

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Town & General Purposes Committee**  
**Held on Monday 28 March 2011**

**PRESENT**

Cllr J Stayt – Chairman  
Cllr E Butler (Chairman of Council)  
Cllr R Brannigan  
Cllr A Pemberton

Cllr I Rose – Vice Chairman  
Cllr R Holmes (Vice Chairman of Council)  
Cllr S Hitchings  
Cllr T Harrocks (late arrival)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk

Assistant Town Clerk

**SITTING IN**

Cllr H Galpin

Cllr H White

**YOUTH ADVISORS**

Felix Morris-Duffin

**61. PUBLIC SESSION**

Two members of the public were in attendance to ask Members to consider extending the CCTV system in the town following violent and anti-social behaviour at the junction of The Plocks and Church Lane.

Cllr Butler asked Members to consider favourably the Blandford Yuletide Group's request for continued financial support from the Town Council as it is such a worthwhile event.

**62. APOLOGIES**

Cllr F West

**63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors were reminded of their obligations to declare orally their interests as per the Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct Order 2007 Number 1159.

**64. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2011**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Butler, SECONDED by Cllr Brannigan and AGREED (6 in favour, 1 abstention) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

It was agreed that Agenda Item No. 15 is brought forward for discussion as members of the public were in attendance to hear the outcome.

**65. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL TO EXPAND THE CCTV SYSTEM**

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

## 65. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL TO EXPAND THE CCTV SYSTEM (CONT)

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Butler, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee approves expenditure for the purchase of two fixed cameras and one portable CCTV camera, to expand the town centre's CCTV system, using funds of £23,312.00 (up to £25,155) from the Capital Projects CCTV New Equipment budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government and Rating Act 1991 s31). The cost of the 3G SIM card for the portable camera will be £20 a month and if SSE does not permit use of its lighting column an additional £2,642 is required for the supply and installation of the purpose built column.**

**The camera locations have been requested by the Police and will be as follows:**

- 1. A camera opposite The Kings Arms and the area outside Sleek 'n' Chic**
- 2. A camera at the junction of Damory Street, Wimborne Road and East Street**
- 3. A portable camera that could be moved to respond to problems at sites such as:**
  - Park Road Recreation Ground**
  - Skate Park**
  - Marsh & Ham car park**

Youth Advisor, Felix Morris-Duffin, suggested purchasing dummy cameras should the budget be exhausted but if the need to prevent crime increases.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

## 66. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

- 66.1 Higher Shaftesbury Road – Request for Speed Restriction – In February 2011 a second request for a 10 mile an hour reduction in the authorised speed limit on Shaftesbury Road was made to DCC. After several emails and letters, DCC has suggested postponing an investigation on the grounds that speeds are not presently too high and they will review the situation in a year when the development has increased and there is more traffic movement.
- 66.2 Funding for School Crossing Patrol – DCC had previously advised that funding for SCPs had been extended until 31 March 2012. DCC is now advising that they will be consulting with other interested parties including Town Councils and a Policy Development Panel will meet on 5 April 2011 and the outcome will be fed back to the Town Council.
- 66.3 Consolidation of Road Orders for the Regulation of Traffic – DCC has advised that they are issuing a formal public notice on sections of the following streets: Oakfield Street, Shorts Lane, Salisbury Street, The Close, The Plocks, The Tabernacle and Common Lane. Full details and maps can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office.
- 66.4 Dorset Library Consultation – DCC has sent a questionnaire on the future of libraries in the county to be completed by the Town Council by 8 June 2011. Copies will be sent to all Members and responses will be compiled by the Town Clerk.
- 66.5 Revised Bus Services – DCC has advised of changes to the bus services that affect Blandford Forum. Service No. 83 on Mondays and Saturdays will be subject to minor timing changes and Service No. 300 on a Thursday will be renumbered and be scheduled now rather than an 'on demand' operation.

## 67. GENERAL UPDATE BY PC SIMON EVANS

PC Evans tabled the latest crime statistics (see Appendix B).

