



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 14th May 2024 in the Cowie Room, Public Hall commencing at 8.15pm.

2998 Members present – Cllr Turner (Chairman), Cllr Anderton, Cllr Body, Cllr Corbett, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Ginder, Cllr Gunning, Cllr Hutchinson and Cllr Woods; also Christine Bright (Town Clerk).

2999 Dorset Police – in the absence of a police representative no report had been received.

3000 Dorset Councillor – In his absence Cllr Monks no report had been received.

3001 Enforcement Officer – The Town Clerk read a report submitted by the Enforcement Officer which advised –

- owners continued to walk their dogs in the playing field, there is a total dog ban in the playing fields therefore it was not permissible to walk dogs on the paths.
- NFU had provided appropriate signs with regard to keeping dogs under control (on a lead) when around livestock, it is a criminal offence not to have dogs on a lead.
- Complaints regarding dog attacks or dogs not under control must be reported to Dorset Council dog warden
- Complaints had been received with regard to dogs being let out last thing at night and left to bark, please be aware of neighbours
- Under the Dog Act 1996 it is an offence not to pick up after a dog wherever fouling takes place – the law not only applied to town centres but also out in the countryside.

3002 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gillings.

3003 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Turner called for nominations for the position of Chairman for the ensuing council year.

Cllr Dawkins proposed Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Corbett.

Cllr Woods proposed Cllr Gunning, seconded by Cllr Anderton.

Having been put to the vote Cllr Turner was duly elected Chairman with five votes.

3004 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman for the ensuing council year.

Cllr Dawkins proposed Cllr Gunning, seconded by Cllr Corbett.

There being no other nominations Cllr Gunning was duly elected Vice Chairman.

3005 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest or dispensations were received.

3006 PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

Members were circulated with details of the payments made in May 2024 including cheque numbers 105943 - 105946, direct debits and bank payments totalling £23,663.76; also receipts totalling £141,091.37 (copy attached). Members **RESOLVED** adoption as presented.

3007 RESOLVE MINUTES OF FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 16th April 2024

The minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 16th April 2024 having previously been circulated were **NOTED**.

1. D Day expenditure

The Town Clerk advised a quotation had been obtained for the manufacture of a custom made metal beacon basket to fit the existing beacon base at a cost of £180 + VAT.

Cllr Corbett felt a beacon basket rather than the royal insignia previously used would enable the beacon to be lit on other significant occasions in addition to royal events. Members were in agreement in principle, however with some uncertainty with regard to the arrangements for 6th June it was **AGREED** to defer the item to the next Community Engagement Committee meeting subject to satisfactory risk assessments being undertaken.

There being no further items raised for discussion, members **RESOLVED** adoption.

(b) Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2024

The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2024 having previously been circulated were **NOTED**.

There being no items raised for discussion, members **RESOLVED** adoption.

3008 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

No consultation documents had been received.

3009 CORRESPONDENCE

No significant items of correspondence had been received.

3010 PROGRESS REPORT

Members **NOTED** progress as follows:

- (a) Public Hall – NOTED** work to replace fascia's etc. currently ongoing. On inspection one of the first floor windows had required replacing prior to external decoration at a cost of £240.

The Town Clerk advised in the past week there had been two flooding incidents one in the kitchen, the other at the rear of the building emanating from the gents toilet at the Fleet Club. These incidents had highlighted a number of issues to be discussed at the next Town Amenities Committee meeting. **NOTED**.

(b) Cemetery – stock proof fence and gate installed, work expected to commence on the path week commencing 13th May 2024.

3011 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items were raised.

3012 PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to Meeting Act) 1960

RESOLVED to exclude public and press from the meeting whilst discussion took place on the following items on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted in respect of possible purchase and lease agreements.

(a) BT Kiosk

The Town Clerk updated members on discussions that had taken place with representatives from Dorset Fire & Rescue Authority with regard to ownership of the kiosk and the siting of the defibrillator.

RESOLVED to pass ownership of the kiosk to a private individual. Having discussed the new location for the defibrillator with Beaminster WI and fire station personnel members **RESOLVED** to take joint responsibility for future costs associated with the defibrillator.

(b) Yarn Barton Community Centre

The Town Clerk advised a response had been received from the Chairman of the Trustees with regard to the proposed 30 year lease. The Trustees were satisfied with the proposed term of the sub-lease however concerns had been expressed with regard to the legal fees. The Town Clerk to raise further with council's solicitor.

(c) Fleet Club Lease

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the proposed draft lease and **RESOLVED** acceptance, the Town Clerk to forward to tenant for perusal.

3013 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was **NOTED** as Tuesday 23rd July 2024.

3014 MEETING

The meeting commenced at 8.15pm and closed at 9.10pm

Chairman
23rd July 2024

