



## **BEAMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in the Skyrm Room at the Public Hall, Beaminster at 7.00pm

- 36 PRESENT** – Cllr Mrs I Maling (Chairman), Cllr Baker, Cllr Beazer, Cllr Mrs R Beeny, Cllr Berry, Cllr Mrs R Knox and Cllr Mrs J Page
- 37 IN ATTENDANCE** – Mrs Christine Bright (Town Clerk), Cllr Caroline Payne (WDDC) and three members of the public.
- 38 APOLOGIES** - Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Mrs V Baldwin, Cllr Elliott and Cllr Spooner.

**39 MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th JULY 2009**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July having previously been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs Beeny declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 5 – Receipts and Payments.

**41 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS FOR:**

**(a) Dorset Police Representative**

PCSO Alex Bishop had no items to report other than to confirm that PC Poole had spoken with the developer constructing the new pavilion in the Memorial Playing Field with regard to minor vandalism. Whilst this had been a problem in the initial stages, increased foot patrols appeared to have been successful in preventing further damage.

Cllr Berry expressed his gratitude to PC Poole and PCSO Bishop for their assistance in this matter.

**(b) West Dorset District Councillors**

Due to the time of year, with members and officers on holiday, Councillor Mrs Caroline Payne and Cllr Mrs Janet Page had no items to report.

**(c) Dorset County Councillor**

Cllr Mrs Knox drew attention to the following:

- the extended opening hours at the Library thanks to a number of volunteers
- directional signage with regard to the closure of the tunnel in October
- the closure of the Youth Centre during the summer holidays was, in the main, down to poor attendance
- the adjudicator's report was awaited with respect to the proposed relocation of Mountjoy to Beaminster. A meeting of the Mountjoy Working Group was scheduled for September.

**(d) Reports from Outside Organisations**

**BAVLAP** – Members had previously been circulated with a report from Cllr Mrs Beeny, a copy of which is attached.

Cllr Mrs Beeny left the meeting.

**42 PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

Payments totalling £6,504.92 and receipts totalling £1,168.16 as detailed in the report to the meeting were submitted for approval. Cllr Mrs Page proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr Beazer and **AGREED**.

Cllr Mrs Beeny returned to the meeting.

**43 STREET TRADING APPLICATION**

Members considered an application for a mobile food outlet (Pizza's) to trade in Beaminster Square between the hours of 5.00pm-9.00pm, Thursday and Saturday.

As with previous applications members felt they could not support the application as the Council did not wish to permit trading in the Square, in particular that which would be in direct competition with a local business. There were also concerns with regard to increased litter and noise nuisance to residents in the vicinity.

**44 THE SQUARE – GRANT APPLICATION (DECISION)**

Members were circulated with a report from Cllr Mrs Knox with regard to possibly undertaking a number of short term improvements to the Square. It was **AGREED** to form a Working Party to take in suggestions from various organisations and public consultation with a view to agreeing a list of improvements which could either be submitted to the appropriate local authority for funding or be included in an application to "Awards for All", whichever would be the most appropriate.

The following members expressed an interest in being involved with the Working Group – Cllrs Beazer, Mrs Beeny and Mrs Page.

**45 PROPOSED CHARTER MARKET / FAIR (DECISION)**

Members had previously been circulated with details of the Chairman's initial ideas for this event. Members **AGREED** in principle, with the idea and suggested a public meeting be arranged with a view to ascertaining the level of support and assistance available together with a suitable date in 2010.

**46 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD ISSUES**

**Access to Playing Field** - Members **NOTED** the Council's solicitor had been instructed to take appropriate action in respect of five entrances, from private properties, onto the Playing Field.

**Repairs to wall** – the boundary wall between the children's play area and the rear of a property in Fleet Street was in need of remedial repairs to prevent its condition from deteriorating further. It was **RESOLVED** to instruct a local stonemason to undertake re-instatement and repointing work where necessary. It was **NOTED** the cost of which should not exceed £100, and would be funded from the Memorial Playing Field (General Maintenance) budget.

**47 BEAMINSTER COMMUNITY CENTRE PARTNERSHIP**

Cllr Berry had no items to report.

**48 CORRESPONDENCE**

No significant items of correspondence had been received since the last meeting

**49 PROGRESS REPORTS (NOTED)**

- **Beaminster Library – volunteers**  
Opening hours were to be extended with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> September using local volunteers. The proposed additional hours were:  
Tuesday 9.30 – 12.00  
Friday 9.30 – 12.00
- **Cemetery/Closed Churchyard/Allotments – ground maintenance**  
Mr Michael Lindsay had been appointed Groundsman with responsibility for the cemetery, closed churchyard and the allotments. He commenced duties on 5<sup>th</sup> August working a total of five hours a week.
- **Christmas Tree arrangements 2009**  
The Chairman and Town Clerk having inspected the tree recommended accepting the offer. **AGREED.**
- **Land at the rear of the former White Hart – Dispensation**  
The District Council's Standards Committee had agreed that dispensations were appropriate to enable members of the Town Council to take part in discussion with regard to any planning applications relating to the development of land at the former White Hart Hotel. These dispensations were for a 12 month period and would expire on 15<sup>th</sup> July

2010.

- **Dorset County Council – Bus timetables**

The County Council had put the printing of the timetables out to tender causing a delay, however the contract would be awarded and timetables available in the near future. With regard to a funding application from WATAG towards the cost of a booklet they had produced, this was refused by County Council because the funds allocated were committed to the production of their own timetables.

**51 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The following items would be placed on the agenda for the September Council meeting:-

- **Honorary Townsperson literature** – Cllr Beazer previously circulated his suggestions for improved literature and sought comments from members on the content. The final draft will be submitted to the September meeting for approval
- **Council and Planning Advisory & Highways Committee meetings** – to recind decision to hold both meetings on the same evening

**52 PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to meeting) ACT 1960**

Cllr Beazer proposed that in accordance with the terms of the Act, the public and press be now excluded from the meeting whilst discussion took place on the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted viz the potential granting of a right of way in perpetuity. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Beeny and **RESOLVED.**

The public and press left the meeting.

**53 LAND AT THE REAR OF FORMER WHITE HART**

Members had previously been circulated with information with a view to finalising the “Heads of Agreement” in respect of access to land at the rear of the former White Hart via Memorial Lane.

**54 MEETING**

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.30pm. The date of the next meeting was noted as Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009.

CHAIRMAN  
21 SEPTEMBER 2009