

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2012

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs S. Bradley (Mayor), L. Ames, R. Hughes, Miss A. Munro, T. Munro, Mrs E. Munro-Price, I. Munro-Price, R. Nowak, Mrs S. West, R. Wild and T. Woodcock.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and six members of the public.

2260 – PRAYERS

The Mayor led the meeting in prayer.

2261 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Mrs J. Collinge and R. Denton-White, together with Rev. Tim Gomm (Mayor's Chaplain).

2262 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs. Amanda Munro, Elspie Munro-Price, Ian Munro-Price and West declared an interest in Agenda Item 9, a Planning Committee recommendation concerning Island roundabouts.

There was a discussion about members' need for dispensations to discuss Agenda Item 12 – Council Budget and Precept, 2013/14. It was proposed by Cllr. Nowak and **RESOLVED** – that consideration of the 2013/14 budget and precept be postponed until the meeting in January. Members requested that further copies of the dispensation form be circulated.

2263 – OPEN FORUM

a) Police Question Time

No representative of the Police was present.

b) Public Half-Hour

There were no questions or comments.

2264 – MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2012

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

2265 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

2266 – TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. Bradley advised members that the Assistant Clerk was leaving the Council in January. She also requested members to switch off their mobile phones. Cllrs. Elspie Munro-Price and Amanda Munro asked for exemption because of their domestic circumstances.

2267 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS FOR THE MAYOR

None had been received.

2268 – PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD ON 24TH OCTOBER 2012

Members debated the recommendation under minutes 2018(g) and (h). It was proposed by Cllr. Munro and **RESOLVED** – that the recommendation for the Council to write to the Borough stating that the [roundabout] signs are unsightly and not in keeping with the natural landscape be rejected.

2269 – FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payments for Authorisation

RESOLVED – that the schedule of invoices (cheque refs. 2809 – 2821) in the sum of £3,778.09 including VAT be authorised for payment.

b) 2012/13 Financial Report to 30th November 2012

RESOLVED – that the report be approved.

c) Localised Council Tax Support

The written report by John Parker, DAPTC was noted.

2270 – PORTLAND FAIR

It was proposed by Cllr. Woodcock and **RESOLVED** – (a) that the Fair operators be asked to pay the contract price for the autumn Fair, £3,368 and (b) that, in the light of both parties being prepared to terminate the existing licence agreement, a new agreement be negotiated covering both the spring and autumn Fairs with the new contract sum being in the region of the current combined total, £4,118.

2271 – COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT, 2013/14

The item was deferred. See minute 2262.

2272 – FORTUNESWELL POST OFFICE, MOVE TO NEW PREMISES

Members agreed to support the proposed move.

2273 – REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED – that the review be carried out by a Working Group, the membership to comprise those of the previous Working Group.

2274 – UPHAM WATERCOLOURS

In the course of the discussion Cllr. Ames requested that the history of the paintings be investigated to determine their precise ownership.

It was proposed by Cllr. Munro and **RESOLVED** – that Portland Museum Trust's offer be accepted, namely that the Museum Board provide the Town Council with a high quality print, framed, of the Council's own watercolour on condition that the original be provided for the Trust to restore and display it along with the rest of the collection.

2275 – CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

It was agreed that the relevant procedures be considered by the Standing Orders Working Group in the course of the review being undertaken.

2276 – REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Ian Munro-Price said that his information was that the Town Council Offices were not being offered for sale at present, contrary to a previous report.

The Clerk informed members of an approach he had received from the Borough requesting that a group from the Town make a visit to Brackenbury School to assess its potential as new Town Council premises. He was asked to inform members when a date had been agreed for the visit.

2277 – REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND VOLUNTARY POSTS

No reports were received.

2278 – FORWARD PLAN

Cllr. Elspie Munro-Price requested that Council review its decision to wind up the Finance & Projects Committee.

Training in budget and precept setting is still required for members.

2279 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Town Council is due to take place on Wednesday, 16th January 2013, starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm.

Signed..... Dated.....
(Chair)