

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2011, COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors I. Munro-Price (Chair), L. Ames, Mrs S. Bradley, Mrs J. Collinge, R. Denton-White, R. Hughes, Mrs P. McCartney, Miss A. Munro, T. Munro, Mrs Elspie Munro-Price, D. Symes, R. Wild, and T. Woodcock.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and Rev. Chris Briggs (Mayor's Chaplain).

1968 – PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain led the meeting in prayer.

1969 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

1970 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Two members declared a prejudicial interest in respect of the item to allocate grant funds, Cllr. Collinge for First Dorset Credit Union and Cllr. Symes Portland United Youth Football Club.

1971 – OPEN FORUM

a) Public Half-Hour

No members of the public were present.

b) Police Question Time

Cllr. Ian Munro-Price as Chair said he had spoken to Chief Inspector Morris about the Police's regular absence from Council meetings. Inspector Morris had said it was not their policy to disengage, but they had many demands on their time. They would therefore aim to attend three to four meetings a year in the future.

The Clerk was asked to write an article for Free Portland News or News and Views to publicise the Public Half-Hour.

1972 – MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2011

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

1973 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

1974 – TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

1975 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS FOR THE MAYOR

None had been received.

1976 – 2012, MARINE & ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP, 5TH OCTOBER 2011

a) Minute 810(b) – Dry-Stone Walling

RESOLVED – that Mrs Cooch be asked to give a presentation to the 2012 Partnership on the extent of the need regarding dry-stone wall courses and their administration, and how the Council could assist.

b) Minute 813 – 2012 Olympics: Steering Group Update

The recommendation for a meeting to discuss the Olympic arrangements was not proposed and therefore fell.

c) Minute 815 – Recruitment of Countryside Access Volunteers and Volunteer Rangers

Cllr. Amanda Munro said she did not have time as footpath liaison officer to take on the extra responsibility. Cllr. Tim Munro argued that the County were trying to shift some of its administration work to volunteers.

RESOLVED – that the Town Council does not take on the additional responsibility for organising these groups.

d) Minute 817 – Marketing for Island Tourism

RESOLVED – that the Council defer the appointment of a tourism briefholder to its next meeting.

1977 – PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 12TH OCTOBER 2011

Minute 1903 – Local Plan for Weymouth & Portland – Stakeholder Consultation

The recommendation for a further presentation on a railway from Weymouth to Easton was not proposed and therefore fell.

1978 – FINANCE & PROJECTS COMMITTEE, 19TH OCTOBER 2011

Minute 1117 – Council Grants 2011/12

RESOLVED – (a) that the application from 1st Weston Brownies be considered at the next meeting, and (b) that the following allocation of grant funds be made:-

First Dorset Credit Union - £150
Island of Portland Heritage Trust - £250
Island Play - £500
Portland Gig Rowing Club - £200
Portland United Youth Football Club - £250
Royal Manor Theatre Company - £75

1979 – TERMINATION OF FINANCE & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED – "that the Finance & Projects Committee be disbanded, additional Town Council meetings take place in February, April, August, October and December to compensate and that Standing Orders be amended accordingly, the matter to be brought to the next Town Council meeting,"

It was also proposed to delete Standing Order 46, para (d), which reads, "Members of the Finance & Projects Committee shall comprise all fourteen members of the Council and the quorum of the Committee shall be seven members."

This proposal then stood adjourned.

1980 – FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payments for Election Expenses

RESOLVED – that the Borough Council invoice for election expenses be authorised for payment.

b) Payments for Authorisation

RESOLVED – that the schedule of invoices (cheque refs. 2637, 2639 – 2651) in the sum of £7,053.10 including VAT be authorised for payment.

c) 2011/2012 Financial Report to 31st October 2011

RESOLVED – that the report be accepted.

d) Annual Return, 2010/11 – External Auditor's Report

RESOLVED – that the report be accepted.

1981 – CHEYNE WEARES

The Clerk reported on the maintenance of Cheyne Weares and the events surrounding two occurrences of damage to cars visiting the site.

RESOLVED – that the report be accepted.

1982 – 2012 MEDALLIONS

Cllr. Collinge reported that the process of gathering sponsors was continuing. It was agreed that the matter be brought back to Town Council when this process had been concluded.

1983 – PORTLAND FLAGS

In the light of advice received it was **RESOLVED** – that the Council end its plans to sell flags.

1984 – GRIT BINS

Cllr. Wild as Chair of the 2012 Partnership updated members on the intention of the Borough to buy six grit bins on the Town's behalf and the request for the Borough lengthsman to install them.

RESOLVED – that the Council should investigate the purchase of grit bins for the four remaining sites on its wish list.

1985 – REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Ames talked briefly about the County's proposals to switch off street lights in the early hours of the morning. Cllr. Tim Munro added that details of the scheme could be viewed on the Dorset for You website.

Cllr. Ames also referred to the drop-in event concerning the Olympics to be held at the Community 2000 hall.

1986 – REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND VOLUNTARY POSTS

In connection with the DAPTC Annual General Meeting Cllr. Denton-White pointed out that the Localism Bill would receive the Royal Assent in April and therefore it was important for the Council to discuss it and consider the implications.

1987 – FORWARD PLAN

The Council agreed that:-

- a) a report on fly-posting be brought to the December meeting
- b) Fortuneswell Post Office be discussed in January
- c) Portland Carnival be considered after January
- d) the Localism Bill be discussed at an early date

1988 – REVISION OF STARTING TIME

The Clerk requested a change in the starting time of the December Council meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 1, to accommodate a meeting with Chief Superintendent Searle concerning the Police enquiry office review. The Clerk had provisionally agreed a start time of 6.30pm with the two options of public or private session. However the members agreed that they did not want a change in the starting time and the Clerk was asked to arrange an alternative date for the meeting.

1989 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Council are due to take place on Tuesday, 22nd November 2011 (special) and Wednesday, 14th December 2011 (ordinary) commencing at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm.

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