

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST JANUARY 2015 AT 6.00 PM AT EASTON METHODIST CHURCH HALL, EASTON

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs S. Bradley, G. Chadwick (from 6.45pm), R. Hughes, Ms S. Lees and R. Wild

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk), and Cllrs. A. Matthews, Mrs S. Reynolds (from 6.35) and J. Thorner (from 6.45), William Buchan (Working Group) and one other member of the public.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm. Cllr. Hughes in the chair.

188 – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Cllr. Hughes chair the meeting. (For: 3 votes, Against: 0 votes, Abstentions: 1 vote)

189 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. T. Munro (Management Group) and R. Nowak.

190 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Matthews declared an interest as a trustee of the MEMO project and there was a general declaration for the Councillors present as all Council taxpayers.

191 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22ND OCTOBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting were formally agreed and signed as a correct record. (4-0-0)

192 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

193 – OPEN FORUM

There were no questions or comments.

194 – PLAN UPDATE

Cllr. Matthews spoke concerning his written update report. He said that stage C3 – Sharing and Testing Findings and Conclusions would be completed by the end of March and the next stage would occupy April to June. On his advice it was

RESOLVED – that the Plan timetable remaining be delayed by one month. (5-0-0)

Regarding surveys of the public Cllr. Matthews said 80% had accepted the vision statement as appropriate. Surveys conducted at specific locations such as Tesco had been tried, but he conceded that the short survey “[had] not worked brilliantly.” There might be a need to reengage with the community groups.

A report had shown that tourism brings about £25m. into the Island per year, the same per capita spending level as in Weymouth but with a different profile. The question was, if some aspects of the tourism industry were changed, would this income reduce?

Cllr. Wild asked when might the referendum on the Plan be expected. Cllr. Matthews replied autumn this year, if the Inspector doesn't request any changes to the Local Plan.

195 – BUDGET UPDATE

Cllr. Matthews provided details, explaining expenditure to date with £2,500 available till the end of the financial year.

196 – BUDGET REQUIREMENT

Cllr. Matthews estimated the Plan programme for 2015/16 would cost £6,600, of which the Town Council would provide £3,000 from the precept and the Neighbourhood Plan Management Group would need to supply £3,600 from other sources of income.

197 – MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP

The only area seriously lacking was public relations, one member having been lost. Cllr. Hughes suggested that he might be able to find someone to make up the deficit.

198 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Group was likely to take place in March. The 11th March had been scheduled, but it was more likely to be on 25th in concert with the Planning Committee, starting at 6.30pm.

The meeting ended at 6.55 pm.

Signed: (Chair) Date: