

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Public Hall, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton on Monday 28 June 2021 on the rising of the Planning Committee.

Meeting commenced at 7.19pm.

PRESENT

Cllr R D Sherriff (Town Mayor)
Cllr M C Hilliar (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr A F Chaplin
Cllr Mrs L D Evans
Cllr A J Harris
Cllr D J Hayward
Cllr A L Jones
Cllr Mrs M P Lewis
Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt

Town Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: District Cllr A J Dent, District Cllr P M Jarvis and District Cllr T D Wright

21.066 Public Speaking Time

No Members of the public wished to speak.

21.067 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from County Cllr Mrs C Channon.

21.068 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

No interests were declared.

21.069 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 24 May 2021 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

21.070 Report of Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Budleigh Salterton Traffic Group held on 25 May 2021 were noted.

21.071 Chairman's Report

Town Mayor, Cllr R D Sherriff reported that a local person had been recruited to help tidy up the town by clearing weeds and leaves which seemed to have been lying around since last autumn! He had started that day by clearing the bridge over the amenity walk and would be doing various jobs around the town, working one day a week for the foreseeable future. Cllr Sherriff asked that Members pass on to the Clerk details of any areas which they thought needed attention and she would hand pass them on to the gentleman. Cllr Sherriff added that it might be a while before any visible improvement was seen but he hoped he would start to make inroads.

21.072 Clerk's Report

Mrs J E Vanstone reported that she had received many comments about the lack of grass cutting on The Green. She was pleased that it had now been cut and the areas which were to be rewilded were going to be amended slightly.

- Cllr Mrs L D Evans asked if it was possible to cut the grass on a lower notch next time. Mrs Vanstone said she would ask!

21.073 Reports of Council Representatives on Other Bodies

No reports were made.

21.074 Reports of County and District Councillors

County Councillor

Mrs J E Vanstone read County Cllr Mrs C Channon's report:

- The Budleigh Hospital Health and Well-being Hub had been renamed "Seachange" to make it sound more inclusive for the whole Woodbury, Exmouth and Budleigh (WEB) area. It was now getting more active again; Launchpad was open to the public, the Gym had reopened and several of the more creative activities would soon be available again. At a recent Advisory Meeting there had been some very positive discussions about providing enablement services in the future to help people to remain more independent and well. At that meeting she had raised a question regarding transport, asking whether people who received appointments from areas like Exmouth and Woodbury were given instructions as to how to access the Hub; this was being looked into.
- She and Cllr Mrs M P Lewis had met with a local resident to discuss the possibility of a dropped pavement near the junction of East Budleigh Road and Upper Stoneborough Lane. They had come to the conclusion that this was possible. Cllr Lewis had made some notes and taken a photograph and the topic would be discussed further at a future meeting of the Budleigh Salterton Traffic Group.
- She had contacted the offices to advise that someone with a radar key had visited the disabled toilets in Brook Road and found them very dirty. She had suggested that a notice be placed on the door stating that the toilets were closed and that the nearest disabled toilets were behind the Public Hall. She hoped that this request had been actioned.

District Councillors

District Cllr T D Wright reported that one unfortunate current aspect of East Devon District Council work was complaints from staff who were being bullied by councillors. He explained that until recently this had not been acknowledged and an apology had been issued and accepted by the Unison representative. As a result of pressure, the new leadership had acknowledged that their membership was at fault and some staff have resigned. Cllr Wright thought this issue would probably become public knowledge at next cabinet meeting.

21.075 Finance Inspection

- (i) Payments for the month of June 2021, in accordance with Appendix A, were approved.
- (ii) It was noted that the Chairman of the Finance Committee had carried out the internal finance inspection for May 2021.

21.076 Public Hall: Roof Repairs

A quotation from Squires Roofing, for the replacement of the roofing above the fire exit on the southern elevation of the Public Hall, was received and considered.

Cllr Mrs L D Evans confirmed that the roof was rotten and needed replacing. She added that the Council had used this firm before and she trusted their opinion. It was

Resolved: The quotation should be accepted.

21.077 Any Other Business at the Chairman’s Discretion

- Cllr Mrs L D Evans advised that an email update, received that afternoon, stated that Exmouth Town Council was paying for some toilets to be kept open and she wondered why Budleigh Salterton Town Council had not been mentioned after agreement had been made to pay to keep open the toilets in the Lower Station Road Car Park.
- Cllr A J Harris said that a Chairman had to be elected for the Emergency Group. The Clerk thanked Cllr Harris and said that when a meeting date had been arranged, that would be the first item on the agenda.
- The Town Mayor, Cllr R D Sherriff asked if it was appropriate to arrange a meeting between the Town Council, Budleigh in Bloom and the relevant East Devon District Council officer to discuss and agree an acceptable strategy for rewilding areas on The Green in 2022. It was agreed that such plans had to be correctly managed to achieve the right balance between tidiness and wildlife corridors. Cllr A L Jones added that there was a lot of misconception around the town that the Town Council did not care about the town but he made sure to tell them that not everything was under Town Council jurisdiction and it takes time to sort out some issues.

21.078 Dates of Next Meetings

All Meetings will be held in the Public Hall until further notice:
Planning Committee: 26 July 2021 at 7.00pm
Town Council: 26 July 2021 on the rising of the Planning Committee
Planning Committee: 23 August 2021 at 7.00pm
Town Council: 23 August 2021 on the rising of the Planning Committee

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.44pm.

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Chairman

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Date