

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY 2018 AT THE PETER TRIM HALL, ST GEORGE'S CENTRE

PRESENT: Councillors Ray Nowak (Chairman), Jo Atwell, Sue Cocking, Jim Draper, Charlie Flack, Chris Gover, Sue Lees, Sandra Reynolds, David Thurston, Sandy West and Rod Wild

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk), Councillor Katharine Garcia (Dorset County Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) and eight members of the public

3612 – CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr. Nowak welcomed all to the meeting and advised of fire precautions at the hall.

3613 – PRAYERS

The Clerk led the meeting in prayer.

3614 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Lucy Grieve and Kate Wheller (Dorset County Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council).

3615 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3616 – OPEN FORUM

a) Police Question Time

There was no representative of the Police present.

b) Public Half-Hour

June Morley wanted to correct Minute 3583(b) – Public Half-Hour, 2nd para, where the date should have read 11th August.

Cllr. Rod Wild publicised the new public events diary at Tophill Library.

A lady from Underhill asked what hours the proposed Brackenbury hub would be open for and whether security aspects had been considered.

Roger Luther queried whether there were better ways of informing the public when a meeting was being held at short notice.

c) Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Cllr. West had written to the Borough suggesting a commemoration of the extension to suffrage in 1918 and 1928. She was also in contact with the Police about two very similar accidents along the beach wall and would be meeting them shortly.

Cllr. Nowak said that to date the Town Council had only had one discussion with the Borough about the future after reorganisation and none with the County. The Town

was willing to take on more services provided there were also accompanying income sources to help pay for them. Hw wondered if Cllr. Garcia could generate some action from the County regarding the promised playing field at Weston.

Cllr. Nowak informed members of a recent grant of £2m awarded by the government for housing in Castletown. He had also met with Borough officers to discuss the transfer of non-commercial land near the cenotaph to the Council and adoption as a "Centenary Field" in conjunction with Fields in Trust.

3617 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH JANUARY 2018

With the alteration to Minute 3583(b) mentioned above the minutes were formally approved and signed as a correct record.

3618 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

Minute 3585 – Lord Clyde Toilets

The Borough is intending to obtain a quotation for repairs to the toilets.

3619 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS FOR THE CHAIRMAN

There were none.

3620 – TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. Flack announced that the Ceremony of the Keys for 2017/18 would be held at Easton Methodist Church on Sunday, 25th March at 3.00 pm.

3621– FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payments for Authorisation

It was agreed that the reimbursement of the payment to Autoglass be withheld until further notice from the Council's insurers.

RESOLVED – that with this exception the schedule of invoices (cheque refs. 300150 – 300153) in the sum of £8,659.57 including VAT be authorised for payment.

b) 2017/18 Financial Report to 31st January 2018

The Chairman would report on Lottery expenditure at the next meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be accepted.

3622 – FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, 31ST JANUARY 2018

The Committee's recommended alteration to Financial Regulations was presented, to rest on the table until the next meeting.

3623 – FORMER BRACKENBURY INFANTS SCHOOL

Cllr. Nowak reported that the transfer bid had been submitted and favourably received. The Council had placed an advertisement in the Free Portland News to give residents more information about what was happening.

3624 – CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Cllr. Nowak suggested some alterations to the dates presented.

RESOLVED – that Cllr. Nowak provide an alternative set of dates at the next meeting.

3625 – CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR UNDERHILL

RESOLVED – that the candidate applying not be co-opted.

3626 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

It was agreed that Agenda Item 15 – Former Southwell Primary School be considered in private session.

3627 – REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND VOLUNTARY POSTS

There was no discussion.

3628 – EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that pursuant to the provisions of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for Agenda Item 15 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Mr Matthews was invited to stay for the item.

3629 – FORMER SOUTHWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr Matthews explained the background to the suggested registration of the school as an Asset of Community Value. Cllrs. Nowak and West both declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of the steering group of the Portland Community Land Trust.

It was agreed that the matter be reviewed again at the next meeting.

3089 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is due to take place at the Peter Trim Hall, St George’s Centre on Wednesday, 14th March 2018, starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

Signed Dated.....
(Chair)