



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 8 JANUARY 2018

COMRADES HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. Lloyd Curtis, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell, Cllr. Roger Smith, Cllr. Lesley Tibballs.

ATTENDANCE: Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by the Chairman. There was one member of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Frampton, Hardwill and Laurie and from Councillor Knox and unanimously approved by the Parish Council.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS, DISPENSATIONS AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATES

a. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors and employees on matters to be considered at the Meeting.

Councillor Hedditch declared an interest in Agenda Item 13a.

b. To receive requests for dispensations.

The Clerk reported that the Dispensation Request Forms previously received from all Councillors in respect of Agenda Item 7b were valid until May 2018.

c. To grant any requests for dispensation.

The Clerk reported that a dispensation had been granted for all Councillors present in respect of Agenda Item 7b, to allow discussion about the Precept.

d. To receive any updates to the Register of Interests from Councillors.

No updates were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Clerk reported that apologies for the Meeting of 11 December 2017 had been sent by Councillor Frampton but had only been viewed by the Clerk on her mobile telephone after the Meeting had ended. A copy of the minutes from the Meeting held on 11 December 2017 was confirmed as a true record and signed by Councillor Hibbard and unanimously approved by the Council.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Chubb asked the Clerk if the letter to Mr. Sach had been sent, the Clerk confirmed that it had and that a copy had been sent to West Dorset District Council. The Clerk stated that updates from the previous Meeting had been included in the Agenda.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Hibbard asked the member of the public if they had any comments or questions on issues on the Agenda, there were none.

a. Report from Councillor Knox

The Clerk reported that Councillor Knox had stated that she would be pleased to receive any matters arising from the Meeting which required her attention.

b. Report from Councillor Sewell

Councillor Sewell reported that with regard to local government reform, West Dorset District Council had sent a statement to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in support of the existing proposals. Councillor Sewell read aloud a copy of the statement for Members and stated that she would send a copy to the Clerk. Councillor Sewell reported that Christchurch Borough Council is now proposing that the unitary councils of Bournemouth and Poole are merged into one authority and the remainder of Dorset should operate on a two-tier basis. Councillor Sewell reported that the statement to DCLG made clear the objections to this stating that it would mean that Dorset (outside of Bournemouth and Poole) would be deprived of the opportunity of making annual savings of £15.3m through a one-off investment of £14.3m and that it would also deprive Dorset of the opportunity of making further savings from transformation in the way that it provides services to its customers. Councillor Sewell also reported that a number of task groups had been set up and that she was part of the Communications Group, which would play a lead role in the flow of information from Central Government to Councils and to the community. Councillor Smith asked whether the Secretary of State could overrule Christchurch Borough Council, Councillor Sewell confirmed that he could.

Councillor Sewell stated that with regard to the local bus service, it was now hoped that it would continue to at least the end of the financial year but stated that she was concerned that reports had been received about the service losing money. Councillor Sewell stated that she had contacted Beaminster Town Council with a view to investigating the possibility of a Saturday service. Councillor Tibballs asked whether the Parish Council should continue to investigate the possibility of a community bus service. Councillor Leader stated that any service could not survive operating at such a financial loss and given that at times, the bus seems full, a review of the timetable would be needed.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

- a. West Dorset District Council, Designation of Beaminster Neighbourhood Area**
- b. Dorset County Council, Invitation to Integrated Transport Review Event, 26 February 2018**

The Clerk noted the above correspondence and stated that she had previously emailed both to Councillors prior to the Meeting. The Clerk asked if any Councillor could attend the Integrated Transport Review Event, Councillor Sewell stated that she was attending and would represent the Parish Council. Councillor Hibbard stated that he would try and attend if possible. There were no questions.

7. ACCOUNTS

a. Finance Report

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first, second and third quarters of 2017/2018, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 3 January 2018 was £37,815.12. The Clerk also referred Members to the Budget Analysis Form which had been previously circulated. There were no questions.

b. To approve the Precept for 2018/2019

The Clerk stated that as requested at the last Meeting, she had revised the budget to show a Precept request of £25,357.20, a ten percent increase from the previous year which equated to £36.92 per year for a Band D household. The Clerk stated that the additional revenue had been allocated under the MUGA expenditure heading, which now totalled £6,000 for 2018/2019. Councillor Hibbard asked for any questions, there were none. Councillor Hibbard thanked the Clerk for preparing the financial information and asked Councillors to approve the Precept request.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Sewell, seconded by Councillor Bassett and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved the Precept request of £25,357.20 for the financial year 2018/2019.

Councillor Bassett asked the Council to vote on the payments en bloc, this was agreed.

c. To approve £15.00 for DAPTC (New External Auditor & Limited Assurance Regime Training Event)

d. To approve £81.00 for Dorset Waste Partnership (Commercial Waste Collection for Drimpton Bins)

e. To approve £793.71 for Clerk's Salary (Adjustment for October, November and December)

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Tibballs and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payments c to e.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

None.

b. Other Applications

None.

c. Results

The Clerk reported the following result.

WD/D/17/002425, Belmont House, The Square, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QD: Approved

d. West Dorset District Council Local Searches

The Clerk reported that the data for December had not yet been published. Councillor Sewell stated that things were improving.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

Councillor Hibbard reported that the next meeting will take place on 18 January and that the results of the returned questionnaires were currently being analysed. Councillor Hibbard stated that he would report back at the next Parish Council Meeting.