**67. GENERAL UPDATE BY PC SIMON EVANS (CONT)**

He commented that crime is still very low overall in Blandford Forum and advised that the next PACT meeting is scheduled for 4 July 2011.

PC Evans supported the Committee's decision to purchase the three additional CCTV cameras.

7.39pm – Cllr Harrocks arrived.

**68. REPORT ON CHAMBER OF TRADE MEETING**

There has not been a meeting for the Chairman to attend.

**69. REVIEW OF TOWN & GENERAL PURPOSES BUDGETS TO 21 MARCH 2011**

69.1 Analytical Review of Revenue Budget

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

69.2 Review of Earmarked Reserves

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

Cllr Butler asked that it is clarified that the transfer of £1,200 to Twinning is to the Civic Twinning budget.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

69.3 Reserve Accounts

The paper was noted (see Appendix E).

**70. TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THE COMMITTEE REMIT**

The paper was noted (see Appendix F).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee Remit is updated to include grit bins, Tabernacle toilet and Town Maps and Notice Boards, as per the attached paper at Appendix F.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**71. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR PRINTING THE 'WELCOME TO BLANDFORD' TOWN LEAFLET**

The paper was noted (see Appendix G).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Brannigan and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee continues with the publication of the Town Leaflet and authorises expenditure of £294 for the printing of 5,000 copies using funds from the Tourism budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s.144). The Committee also agreed to budget for this purpose on an annual basis.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**72. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR THE SUMMER BEDDING FOR 2011/2012 AT £2,682.34 (AN INCREASE OF £102.64 ON 2010/2011)**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Butler, SECONDED by Cllr Rose and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee approves expenditure of £2,682.34 for the summer bedding from the Revenue Planters Budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s.144).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**73. TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FOR THE MARSH & HAM TREE**

Cllr Hitchings declared a personal interest as a fireman who is involved in putting the lights up for the Town Council.

Cllr Butler thanked the fire service for putting up the lights and asked that The Crown Hotel is contacted again to ask that they consider having a small Christmas tree on the side of their building like many of the shops and businesses throughout the town.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Butler, SECONDED by Cllr Harrocks and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee approves expenditure of up to £600 for additional Christmas lights for the Marsh & Ham tree using funds from the Christmas lights budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s.144).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**Members also asked that staff look into the possibility of lighting up the yew trees in the cemetery.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**74. TO RECEIVE THE FEEDBACK FROM THE GRIT BIN CONSULTATION AND CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL GRIT BINS**

The paper was noted (see Appendix H).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Rose, SECONDED by Cllr Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee agrees on the list of priority locations and authorises expenditure of up to £1,130 from the Town Improvements Budget to purchase 11 additional grit bins (adding a bin for the top of Westbury Way to the list, subject to DCC approval) (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s.137) subject to DCC being able to continue refilling the bins.**

It is recommended that the additional grit bins are not purchased until it is known if there will be a policy change.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**75. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS TO THE OLD BATH HOUSE**

The paper was noted (see Appendix I).

**75. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS TO THE OLD BATH HOUSE (CONT)**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee approves expenditure of £8,890 (up to £20,530) using funds from the Capital Projects Old Bath House budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s111). These works are to be carried out by Company A and are to be approved by NDDC's Conservation Officer, the Town Clerk and the Chairman of the Committee.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**76. TO AGREE TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BLANDFORD YULETIDE FESTIVAL GROUP AND TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT**

The paper was noted (see Appendix J).

Cllr Butler, Cllr Brannigan and Cllr Hitchings declared a personal and prejudicial interest, and left the room during discussion and voting, as representatives to the Blandford Yuletide Group.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr Pemberton and AGREED (5 in favour, 3 non-votes) that

**The Committee makes a contribution of £300 towards the cost of printing promotional information leaflets for the Blandford Yuletide Festival using funds from the Tourism budget (Expenditure Authority: Local Government Act 1972, s.144) and a Town Council representative is elected at the Statutory Annual Meeting.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

Cllr White asked that a letter is sent to NDDC requesting free parking on 14 December 2011.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

**SIGNED: ..... DATED: .....**