

At the **MEETING** of the **DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Dorchester on Tuesday 25th March, 2014:

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor E.S. Jones) in the Chair.

Councillors V.J. Allan, K.E. Armitage, D.J. Barrett, C.S. Biggs, R.M. Biggs, A.J. Canning, T.C.N. Harries, S.C. Hosford, T. James, G.M. Jones, Trevor Jones, F.E. Kent-Ledger, T. Loakes, A.J. Lyall, P.G. Mann, R.B. Potter, M.E. Rennie, and D.S. Roberts.

In attendance: Mr A. Jenkins, Neighbourhood Justice Panel Co-ordinator. Members of the Dorchester Youth Council.

APOLOGY for absence was received from Councillor D. Taylor.

49. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th January 2014 were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

In relation to minute 39 a Councillor asked for an update regarding the relocation of the Church as a result of the Charles St development. The Chairman of Planning & Environment identified that she understood that discussions were taking place regarding the relocation of the Church to Poundbury.

50. **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor provided details of the unveiling of a bench in memory of the late Dennis Maggs, past Mayor of Dorchester, by the Holbaek Society, in the Borough Gardens on the 26th April at 3pm.

The Mayor announced that an event would be held to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Town Council on 8th May in the Municipal Buildings to which all councillors and past councillors would be invited.

A member of the Youth Council provided feedback regarding issues to be considered later on the agenda. The Youth Council were supportive of the approach to the introduction of a fob-activated system at the Borough Gardens tennis courts, but were not supportive of the proposed refurbishment of railings in South Walks Road due to the visual appearance of the railings and the cost of refurbishment.

51. **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received in accordance with Standing Order 12(3).

52. **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 3RD FEBRUARY 2014**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 3rd February 2014 be adopted.

53. **SELECTION COMMITTEE –11TH FEBRUARY 2014**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

A Councillor asked that consideration be given to retaining the appointment of representatives to the Dorset Playing Fields Association and Sports Council and the Dorset Broadcasting Action Group. Another Councillor asked that consideration be given to retaining the appointment of a representative to RELATE. On being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Town Council does not make appointments to the following outside bodies from May 2014: -

Dorchester Stop the Drop
Promote Dorchester Community Interest Company
PACT Steering Group
RELATE – Dorset Marriage Guidance Council
Dorset Broadcasting Action Group
Dorset Playing Fields Association and Sports Council
Age UK Dorchester

- (2) That 2 members are appointed to the Community Justice Steering Group from May 2014.
- (3) That the minutes of the meeting of the Selection Committee held on 11th February 2014 be adopted.

54. **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 3RD MARCH 2014**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

A Councillor requested that the Town Council contact West Dorset District Council with regard to its policy of approving car developments in the town centre with insufficient parking spaces. The Chairman of the Committee identified that the issue was being investigated.

It was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 3rd March 2014 be adopted.

55. **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 11TH MARCH 2014**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

The Mayor asked Members to assist with the temporary display of posters created by local school children in areas prone to the problem of dog fouling. On receipt of a question from a Councillor, Councillor James explained the different processes for the Dog Fouling and Stop the Drop Litter poster projects.

The Chairman noted the comments of the Youth Town Council regarding railings in South Walks Road and identified that the Committee would review its decision before implementing it. It was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 11th March 2014 be adopted.

56. **MAYORAL SELECTION COMMITTEE – 18TH MARCH 2014**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That Councillor P.G. Mann be invited to fill the office of Town Mayor during the 2014-15 Council Year.
- (2) That Councillor E.S. Jones be invited to fill the office of Deputy Town Mayor during the 2014 – 15 Council Year.
- (3) That the minutes of the meeting of the Mayoral Selection Committee held on 18th March 2014 be adopted.

57. **POLICY COMMITTEE – 18TH MARCH 2014**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

The Chairman noted that the Corporate Plan was still in draft form, and would be discussed later in the meeting. He also identified that the appraisals of the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk were in progress.

It was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 18th March 2014 be adopted.

58. **POLICE MATTERS**

Mr A. Jenkins, the Neighbourhood Justice Panel (NJP) co-ordinator provided a progress report regarding the creation of a Panel in Dorchester. He identified that 2 new facilitators had been trained for the Dorchester area and thanked the Council for its grant and in kind support.

He explained the merits of the informal approach to justice as delivered by NJPs, giving the victim a chance to confront offenders with the impacts of their actions but also allowing them the chance to recognise the random nature of many incidents, while for the offender the opportunity to recognise the impact of and apologise for their actions, while at the same time maintaining a clean criminal record. Thusfar the scheme in Bridport had received over 90% positive feedback from those involved as victims.

59. **CORPORATE PLAN**

The Town Clerk identified the process that had resulted in the second draft Corporate Plan being in front of Council. Council considered and endorsed the draft vision for Dorchester and identified a number of members who were willing to undertake a review of the detailed wording of the Plan prior to its formal adoption prior to consultation at the May Council meeting. The Town Clerk identified that a consultation strategy would be developed for the May meeting.

The Council rose at 7.45pm.

Mayor