



Beaminster Town Council

Minutes of the Virtual Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 via Zoom.

2443 Members on line – Cllr Monks (Chairman), Cllr Beswarick, Cllr Body, Cllr Corbett, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Drinnan, Cllr Mrs Page and Cllr Turner; also Dorset Councillor Mrs Knox and the Town Clerk.

Dorset Police - In the absence of PCSO Bishop the Town Clerk read his incident report for the month of August.

Dorset Councillor Mrs Knox reported

- Covid-19 – Dorset Council had undertaken trials for dealing with a local outbreak based on three scenarios localised, medium scale and countywide with a view to resist being included in any future national lockdown if at all possible.
- The People & Health Overview Committee had decided as to how to allocate local grants, the first tranche would include CAB, Musuems/Arts and the volunteer service, those organisations would continue to receive grant money in 2020. Grants to smaller organisations would cease from April 2021 unless they come under a larger umbrella organisation. Cllr Mrs Knox offered reassurance that those organisations that have received grants in the past or those that continued to need funds would continue to benefit subject to robust applications that could ensure the local community would benefit from the outcome.
- Planning – the current planning system remained in disarray whilst work continued to bring all the planning authorities together under one system for Dorset.

Dorset Local Plan - in response to a question from Cllr Turner regarding consultation on the emerging Plan Cllr Mrs Knox expressed Dorset Council's concerns regarding central government's proposed National Planning consultation and impact on Local Plans.

Cllr Turner also voiced his concerns with regard to the current planning application to discharge the section 52 agreement in respect of land at Cockroad Lane, Cllr Knox requested the Town Clerk forward the details.

Community fridge – the Chairman advised the Town Council offered their support to Rev Neary for this project.

No 6 bus – the Chairman offered his congratulations to Cllr Mrs Knox for the enhanced bus service and questioned how secure the service would be going forward.

2444 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Mrs Cooke and PCSO Bishop.

2445 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest were received.

The Town Clerk granted a dispensation to Cllr Mrs Cooke with regard to participation in discussions that had a bearing on the determining of the level of parish precept.

2446 MINUTES OF THE BEAMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28TH JULY 2020

Having previously been circulated with a copy of the minutes of the virtual Town Council meeting held on 28th July 2020 were **RESOLVED** for signature by the chairman.

2447 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Min. No. 2429 – Snooker table, Fleet Club

The Town Clerk advised members of a verbal offer received for the snooker table and accessories, following discussion members felt the offer to be on the low side and **AGREED** to offer for sale on an auction site.

(b) Min. No. 2436 – DAPTC – AGM

Cllr Mrs Page advised, following an extension of the deadline a resolution had been submitted on behalf of Beaminster Town Council (copy attached) however the proposal put forward had been of a similar vein as the proposal submitted by Bridport Town Council therefore the suggestion had been put forward to amalgamate the two resolutions for consideration. **NOTED** and **AGREED**.

(c) Min. No. 2438 – Water station in the Square

The Town Clerk advised discussions were ongoing with Wessex Water with regard to siting a water station in the Square. In principle agreement had been reached and a design for the water station incorporating the Discover Beaminster logo was awaited. The installation would be free of charge however the cost of reinstating the pavement surface would be a cost to the Town Council.

(d) Min. No. 2441 – Enforcement Officer

The Town Clerk advised, to date there had been two applications and a date set for interview after the closing date of Friday 25th September.

2448 PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS

Members had previously been circulated with details of the payments & receipts for the month of July 2020 and August 2020 (copy attached). **RESOLVED** their adoption.

2449 PLANNING ISSUES

(a) WD/D/20/001617 – Land west of Holy Trinity Burial Ground, Lane to Whatley Mill.

To comply with consultation response deadlines members were asked to consider amended plans in respect of the above application. Having **NOTED** the reduction in size and change of external materials members **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND APPROVAL**.

(b) Dorset Council – Proposed Definitive Map Modification Order T577

Members **NOTED** correspondence received from Dorset Council regarding a proposal to modify the Definitive Map and Statement of rights of way to correct the route of the central and northern sections of Footpath W21/58. Concern was expressed with regard to the proposal to re-instate the footpath nearer to the river where it would be prone to very wet conditions.

- c) **Dorset Council – Proposed Definitive Map Modification Order T578**
Members **NOTED** correspondence received from Dorset Council regarding a proposal to modify the Definitive Map and Statement of rights of way to correct the extent of the southern end of Footpath W21/57 and had no comment to make.

2450 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

Members had previously been circulated with the minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on 1st September 2020.

(a) **Tins at Tills**

For information Cllr Mrs Page highlighted the proposal to equally share the monies collected between the Christmas Lights and the Food Bank. **NOTED** and **AGREED**.

There being no other issues raised the minutes were **ADOPTED**.

2451 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring & Ride** – members **NOTED** a letter of thanks received for the financial contribution towards operating costs of the Ring & Ride service in the sum of £600.

- (b) **Bridport & District Citizens Advice** – members **NOTED** a letter of thanks received for the Support Grant for the Beaminster Outreach Service in the sum of £2,000

2452 CLIMATE & LONG TERM RESILIENCE PLAN WORKING GROUP

In the absence of Cllr Cheeseman no report was received however the chairman advised a meeting of the Group had taken place at the end of last week.

(a) **Funding for ECO projects and potential budget adjustments**

The chairman felt that alongside the Working Group the Town Council should consider its own projects, particularly those that might have budget implications. Members were asked to feed in ideas for inclusion in discussion.

2453 INTERNET ACCESS TO COUNCIL INFORMATION

In view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic the Chairman felt members should consider making the Town Council meetings more accessible to the general public and suggested a live stream via Facebook. **AGREED** however research would be required as to how Zoom interacted with Facebook.

Consideration was also given to re-instating the monthly Councillors surgery sessions together with a monthly topical item included in the Team News.

2454 PROGRESS REPORT

Members had previously been circulated with a progress report to date **NOTED**.

The Town Clerk advised members the bench in memory of the late Harry Issacs had been sited in the Memorial Playing Field.

Cllr Dawkins enquired whether the traffic calming scheme in Clay Lane had been monitored as the surface covering had faded.

Cllr Turner advised the noticeboard on No. 21 Square had undergone refurbishment and he had taken the opportunity to refurbish the Town Clock; he had also repaired the damaged finger post sign.

Cllr Turner was delighted to report the insurance issue had been resolved and he anticipated the CB3 would be back in operation on Saturday 3rd October albeit with reduced capacity and possibly a 'ring & ride' service. The bus would require two new batteries prior to MOT/service and he felt the purchase of a dash cam would be advisable. **NOTED** and **AGREED**.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Cllr Turner for his patience and efforts to get the insurance issue successfully resolved.

2455 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Two items were raised –

- Planning White Paper
- Neighbourhood Plan

Under this heading Cllr Corbett reported there would regrettably be no Remembrance Day Parade this year however there would be 'two minute' silence at the war memorial on 11/11/20. He felt therefore war memorial should be suitably dressed and sought members approval to lay turf around the memorial into which he would place a cross for each towns person lost in battle.

Members supported Cllr Corbett and **NOTED** the budget provision of £200 which would be expended for this purpose.

2456 MEETING

The meeting which commenced at 7.00pm, closed at 9.10pm.

2457 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting would take place on Tuesday 27th October at 7.00pm.

CHAIRMAN
27th October 2020