

# **Dorchester Town Council**

## **Meeting of the Dorchester Town Council**

**27 March 2018**

Present: Mayor S. Hosford and Councillors B. Armstrong-Marshall, C. Biggs, R. Biggs, A. Canning, G. Duke, T. Harries, J. Hewitt, G. Jones, S. Jones, T. Jones, , F. Kent-Ledger, T. Loakes, R. Potter, M. Rennie, K. Rice, P. Stein and D. Taylor.

Apologies: Councillors A. Chisholm and A. Lyall.

### **45. Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 30 January 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

### **46. Communications & Questions**

The Mayor reported her attendance at the launch event for the Dorchester Marathon and invited Members to consider taking on the role of marshall for the event. She also provided details of the Civic Day and her end of year celebration event at Dorset County Museum.

The Mayor also offered the Council's congratulations to Councillor Molly Rennie on the receipt of a national Rotary Community Champion award.

### **47. Updates from Partner Authorities**

Councillors A. Canning and R. Biggs gave an update regarding Dorset County Council activity, acknowledging the current focus on Local Government Reorganisation. They explained the closure of Maumbury House due to increasing costs and the latest position regarding DTEP.

Councillor S. Jones also identified LGR as the priority at West Dorset District Council and identified electoral arrangements for the new Unitary Council. She highlighted a new £4.0M initiative to build 320 affordable homes over the next 7 years and that a recent presentation on the Local Plan Review had identified new preferred options to be consulted on during August - October 2018. Councillor G. Duke identified that the Land Charges search turnaround had now reduced to 9 days.

### **48. Planning and Environment Committee – 5 February 2018**

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 5 February 2018 be adopted.

49. **Planning and Environment Committee – 5 March 2018**

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 5 March 2018 be adopted.

50. **Management Committee – 13 March 2018**

**Resolved**

- a) That the existing policy to allow people to pre-purchase a specific plot in Poundbury Cemetery be discontinued
- b) That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 13 March 2018 be adopted.

51. **Mayoral Selection Committee – 20 March 2018**

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

**Resolved**

- c) That Councillor D. Taylor be invited to fill the office of Town Mayor of Dorchester, and Councillor S. Hosford the office of Deputy Town Mayor, during the 2018-19 Council Year
- d) That Standing Orders be amended to require the Deputy Mayor to report back to a meeting of the Committee before approaching more than ten Members on each Mayoral Selection list
- e) That the minutes of the meeting of the Mayoral Selection Committee held on 20 March 2018 be adopted.

Councillors congratulated David Taylor on his nomination and welcomed Martin Shepherd to the meeting.

52. **Policy Committee – 20 March 2018**

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

Members gave careful consideration to the recommendation regarding the use of recreation sites for affordable housing. They considered a number of amendments to the recommendation received from the Policy Committee, focused on including the land at Elizabeth Place in the recommendation.

**Resolved**

- a) That, in view of the levels of opposition expressed by local residents to the proposals to explore the development of sites owned by this Council at recent consultation events, this Council takes no further action to bring forward more detailed proposals for the sites
- b) That, should Magna Housing not bring forward proposals to develop Elizabeth Place for affordable housing, the Town Council would wish to enter into a new agreement to manage the site
- c) That Magna be notified of the Town Council's intention to end plans for development of its sites and that Magna be asked for confirmation that they would not proceed to develop Elizabeth Place
- d) That, recognising their wider land portfolio, including garage sites, Magna be encouraged to look at the potential for development of other parts of the portfolio

Members considered the remainder of the minutes.

**Resolved**

- e) That the Council work with Dorchester Municipal Charities to implement an Action Plan as outlined by the Charity in order to properly observe The Social Housing (Influence of Local Authorities)(England) Regulations 2017
- f) That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 20 March 2018 be adopted

The Council rose at 8.00pm.

Mayor

The meeting was followed by the Annual Town Meeting.