

## PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE 2012, MARINE & ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2011

**PRESENT:** Councillors R. Wild (Chair), Mrs S. Bradley, Mrs J. Collinge, R. Hughes, D. Symes and Mrs S. West, together with Philip George (Crown Estate), Andy Matthews (Portland Community Partnership), Charles Frampton and Hannah Sofaer (Portland Stone & Quarry Trust), Yvonne Beven (Revive Portland), Bob Elliott (Quality Time Training) and John Tweed (Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ian Looker (Town Clerk)

#### **795 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs P. McCartney and Geoff Peters (National Coastwatch Institution).

#### **796 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

#### **797 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011**

##### **a) Minute 788 – Provision of Public Conveniences on the Island**

Cllr. Collinge requested that the second sentence in paragraph 2 be amended to read, “Quiddles Café w.c.s are the only ones to have them.”

##### **b) Minute 791 – The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge**

Cllr. Wild requested that the first three sentences of point (1) be replaced by the following:-

“1) The triangle of land behind St. Peter’s Church. A record in the YOI maintenance office states that the Admiralty presented the old railway sidings nearby, between the now demolished married quarters and prison, to the children of Portland as a play area. This railway area later reverted to a field, since enclosed within the new fence, and the YOI maintain the plot by St. Peter’s as a play area instead.”

These changes were accepted and the amended minutes formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

#### **798 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING**

##### **a) Minute 785(d) – Dry-Stone Walling**

Mr George reported that discussions with Lyn Cooch about financing a course were ongoing.

##### **b) Minute 786 – 2012 Olympics**

Cllr. West shared with members the positive comments she had received about the Sailing Academy.

### **c) Minute 792(c) – Run-Down Areas**

Mrs Beven advised that hoardings with artwork would be used to help conceal the semi-permanent scaffolding around a house on the High Street.

### **d) Minute 792(d) – Footpaths**

Cllr. West commented on the quantity of weeds growing on paths in Fortuneswell. Mrs Beven added that she had photographs of them. After a short discussion Cllr. West agreed to write again to the council responsible and report back.

### **799 – 2012 OLYMPICS**

Mr Tweed described aspects of the sailing event that was currently taking place at the Sailing Academy, very much an opportunity to test facilities for the Olympics. The BBC were there filming for a documentary. Just preceding this the Academy had hosted Disabled World Championships and the Sail for Gold regatta.

Answering questions from Cllr. Wild, Mr Tweed said there had been no problems arising from private sailors in the harbour or the travellers recently arrived on the Island.

Mr Elliott and Mr Tweed discussed the matter of competition boats traversing the harbour fairway for private boats. Mr Tweed thought it was probably for the Harbour Authority to resolve.

Cllr. Hughes voiced concerns emanating from a CNN film crew working on the Island and undertook to get more specific details.

### **800 – NATIONAL COASTGUARD CLOSURES**

Cllr. Wild said that a number of protest campaigns were in operation regarding the closing of stations around the country, but it was probably too early to report on developments. He therefore asked that it be brought as an agenda item to the next meeting.

### **801 – THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS CHALLENGE**

Cllr. Wild informed members that he and the Clerk had met with John Chapman, representing the Challenge, who had explained the benefits of the scheme, notionally to register 2,012 playing areas nationally additional to the King George fields.

**RESOLVED** – that two sites, Jubilee Field and New Ground, be considered for recommendation to the Challenge.

Cllr. Wild undertook to liaise with the Borough Council over their possible involvement in the Challenge.

(Mr Elliott left the meeting at 7.45pm).

### **802 – PORTLAND: ISLAND IN PERIL**

Mr Matthews said the Community Partnership was seeking the Council's support for the project.

**RESOLVED** – that the Council should support the Island in Peril project and inform the Director of the Dorset Wildlife Trust to that effect.

### **803 – FLY-POSTING ON NEW ROAD**

In the course of the discussion Mr Tweed said he thought a differentiation ought to be made between businesses fly-posting and community and domestic notices on the Island. Perhaps an area should be set aside for community notices.

Cllr. Wild offered to write to the Free Portland News on the subject, the Clerk was asked to determine the County Council's related policy and Cllr. Collinge asked that it be brought to the Town Council for discussion.

### **804 – RECRUITMENT OF COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS VOLUNTEERS AND VOLUNTEER RANGERS**

Cllr. Collinge regretted that volunteers frequently seemed to come from the older members of the community. She felt younger folk should be targeted, especially families.

Mr Matthews thought there was a need for a ten-year plan with minor actions identified along the way. More publicity should be given as to when working parties were taking place.

Generally it was felt that more information was needed from the Portland Ranger to give members guidance.

### **805 – STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS (by exception)**

#### **b) Litter and Fly-Tipped Material**

Cllr. Hughes mentioned that a quantity of furniture had been dumped on the Island recently. Cllr. Symes understood this had been brought to the attention of the YOI for them to deal with.

#### **c) Run-Down Areas**

Mrs Beven described how she had taken an officer from the Borough Council on a "guided tour" of the area near Underhill Junior School to illustrate the need for improving its appearance. To do so Revive was trying to encourage the local householders to join in with improvement schemes.

Cllr. Collinge gave as an example a particular cul-de-sac which now had raised flowerbeds outside the front of the houses, maintained by the residents.

Mr Matthews thought there was a need for a business view and an overall tourism plan for the Island. He hoped the Town Council could get more involved.

The current state of the Chiswell walled garden was mentioned and Mrs Beven indicated her willingness for Revive to be involved.

### **806 – ISSUES RAISED BY PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS**

#### **a) Fortuneswell Post Office**

Members voiced the need to keep it open and some of the possibilities to help do so.

#### **b) Partnership Meeting Minutes**

From the Chair Cllr. Wild requested that members support the Clerk with written reports and notice of amendments whenever possible.

**807 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair advised members that the next meeting of the Partnership would take place at the Council Offices on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011, starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm.

Signed..... (Chair) Date.....