewed in due course by Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

Initials.....

S:/MEETINGS/FullCouncil/TownCouncilMeetings/Minutes/2020

127. Information Security Policy

Members considered a draft Information Security Policy, prepared by the Town Clerk.

Resolved that the policy be referred to Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and that the committee be given delegated powers to adopt the policy.

128. Motion from Councillor M Russell

Councillor M Russell stated that Councillor C Turner had agreed to resume her representation on the 'Harbin-Pitt' Outside Body, which he had undertaken to cover for her.

Resolved that the Council recognise the change-over of Council representative on the Harbin-Pitt Charity; that Cllr Mrs C Turner replaces Cllr M Russell on the outside body.

129. Change of date of Annual Town Meeting

The Mayor asked Members to agree a change of the published date of the Annual Town Meeting.

Resolved that the Annual Town Meeting take place on 2 April 2020 at 7pm in the Corn Exchange.

130. Any other items the Mayor deems urgent

There were no matters of urgency.

131. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Town Council was scheduled to be held at 7.00pm on 3 March 2020. An extraordinary meeting of the Council would take place on 18 February for the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan.

132. Confidential session

Resolved that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the nature of the business to be transacted.

133. Honoured Townsman

Members considered a nomination for Honoured Townsman.

Mayor.....

Date.....