

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting**  
**Held on Wednesday 7 June 2010**

**DRAFT**  
Subject to confirmation

**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

**IN ATTENDANCE**

County Cllr B Cooper

Town Clerk

Assistant Town Clerk

**YOUTH ADVISORS**

Ryan Brown

Felix Morris-Duffin

**24. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**25. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

- 25.1 Dropped Kerbs – Cllr Cooper reported that several dropped kerbs have been created on Salisbury Road and Holland Way.
- 25.2 Heddington Drive – The traffic survey to assess the need for a pedestrian crossing carried out by DCC on Heddington Drive scored very low and Cllr Cooper advised that he has therefore requested road narrowing to try to reduce the speed of the traffic.
- 25.3 Household Waste – Questionnaires will be given out to people using the waste recycling centre asking how the service can be improved.

Cllr Stayt asked Cllr Cooper about the return address for the questionnaires and Cllr Holmes asked if DCC would review the size of the recycling plant, which is causing traffic congestion in the area.

Cllr Lindsay reported that the applicants for the disabled bays recently installed on Elizabeth Road have now vacated the property.

Cllr Lawson queried the use of the lay-by in Heddington Drive being used by a recovery vehicle which is therefore preventing buses from pulling in. Cllr Butler suggested that Councillors should contact Cllr Cooper in advance of the meetings enabling queries to be resolved sooner.

Cllr Loch thanked Cllr Cooper for approaching the builders who were parking on the pavement on Park Road, which resulted in the children walking in the road, as the matter has now been resolved.

**26. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

**26.1 District Cllr S Hitchings**

26.1.1 Committees – Cllr Hitchings advised Members that the number of Committees he sits on at NDDC has been reduced due to his new role as Chairman of NDDC.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Town Council, congratulated Cllr Hitchings on his appointment and wished him a successful year.

**26.2 District Cllr B Cooper**

26.2.1 Enforcement – Cllr Cooper confirmed that he will be asking NDDC to train staff to take enforcement action for issues such as dropping litter.

**27. APOLOGIES**

Cllr P Randall  
Cllr H White

Cllr M Owen

District Cllr N Hickish  
District Cllr J Tanner

District Cllr J Hickish

**28. 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.

**29. MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 5 MAY 2010**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Rose, SECONDED by Cllr Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that the Minutes are APPROVED and SIGNED.

**30. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

30.1 Finance Training for Councillors – In consultation with the Chairman of the Finance & Staffing Committee a Councillors' training session on finance has been arranged for Monday 18 October 2010 starting at 7pm here in the Community Room and all Councillors are asked to attend if at all possible.

30.2 Civic Service – The Civic Service will be held on Monday 28 June 2010 at the United Reformed Church and robing up will be at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

30.3 Street Closure Order – A Street Closure Order has been received for Sunday 18 July 2010 for Orchard Street from 1200hrs to 1600hrs to coincide with The Big Lunch.

30.4 Street Closure Order – A Street Closure Order has been received for Saturday 11 September 2010 for the Blandford Carnival with the following streets being affected: Holland Way, Fairfield Bungalows, Salisbury Road, Kings Road, St Leonards Avenue, Bayfran Way, Black Lane, Wimborne Road, East Street, Market Place and West Street from 1900hrs to 2100hrs.

30.5 Blandford Forum Almshouse Charity – The Town Council has received a letter thanking all Councillors for their attendance at the Centenary event held on 4 May 2010 from the Chairman of Trustees, Carole Sharp.

