

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Foreshore and Footpaths Committee held in the Council Chamber on Monday 10 March 2014, on the rising of the Planning Committee.

Meeting commenced at 7.08pm.

PRESENT

Cllr T D Wright (Chairman)
Cllr S Hall (Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr A N Gooding
Cllr A L Jones

Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: Cllr A J Dent, Cllr Mrs L D Evans, Cllr D J Harrison, Cllr C A Kitson, Cllr R S Mitchell and Cllr C Richards

13.450 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public wished to speak.

13.451 Apologies for Absence

None, all members being present.

13.452 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Foreshore & Footpaths Committee held on 11 November 2013 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

13.453 Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Cllr T D Wright, reported:

1. The recent storms had affected the foreshore but the beach huts, to which the Town Council had objected, were largely unaffected by the weather although some had moved slightly. He said it would be interesting when the planning application came in from East Devon District Council as he thought that there must be room for maintenance all year round.
2. The replacement railings at Steamer Steps were much appreciated.
3. New litter bins would be installed – these would be the type that compacted the rubbish, which should alleviate the problems with seagulls picking through fish and chip wrappers.

Cllr A L Jones said that he had spoken to quite a few beach hut tenants who said they were not consulted about the huts staying up all year round. He wondered who East Devon District Council had actually consulted! Cllr Wright said that the idea had initially come from beach hut tenants who wanted them there all year round. East Devon District Council had looked at weather patterns and thought it could work. He said that the District Council was always looking at ways of saving money.

The Town Mayor, Cllr S Hall added that he had recently been speaking to the staff at the Tourist Information Centre who had informed him nearly all the beach huts were booked for the forthcoming season.

Cllr C Richards said the District Council would need to consider space around each hut to carry out maintenance and hoped that this did not mean the huts would spread further along the beach. Cllr Wright said that point should be raised when the planning application was before the Town Council as well as clarification as to the type of hut that could be used.

Cllr C A Kitson said he hoped the Town Council's view had been expressed when the decision was made to keep the huts up all year round. He hoped the decision was not all about getting income. Cllr Wright assured Cllr Kitson he had put the Town Council's views to the District Council.

Cllr D J Harrison said he had been a beach hut owner for some years and the District Council had always stipulated the colour, size and condition of the beach huts. It would appear that this had changed and wondered what had caused this change. He had also received a letter stating that beach huts should not be secured in any way. Cllr Wright agreed that the District Council would have to be more specific about all aspects concerning the beach huts in the future.

13.454 Foreshore Walk

The report of the Walk (Appendix A) carried out on 28 February 2013 was received and considered.

The Chairman said it was disappointing only he and the Town Mayor, Cllr S Hall had been in attendance.

He said that the left-hand handrail on the steps by the Gentlemen's Club needed replacing.

Cllr C A Kitson asked whether they had looked at the gabions as the wires were coming out of some of the baskets. Cllr Wright said they would check this at the next walk.

Cllr A L Jones said that the doors to the South West Water cupboard were still in a poor state of repair. The Clerk said she would chase this up.

13.455 Cycle Racks

Alternative locations for the cycle racks were considered.

1. Cycle route on The Green – behind the Public Hall, by the kitchen.
2. Rolle Flats – where the motorbikes park. It was agreed that if there was somewhere to leave a bicycle, they might not cycle on the seafront.
3. Jubilee Shelter, between the telephone box and the shelter. Again if there was somewhere to park a bicycle they might walk.
4. Somewhere near Lime Kiln Car Park – this was in the hands of Devon County Council and East Devon District Council.

Cllr Wright said that he was quite aware of the differing views on cycling but thought it should be encouraged.

Cllr C A Kitson thought that having a rack by the Jubilee Shelter would encourage people to cycle along the seafront and wondered whether it would be better placed by Raleigh Wall, between the double bins and the dog waste bin. Cllr Wright said that vehicular access was needed so it would be better by the shelter.

Cllr A L Jones asked if he could have some drawings of the proposed racks. The Clerk said she would forward a copy to him.

13.456 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

1. The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt asked whether the Clerk had succeeded in contacting BT regarding the painting of the telephone box at Rolle Mews Car Park. She said the box on the seafront needed painting as well. The Clerk said she would report them both.
2. Cllr C Richards said that the footpath between the Jubilee Shelter and the Lime Kiln Car Park needed clearing – he had been getting comments from members of the public about this.
3. Cllr Richards also said that the tap at the eastern end of the seafront was sitting in a patch of mud. He thought it could do with some paving around it to alleviate the problem and wondered if this could be done using the Town Improvement Fund.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.29pm.

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Chairman

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Date