

Dorchester Town Council

Meeting of the Dorchester Town Council

26 July 2016

Present: Mayor T. Harries and Councillors B. Armstrong-Marshall, J. Hewitt, S. Hosford, G. Jones, S. Jones, T. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger, A. Lyall, M. Rennie, K. Rice, P. Stein and D. Taylor.

Also: Reverend Canon T. Woodhouse, the Mayor's Chaplain

Apologies: Councillors C. Biggs, R. Biggs, A. Canning, A. Chisholm, G. Duke and R. Potter.

15. Silence

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in a quiet period of reflection to remember the life of Jo Cox MP and the victims of many recent terrorist and other incidents.

16. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23/24 May 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

17. Communications and Questions

An update was provided regarding the Kut Day event, noting in particular the work of the Mayor's Secretary in preparing for the event. The Mayor thanked Members for their support during the many events that had taken place so far and outline a programme for the rest of this summer.

18. Motions

Councillor S. Jones proposed the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Rennie

We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our town or our country. Dorchester Town Council condemns racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable.

Dorchester Town Council will work to ensure local bodies and programmes have support and resources needed to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia. We wish to reassure all people living in the town that they are valued members of our community.

The motion was carried unanimously and the Town Clerk agreed to work with Councillor Jones to highlight the message locally.

The Mayor proposed the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor S. Jones

Council notes that in May of this year, the then Prime Minister promised that 3,000 unaccompanied child refugees would be given safe haven in the United Kingdom before Christmas. Council resolves to remind the Member of Parliament for West Dorset of this fact and asks him to, as a matter of urgency, ascertain:

- 1) That the promise would be kept
- 2) The timescales for these relocations

A Member highlighted incidences of unaccompanied young refugees arriving at Dorset ports.

The Town Clerk will write to the local MP seeking clarification of the current position.

19. Updates from Partner Authorities

Councillor T. Jones provided a verbal update of recent work at Dorset County Council, covering local government reorganisation and service devolution, school pupil increases and the opening of Damers School in February 2017, the continuing lack of progress on highway adoption at Poundbury, the Waste Management Planning exercise and asset disposals in Dorchester including Top o' Town House. He answered questions relating to the Orchard Nursery and fostering start up businesses.

In providing a verbal update regarding the work of West Dorset District Council Councillor Hosford highlighted the increasingly collaborative and positive atmosphere at the Council. She covered local government reorganisation and the focus on delivering financial savings and then specifically the anticipated move of the Dorchester TIC to the library, the latest on the development of the Charles St site, the Transport and Parking strategy exercise and the allocation of s106 Recreation monies.

She answered a question regarding Dorchester TIC and confirmed that a report would go to the Town Council's Planning and Environment Committee on 1 August regarding the Dorchester Prison site, before West Dorset District Council considered the planning application at its next Development Control Committee.

20. Planning and Environment Committee – 6 June 2016

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

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 6 June 2016 be adopted.

21. Planning and Environment Committee – 4 July 2016

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

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 4 July 2016 be adopted.

22. Management Committee – 12 July 2016

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

In referring to Minute 10 a Member proposed that the grant towards the national memorial to the County Infantry Regiments of Devon and Dorset be increased to £1,600, recognising that it was 100 years to the day that the townspeople had raised the same amount to support soldiers taken as prisoners of war when, in 1916, Kut in Mesopotamia fell.

Resolved

- a) That an additional £600 contribution be made to the proposed National Memorial to the Regiments of Devon and Dorset, from the Events and Sponsorship budget, bringing the total award to £1,600
- b) That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 12 July 2016 be adopted.

23. Policy Committee – 19 July 2016

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

Resolved

- a) That a grant of £25,000 is made to the Dorset County Museum, with conditions to be agreed between the Town Clerk and the Museum Director
- b) That the draft Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, included on pages 9 – 20 of the Policy Committee Agenda be adopted
- c) That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 19 July 2016 be adopted.

24. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Council considered a list of expressions of interest provided by the Town Clerk. A number of proposals were made where more than one expression of interest had been received or where a vacancy existed.

Resolved

That the Council's representatives on Outside Bodies for 2016/17 be as stated in the list attached to the Minutes

The Council rose at 7.45pm.

Mayor

REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2016/17

Internal Roles	
DAPTC Larger Towns Rep	R. Potter
Charitable Trusteeships	
Dorchester Municipal Charities (4)	J. Hewitt, S. Hosford, F. Kent-Ledger, M. Rennie
Ashley Churchill & Thorner Trust (2)	C. Biggs, G. Duke
Bodies we support financially	
Dorchester Arts	F. Kent-Ledger
Dorchester BID	S. Hosford
Dorchester Youth & Community Centre	K. Rice
Other Organisations we work with	
Dorchester & Sherborne CAB	R. Potter
Dorchester Association L. History & Arch.	D. Taylor
Dorchester Bayeux Society	D. Taylor
Dorchester Lubbecke Society	T. Harries
Dorchester Holbaek Society	Not required at present
Dorset Neighbourhood Justice Panel	Not required at present
Heart of Wessex Rail Partnership	G. Jones
St Osmund's Community Sports Centre	S. Jones
Thomas Hardy Society	A. Chisholm
Transition Town Dorchester	T. Loakes
Volunteer Centre Dorchester	J. Hewitt
Dorset Broadcasting Action Group	D. Taylor