### **30. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)**

- 30.6 Memorial Testing – The Town Council will be carrying out memorial testing at the cemetery from June to September 2010. An advert will appear in the Blackmore Vale Magazine in June and notices will also be displayed at the cemetery and on all the Town Council notice boards.
- 30.7 DCC Correspondence regarding Highway Maintenance 2010/11 – The Town Clerk distributed a copy of the letter to all Members and stated that budget cuts will result in service reductions.
- 30.8 Highways – Correspondence has also been received from DCC confirming that their new telephone number for highway enquiries is 01305 221020.
- 30.9 Rights of Way Officer – DCC has written acknowledging that Cllr Lawson is BFTC's Rights of Way Officer.
- 30.10 SE Dorset Transport Study – The Town Council responded to this exercise some months ago and we have been informed that further consultation events have been arranged during June in Christchurch, Poole, Bournemouth, East Dorset and Purbeck. If any Member wishes to attend one of the events the Town Clerk can provide dates, venues etc.
- 30.11 DAPTC & Monitoring Officers Drop in Road Shows – The Blandford event will take place at the Corn Exchange on Thursday 17 June 2010 from 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4pm. All Councillors are invited to just drop in at a time that suits them.
- 30.12 Preetz Twinning – Following the recent visit from our Twin Town Preetz we have received letters of thanks from the Officials of the Town of Preetz, Blandford & Preetz Friendship Society and Brigitte James (translator).
- 30.13 Age UK – The Town Council has been informed that Age UK has been formed following the merger of Age Concern and Help The Aged.

### **31. CIVIC REPORT**

The paper was tabled (see Appendix A).

Both the outgoing and incoming Mayors tabled reports on the events that they have attended since the last Town Council meeting. Cllr Butler updated Members on the meetings that she has attended since becoming Chairman of Council.

### **32. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

None

### **33. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Loch, SECONDED by Cllr West and AGREED unanimously that

**Cllr Owen is offered the position of Vice Chairman of Planning for 2010-2011.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**34. TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLANDFORD LEISURE CENTRE WORKING GROUP**

The paper was noted (see Appendix B).

Cllr Hitchings declared a personal interest as Chairman of NDDC.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Loch, SECONDED by Cllr Stayt and AGREED unanimously that the Town Council

**Signs the Funding Agreement and transfers the £50,000 annual contribution to NDDC in October subject to BFTC securing a strong voice in relation to the future management and operation of BLC.**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hixson Andrews, SECONDED by Cllr Rose and AGREED unanimously that the Town Council

**Utilises the Blandford Leisure Centre Consultative Group's Terms of Reference to secure a strong voice in relation to the future management and operation of BLC.**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Stayt and AGREED unanimously (12 in favour, 1 abstention) that the Town Council

**Makes a request to the John Iles Barnes Recreation Trust and the Charity of T W Dray George Fund that their combined funds of £47,200 are allocated to the BLC gym redevelopment project.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**35. TO APPOINT A SECOND TOWN COUNCILLOR TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL ON THE BLANDFORD LEISURE CENTRE CONSULTATIVE GROUP**

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

**Cllr Galpin will represent the Town Council on the Blandford Leisure Centre Consultative Group.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**36. TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PREETZ TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

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

**Cllr Rose is nominated to represent the Preetz Twinning Association.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**37. TO CONSIDER ANY SUGGESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS IN RELATION TO SUBMISSIONS OF RESOLUTIONS (REQUIRED BY 30 JULY 2010) TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DAPTC DUE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2010**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

7.30pm – Cllr Hixson Andrews left the meeting.

Cllr Butler asked Members to think about suggestions that they may wish to be considered by Town Council as this item will be referred to the meeting in July.



**38. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE MAYOR TO DISPLAY THE TOWN'S SILVER FOR A MAYOR'S CHARITY EVENT**

Although a date has not yet been confirmed, Cllr Butler asked Members for the Town Council's approval for the Town's silver to be on display for one of the Mayor's charity events.

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

**The Town Council approves Cllr Butler's request.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**39. TO CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP(S) TO INVESTIGATE:**

**39.1 The introduction of regular Councillor Surgeries**

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

**Cllrs Hitchings, Butler, Pemberton, Lindsay, Brannigan and Stayt form the Working Group to investigate the possibility of regular councillor surgeries.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**39.2 Badges for Councillors, Past Mayors and Freeman**

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

**Cllrs Hitchings, Loch, Lindsay, Holmes and Butler form the Working Group to review the badges for Councillors, Past Mayors and Freeman.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

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

**40.1 Mortain Twinning – Report by Cllr Stayt**

The paper was tabled (see Appendix D).

**40.2 Blandford & District Civic Society – Report by Cllr Lawson**

The paper was tabled (see Appendix E).

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....