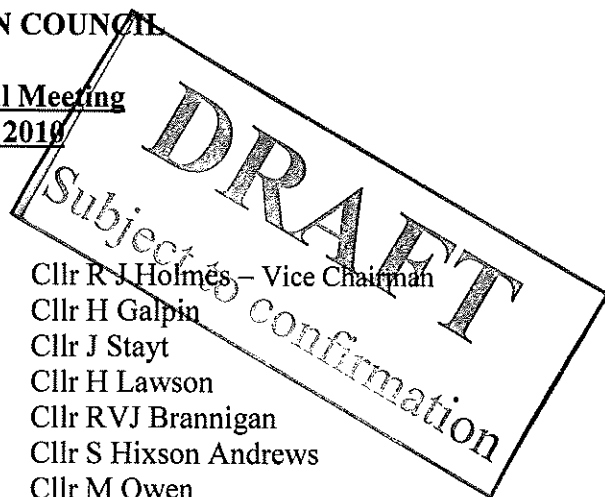


BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held on Monday 5 July 2010



PRESENT

Cllr E Butler – Chairman
Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr A Pemberton
Cllr S Loch
Cllr I Rose
Cllr F West

Cllr R J Holmes – Vice Chairman
Cllr H Galpin
Cllr J Stayt
Cllr H Lawson
Cllr RVJ Brannigan
Cllr S Hixson Andrews
Cllr M Owen

IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr J Tanner

Town Clerk

District Cllr J Hickish

Assistant Town Clerk

YOUTH ADVISORS

Felix Morris-Duffin

Nicola Young

41. PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Owen informed Members that it is very likely that the Court in Blandford will be closed down.

41.1 Persimmon Homes – pre-application presentation on the Land off Wimborne Road adjacent to Archbishop Wake Primary School

Paul Bedford and Andrew Elliott were in attendance to give a presentation to Members on the draft proposals for the land off Wimborne Road and offered to answer any questions. They distributed a summary leaflet (see Appendix A) from the public consultation process that they have been carrying out. The consultations will form the basis of the planning application that they hope to submit in September.

Cllr Hitchings asked if they had considered acquiring the additional piece of land from DCC to which Persimmon declined and he also asked about the provision of a footpath off Black Lane.

Members also asked about the number of bedrooms, the parking provision, the steep access entrance, and the s106 agreements. Persimmon suggested that approximately 35% of the housing will be 'affordable' and Members asked that the majority of houses be 3 to 4 bedroom properties.

Youth Advisor, Felix Morris-Duffin, asked about the play provision for older children as it only caters for toddlers and Cllr Butler expressed concern that the position of the play area would mean that it is not overlooked.

Persimmon Homes asked for Members' comments to be received by 16 July 2010.

42. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Cooper was not in attendance.

43. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

43.1 District Cllr J Tanner

43.1.1 Leisure Centre – Cllr Tanner advised that NDDC has agreed to invest additional money on the leisure centre.

43.1.2 Revenue and Benefits – The creation of the Stour Valley Partnership is pressing ahead and trade unions have been fully involved in negotiations.

43.1.3 New Government – NDDC is starting to work through the implications for the Council following central Government's budget proposals for district councils.

43.2 District Cllr J Hickish

43.2.1 Greengrocers Site – Cllr Hickish reported that the discussions continue with the agents for that site, who state that they are close to submitting an application.

43.2.2 Dorset Waste Partnership – The Partnership is developing and is very active, focussing on ensuring that waste is managed and disposed of as efficiently as possible. All the Dorset authorities are working closely together with each authority having two representatives on the Partnership .

43.3 District Cllr S Hitchings

Nothing to report.

44. APOLOGIES

Cllr P Randall
County Cllr B Cooper

Cllr H White
District Cllr N Hickish

45. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

46. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 JUNE 2010

Minute No. 25.3 – Cllr Lindsay reported that one of the applicants had moved (not applicants).

Subject to the above amendment, it was PROPOSED by Cllr Loch, SECONDED by Cllr Rose and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 abstention) that the Minutes are APPROVED and SIGNED.

47. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

47.1 Dorset Strategic Partnership – The Partnership has started a Public Consultation event seeking comments on the new draft plan 'Shaping Our Future', which focuses on improving the quality of life for everyone in Dorset over the next 10 years. Details can be found on the 'Dorset For You' website.

47.2 Citizens Advice Bureau – The AGM will be held on Thursday 22 July 2010 starting at 6.00 pm in the Gillingham Town Hall, School Road, Gillingham. If any Members wish to attend please let the office know so we can inform the CAB how many Councillors will be attending.

47. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)

- 47.3 DPPO Signage – The vast majority of the adhesive signs went up at the beginning of June but the metal signs required at some sites have only just gone up due to a delivery problem. The PCSOs have already reported that they are useful. It is expected that at the PACT meeting due to be held on Tuesday 6 July there will be requests that additional areas are also made into DPPO areas. If this is supported at the PACT meeting the Town Council will need to request that NDDC initiates the legal process.
- 47.4 South East Dorset Transport Study – Consultation continues with this study that will help to shape the future of the transport needs for the next 15 years. A consultation booklet will be available in the office if members wish to see it and comment.
- 47.5 DCC Parish Maintenance Units – Members were informed a couple of meetings ago that there were to be changes in the Parish maintenance Units with 8 units instead of 6 but each unit would have a single operative. This scheme went live on 1 July 2010 and a booklet is available in the office if Members wish to see it.
- 47.6 Satisfied Resident – A local resident took the time last week to come into the office to praise the floral displays around the Town and to say how much they had enjoyed reading the informative Town Council Newsletter and that they were very pleased to see something positive happening at Angus Wood.
- 47.7 Gurkhas Photographic Display – The display will be held in the Corn Exchange on Friday 9 July 2010 from 2.00 pm at which the Mayor will be present and the Town Council has reserved 6 places for other Councillors who may wish to attend the launch.
- 47.8 Blandford Area 50+ Open Meeting – The Town Clerk advised Members that there is a meeting taking place on 6 July 2010 from 7.30-9.30pm at Durweston Village Hall with the focus on the event being 'How safe are you on the roads?'

48. CIVIC REPORT

The paper was tabled (see Appendix B).

Cllr Butler informed Members that the Signals Band tickets for 30 July 2010 are now on sale and everybody is welcome to attend The Big Lunch on Sunday 18 July 2010 in Woodhouse Gardens between 11am and 3pm.

49. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES

49.1 Finance & Staffing Committee Meeting held on 9 June 2010

49.1.1 Minute No. 8 – REVIEW OF END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2009/10

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

The end of year accounts for the financial year 2009/10 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

49.1.2 Minute No. 14 – TO CONSIDER GRANT APPLICATIONS

14.1 Blandford Forum Swimming Club

49. **RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES (cont)**

Cllr Lindsay declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a close friend of the applicant and left the room during discussion and voting.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Butler, SECONDED by Cllr Stayt and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

A grant of £600 is awarded to the Blandford Forum Swimming Club to pay for teachers' courses in order to have qualified, voluntary help within the Club.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

14.2 **Blandford Forum Museum Trust – Railway Club**

Cllr Hixson Andrews declared a personal interest due to her involvement with the Railway Club.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr West, SECONDED by Cllr Lindsay and AGREED unanimously (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

A grant of £500 is awarded to the Railway Club to assist with set up costs for the event.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The Minutes were RECEIVED.

49.2 **Town & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2010**

The Minutes were RECEIVED.

50. **TO CONSIDER A RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DAPTC DUE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2010**

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

The Town Council puts forward the following resolution for the second year running, in light of the recent change in Government:

Blandford Forum Town Council requests that the DAPTC, with the aid of NALC and our local MPs, does everything in its power to change the national regulation, so that Town Councils will have the same mandatory right of rate relief on their buildings as Parish Councils do on Parish Halls.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

51. **TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCILLOR SURGERIES WORKING GROUP**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C). The Chairman made comment on the amount of work undertaken by the office to produce this detailed report.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr Rose and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 against) that

51. **TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCILLOR SURGERIES WORKING GROUP (cont)**

The Town Council approves the introduction of councillor surgeries, the promotional paperwork detailed in the attached Appendixes, and the dates proposed.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

52. **TO RECEIVE THE QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN**

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

It was noted that the progress made on street cleansing will be added to the report and a discussion took place regarding the Council's Strategic Plan for 2011 – 2015 and it was agreed that this would be an item for the new Town Council post elections in May 2011.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

53. **TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE BLANDFORD YULETIDE FESTIVAL GROUP TO APPOINT THE MAYOR AS THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE**

The paper was noted (see Appendix E).

Cllr Butler declared a personal interest as she has been attending the Group meetings.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr West and AGREED unanimously (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

As Chairman of Council, Cllr Butler is the Town Council's representative for the Blandford Yuletide Festival Group.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

54. **TO CONSIDER AN INVITATION FROM THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION TO JOIN OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN FORMING A FRIENDS OF THE COLLINGWOOD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION AND GIVE EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR A LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

The paper was noted (see Appendix F).

Cllr Brannigan declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the room during discussion and voting.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Owen and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

The Town Council becomes a life member of the Friends of The Collingwood Memorial Association at a cost of £150.00.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

55. **REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