10. EMERGENCY PLAN

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Emergency Plan Working Group

Councillor Tibballs stated that the Clerk had printed copies of the Emergency Plan for all Councillors, these were subsequently handed out. Councillor Tibballs stated that she would be circulating the Plan to key stakeholders and asked the Clerk to add the document to the Parish Council's website and stated that she was keen to receive feedback directly. Councillor Tibballs stated that the Plan would need to be reviewed and updated and Councillor Hibbard stated that it could be added to the agenda for the Annual General Meeting each year.

b. Adoption of the Broadwindsor Group Parish Emergency Plan

Councillor Hibbard stated that the Emergency Plan should now be formally adopted by the Parish Council.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Hedditch and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously adopted the Broadwindsor Group Parish Emergency Plan.

11. ALLOTMENTS

There were no updates reported.

12. HIGHWAYS

a. Local Bus/Transport Update

Councillors agreed that this item had been discussed under Agenda Item 5b.

b. Parking in Broadwindsor Square

Councillor Hedditch stated that parking arrangements in The Square at Broadwindsor was still a problem and could cause a serious accident. Councillor Curtis stated that there had recently been a problem with a milk tanker which was not able to pass through and stated that he had seen cars parking outside of the marked bays. Councillor Sewell stated that the Highways and Police should be informed. Councillor Smith suggested that the white lines be redrawn. Councillors Leader and Chubb stated that the Highways Authority should be contacted and advice sought.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Highways Authority to arrange a meeting on site.

c. Report from the Footpaths Officer

No report.

d. Verge Management in the Grouped Parish Area

Councillor Rowe stated that at the November Meeting she had commented that the way in which hedges are cut back is disgraceful. Councillor Rowe stated that this was a careless comment and one that referred to other areas outside of Dorset. Councillor Rowe stated that she hoped that she did not cause offence to anyone.

e. Dog Fouling and Bins

Councillor Leader stated that he had attended a meeting with Dorset Waste Partnership and that two locations for new litter bins had been identified, at Sheepwash Lane and by the ramp at the Sportsfield. Councillor Leader stated that a base would have to be constructed and that he would provide the labour for this and stated that the bins would cost £50.00. Councillor Hibbard asked the Clerk to add this to the accounts for the next Meeting. Councillor Curtis stated that there was still a dog fouling problem near to Broadwindsor School, Councillor Leader stated that there was already a bin in place there, by the gate.

Councillor Sewell stated that the road sweeper had been operational in the High Street in Broadwindsor but that only one side of the road had been cleaned. The Clerk stated that she would contact Dorset Waste Partnership to arrange a second clean.

Councillor Leader stated that he had been approached by residents of Fullers with regard to the congested parking at the entry to the estate and reported that there were concerns that an Emergency vehicle would not be able to gain access. Councillor Leader stated that there was space on the right-hand side for parking and asked the Council for approval to contact Magna Housing to report concerns, Councillors agreed.

Councillor Hedditch stated that he had seen three different waste collection vehicles in the area and wondered why this had occurred, Councillor Smith stated that it was unusual and that he believed that it related to the changes over the Christmas and New Year period.

Action: The Clerk to contact DWP to arrange a second clean of High Street, Broadwindsor. The Clerk to contact Magna Housing to report parking concerns.

13. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. Report from Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust

Councillor Leader reported that the project was moving forward and that solicitors had been engaged. Councillor Leader reminded Councillors of the forthcoming site visit to the Lyme Regis CLT on 11 January.

14. LEISURE

a. Update on the Multi-Use Games Area

Councillor Leader reported that grant applications were still being progressed by himself and Councillor Rowe and that a decision was pending from West Dorset District Council's Leisure Development Fund. Councillor Rowe stated that the Awards for All Team had made contact to seek clarification on a couple of points and that the application was currently being assessed.

b. Options for Multi-Use Games Area Financing

Councillor Chubb stated that it would be helpful to have a cut off point with regard to external funding applications in order to assess whether a loan would be needed to ensure that the MUGA does go ahead. Councillor Hibbard stated that it would be helpful to wait to hear back from the grant awarding bodies in order to assess the shortfall in funding required for the project.

15. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Council

Councillor Bassett reported that the case for the defibrillator located at Drimpton Village Hall was broken and that this was the second time a repair had been required. Councillor Smith stated that this was an ongoing problem and brought into question the ownership of the defibrillator which although housed at the Village Hall was bought with funds from the Parish Council and through community fundraising. Councillors Bassett and Smith asked whether the Parish Council could lead in negotiations and that this be added to the Agenda for the February Meeting. Councillor Bassett stated that he would send further information to the Clerk.

b. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Public

None.

16. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Hibbard asked if there were any questions from the member of the public present, there were none.

17. THE FMR TRUST

a. To receive the Finance Report

The Clerk referred Trustees to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first, second and third quarters of 2017/2018, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 3 January 2018 was £5,974.46. There were no questions.

b. To approve payment of £209.87 for Broadwindsor Group Parish Council (Trust Administration)

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Sewell, seconded by Councillor Leader and agreed by a show of hands, the FMR Trust unanimously approved payment b.

Councillor Leader stated that Mr. Robert Hedditch had very kindly provided remedial repairs to the goalposts on Hursey Common, on several occasions and without accepting reimbursement. Councillor Leader stated that this was a very generous gesture and asked that a letter of thanks be sent from the Parish Council. All Members agreed.

Action: The Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Robert Hedditch.

18. CLOSE

The Council Meeting was formally closed at 8.20 pm and the FMR Trust Meeting was formally closed at 8.22 pm. Councillor Hibbard thanked everyone for attending.