

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chambers, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton on Monday 23 May 2022 on the rising of the Planning Committee.

Meeting commenced at 7.09pm.

PRESENT

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

Town Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: District Cllr A J Dent, two members of the public and one representative of the press

22.033 Public Speaking Time

No Members of the public wished to speak.

22.034 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R J Doorbar (working), Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt (unwell), Cllr D Tate (unwell), County Cllr Mrs C Channon, District Cllr P M Jarvis and District Cllr T D Wright.

22.035 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

No interests were declared.

22.036 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 25 April 2022 and the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 May 2022 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

22.037 Chairman's Report

The Town Mayor, Cllr M C Hilliar welcomed everyone back to the Council Chambers. He said it was good to be back upstairs and hoped everyone was not too cold whilst the windows were open for ventilation. He thanked Members for their continued support whilst everyone got back to normal.

22.038 Clerk's Report

Mrs J E Vanstone reported:

- She was making arrangements to introduce Multifactor Authentication which is a condition of the Cyber Insurance policy renewal. She was currently liaising with ACS Solutions Ltd and advised the way she and her assistant logged in to the Council website and Hall booking/finance software had to be changed as well as the way staff and councillors logged into their email accounts; she hoped the changes would not be too onerous!
- She had had a meeting with an East Devon District Council StreetScene officer regarding the poor way the grass on The Green had been cut. The agreed plans for grass cutting had been changed to those agreed in 2021 and she hoped to have the new plan soon.

- The redecoration of the outside of the Public Hall had been completed on Friday, in time for the wedding reception which was held there on Saturday and the forthcoming Gala Week.
- The telephone box on the seafront had been repaired and repainted – it now looked very smart!
- The telephone box at Rolle Mews Car Park had been decommissioned and was being adopted by St Peter's School – at this time she did not know what its future use would be.
- The Dispensation Form needed to be signed by all Councillors. This ensured that that Councillors could freely discuss matters relating to Members' Allowances and Budgets and the Precept without declaring an interest.

22.039 Reports of Council Representatives on Other Bodies

Police Councillor Advocate Group

Cllr Mrs M P Lewis reported she had attended an informal discussion with Insp A Weeks and Sgt R Stonecliffe. The officers had reiterated the best way to report non emergencies was via 101 – email being better than telephone. The Community trigger scheme would be activated but it was vital that reports were made via 101 in the first instance.

Exmouth & District Community Transport Group

Cllr Mrs L D Evans reported:

- the Group had received a grant of £5000 from the Clare Milne Trust in recognition of the work carried out during the Covid pandemic
- the Group was always in need of volunteer drivers with patients now going to Axminster and Nightingale Hospitals. A lot of customers find it difficult to get into a normal car – wheelchair handling training is required but a normal driving licence is sufficient.

Budleigh Salterton Nursing Association

Cllr A L Jones reported that the Association had not received any applications for some time and he reminded Members that the Association could supply all sorts of equipment to residents which was not readily available through the normal channels; recent help had included a braille typewriter and specialist dressings which were not available via the NHS). He said the more people who knew about the Association, the more help it could offer.

22.040 Reports of County and District Councillors

County Councillor

Mrs J E Vanstone gave County Cllr Mrs C Channon's apologies and read her report:

- She was pleased to note that the roadworks on Salting Hill were carried out quickly and had caused far less problems than she had anticipated. She was told that Western Power were very helpful to the local community.
- There was a serious accident at Steamer Steps at about 1300hours on Sunday 22 May when a lady fell and suffered serious head injuries. She was taken to Derriford Hospital by Air Ambulance. Steamer Steps are a Public Right of Way, and Cllr Mrs Channon has reported this to the Officer in charge at Devon County Council. She understood that the lady's dog had become overexcited about getting to the beach, wrapped its lead around her legs causing her to fall over.
- From her Locality Budget, she had donated £1000 to the Budleigh Music Festival to support the lunchtime concerts and £300 to Budleigh Library for their outdoor garden proposals.
- She thanked the Town Council for the card and lovely gift for her recent birthday, it was greatly appreciated.

District Councillor

District Cllr A J Dent said he was sorry that it had taken an accident at Steamer Steps to ascertain which authority which was responsible for the path. He hoped the patient made a good recovery.

He then reported that after some initial problems with the car park permit system, the 2, 3, 4 and 7-day permits were now available to purchase online and via Ringo. He said the Council needed to get that information out to the public and officers were dealing with this.

22.041 Finance Inspection

- (i) Payments for the month of May 2022, in accordance with Appendix A, were approved.

Cllr Mrs M P Lewis queried why VAT had been charged on the Grant for the South West Museum Development. The Clerk explained that Bristol City Council charged VAT but the Town Council was able to reclaim VAT payments meaning the net cost to the Council was £800.

- (ii) It was noted that the Chairman of the Finance Committee had carried out the internal finance inspection for April 2022.

22.042 East Devon District Council: Public Toilet Review

- (i) A report prepared by the Town Mayor, Cllr M C Hilliar, following a meeting with East Devon District Council Officers was received.
- (ii) Consideration was given to the options and after a lengthy discussion it was

Resolved: The Clerk will advise East Devon District Council that this Council is interested in taking on the blocks of toilets in both Station Road and Brook Road on a 99-year lease with a peppercorn rent. The Council would like separate Heads of Terms for each site.

The Clerk said if Councillors had any other questions, to forward them to her and she will pass them to East Devon District Council for a response.

Cllr Mrs L D Evans asked if the direction sign for the Station Road toilets could be replaced – it had been missing from outside the Public Hall for some time.

22.043 East Devon District Council: Use of The Green – 28 to 30 May 2022

It was noted that the Clerk has responded, supporting an application by the Lions Club of Budleigh Salterton to use The Green for Gala Week events, as per Min 21.362 of the Town Council minutes dated 21 February 2022.

22.044 East Devon District Council: Use of the Lime Kiln Car Park – 21 August 2022

An application by Brutal Events to use the Lime Kiln Car Park as part of the Jurassicman Triathlon was received and it was

Resolved: This Council supports the application.

22.045 Correspondence Received

- Veterans' Community Support: Letter of thanks for Grant
- The Clerk: May 2022
- Clerks & Councils Direct: May 2022
- The Allotment & Leisure Gardener: Issue 2 2022

22.046 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

- Cllr A L Jones asked if the Clerk had received the latest version of Local Council Administration. The Clerk confirmed the book was published in October and she would be placing an order soon.
- District Cllr A J Dent said that Gala Week started on Saturday morning with the return of the ever-popular Big Breakfast at 9.00am!

22.047 Dates of Next Meetings

Planning Committee:

Public Hall Committee:

Planning Committee:

Town Council:

13 June 2022 at 7.00pm

13 June 2022 on the rising of the
Planning Committee

27 June 2022 at 7.00pm

27 June 2022 on the rising of the
Planning Committee

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.49pm.

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Chairman

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Date

Approved