

## **PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL**

### **PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE ON 22ND MAY 2019 AT 7.00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Charlie Flack (Chairman), Sandy West, Sara Harpley, Cathy Atkins, Paul Kimber, Jim Draper, David Thurston, Giovanna Lewis, Carralyn Parkes, Bernard Parkes, and Pete Roper.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) and two members of the public.

#### **2848 – ELECTION OF PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIR**

Cllr. Flack was nominated by Cllr. Draper for the position of Chairman of the Planning & Highways Committee which was seconded by Cllr. Cocking. Cllr. Flack was appointed by the council. Cllr. West was nominated by Cllr. Cocking for the position of Deputy Chair which was seconded by Cllr. Lewis. Cllr. West was appointed by the council.

#### **2849 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Rob Hughes.**

Cllr. Cocking excused herself from further Planning and Highways meetings due to her appointment on the Dorset Council Planning Committee for South and West Dorset, which includes Portland. She pointed out that there may be a perception of predetermination and did not wish to put herself, Portland Town Council, or Dorset Council in a compromised position. She will send her apologies for all future meetings during her appointment on the Planning Committee for South and West Dorset at Dorset Council.

#### **2850 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared

#### **2851 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019**

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

#### **2852 – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT, MINUTE UPDATE AND OTHER MATTERS ARISING**

- a. Cllr. Kimber gave an update on item 2846a.i from the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> April regarding Brown Tail Moth Larvae on Portland. He advised that they have been sprayed twice by Dorset Council but that there were still some problems on Portland Town Council land, namely along the fence next to the school at Southwell. He noted that this had been an important topic for many of the residents he had spoken to. He noted that residents of Coronation Road particularly had suffered, as had residents in Southwell. He emphasized the importance of making a plan to mitigate the problem next year. Cllr. Kimber and The Chairman proposed that Portland Town Council invite David Ackerley, the Senior Ranger at Dorset Council, to the next Marine, Environment and Tourism meeting to seek further advice.

In addition, Cllr. B Parkes noted that there had been differing advice given to various councillors and office staff regarding the best way to deal with the

brown tail moth larvae. He questioned what the correct advice was. The Chairman proposed that Portland Town Council seek clarification from David Ackerley at the next Marine, Environment and Tourism meeting.

- b. The Chairman gave an update on item 2846a.iii from the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> April regarding blocked manholes. Waste had been flowing again from the manhole cover at the Yeates Toilets. Wessex Water had been in attendance and were met by the Responsible Finance Officer. The blockage had now been cleared and it was flowing freely again.
  
- c. Cllr. West also picked up on a further matter arising from item 2846a.i regarding camper vans overnighing in prohibited places. She advised that a caravan had been parked on the main road at Castle Road for the last six to seven weeks and noted that the caravan had been parked dangerously. The Chairman advised that a 14-day notice had been placed on the caravan by Dorset Council but it had been removed and the caravan was still there. The Chairman proposed that Portland Town Council report the matter back to Dorset Council again.

Cllr. West further advised that she had received complaints from residents regarding mobile homes parked across from Portland Castle. The residents had asked for clarification as to whether this is a private or public road. The Chairman confirmed that the car park in question belongs to Homes England and advised that the residents take the matter up with them.

### **2853 – UPDATE ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Chairman provided an update on the current planning applications. For further information please see Dorset For You / Planning / Portland.

WP/18/00154/FUL: 85 Harbour View – This application remains pending, however Cllr. West noted that she believed that the building work was already being undertaken.  
**Cllr. West is to investigate and report back.**

### **2854 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Vincent gave an update on drainage. He advised that the drains in Easton had been cleared and noted that the drains on Wide Street had white arrows on prior to them being cleared.

Cllr. Kimber enquired as to whether Portland Town Council had contacted the Highways Department at Dorset Council regarding blocked drains. The Chairman reported that Portland Town Council had been informed that there was to be at least an annual clean and that drains should be reported to Dorset Council as and when they are reported to us. Cllr. Kimber noted that he had requested that Dorset Council notify Portland Town Council when they are coming to clean the drains so that we can inform the relevant parties.

Mr Matthews will report later in the meeting regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **2855 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFIED BY DORSET COUNCIL**

The advisory committee discussed 11 new planning applications with a detailed list, including decisions made at this meeting, being held at Annex A to these minutes. For further information please see Dorset For You / Planning / Portland.

## **2856 – PLANNING CONTRAVENTION ISSUES**

No planning contravention issues were tabled.

## **2857 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)**

Mr Matthews provided a written update on the current status of the Neighbourhood Plan and this can be found at Annex B to these minutes.

## **2858 – HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a. Junction of King St / Artist Row. The committee supported the proposal by Michael Potter, Road Safety Manager at Dorset Council, set out in Annex C of these minutes because of the safety issues. However, Cllr. B Parkes noted that, while he supported the proposals on safety grounds, more consideration must be given to parking provision as this is an important issue for residents.
- b. Streetlights out at Shepherds Croft. The Chairman brought attention to a request from a resident for assistance in finding out who was responsible for maintaining streetlights at Shepherds Croft as they are not maintained by SSE on behalf of Dorset Council.

**Cllr. Kimber is to contact the engineers at Dorset Council to seek clarification.**

- c. Cllr. West noted that many streetlights on the incline were also out. She pointed out that the incline is very dark and that this is a safety issue. She mentioned that there were rough sleepers on the Incline.

**The Chairman is to contact streetlighting at Dorset Council to seek clarification.**

- d. Cllr. Draper stated that he had received a comment from a resident regarding cyclists that reach the end of the cycle way at the end of the beach road and continue along the pavement, passed the bus stop. Cllr. Draper pointed out that this was a safety issue. He requested that a "Cyclists Dismount," sign be put in place at the end of cycleway, just before the bus stop. Mr Matthews noted that this had previously been requested to Dorset Council but had been overlooked.

In the long term, Cllr. Draper suggested Portland Town Council look again at the cycle path when the car parks development plan is formulated. The cycle path could perhaps be rerouted through the Masonic Car Park so that it comes out by Lord Clyde car park.

- e. A member of the public raised a question regarding parking and conversions to garages. She asked whether there was any follow up when garages have been converted and no off-road parking provided to the property so that the vehicles then park in the road. The resident stated that she lived on Weare Close and was concerned that too many vehicles were being parked on the turning circle. She stated that she could no longer turn her car around. She noted that there were only two or three residents on that road that used their garages for parking and that the other residents, and also visitors to the area, were parking in the road. The Chairman suggested that the fire service be contacted to assess access the road.

**Cllr. Kimber also requested that the lady send him an email which he would forward on to Dorset Council.**

- f. Cllr. Harpley suggested that if there are rough sleepers on Portland, Portland Town Council should look at supportive measures to help the individuals concerned.

**Cllr. West is to contact the Homeless Liaison Officer.**

**2859 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Committee's next meeting is to be held on 19th June 2019 in Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Close starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 20:47 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)