

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Offices on Monday 21 May 2018, on the rising of the Meeting of the Planning Committee.

Meeting commenced at 7.13pm.

PRESENT

Cllr T D Wright (Town Mayor)
Cllr S V Hall (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs L D Evans
Cllr A N Gooding
Cllr A L Jones
Cllr Mrs M L Kenneally-Stone
Cllr C A Kitson
Cllr C Richards
Cllr R D Sherriff
Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt

Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: County Cllr Mrs C Channon and one member of the public

18.032 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public wished to speak.

18.033 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A J Dent (holiday), Cllr M C Hilliar (Chamber of Commerce Meeting) and Cllr Mrs M L Kenneally-Stone (family commitments).

18.034 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

No interests were declared.

18.035 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 23 April 2018 and the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 14 May 2018 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

18.036 Report of Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Traffic Group held on 21 March 2018 were noted.

18.037 Police Report

No report had been received.

The Town Mayor, Cllr T D Wright advised that he would be attending a Local Action Group meeting during the week and would bring up this issue. He added that it was the Police & Crime Commissioner's wish that town and parish councils received regular updates from its local policing team.



18.038 Chairman's Report

- The Town Mayor, Cllr T D Wright said he was very pleased and proud to be Chairman again. He hoped that in the coming year the Council would be able to support the Budleigh Salterton community and town and encourage and welcome improvements but also strive to maintain the unique character that is Budleigh Salterton.
- He said he was very keen to encourage greater participation in the affairs of the town and to get residents to come to meetings and tell members what their aspirations are. He said residents were quick to tell us what they did not want or like, and it was more positive if they said what they would like to see. There would be elections in 2019 and he asked that anyone who was considering standing, to come to meetings and to ask any current member what it means to be a councillor.
- He said that the town was very successful in getting very good participation in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and there was an item on the agenda to set up a mechanism to keep that plan up to date.
- He was very much looking forward to Gala Week which without doubt would be the usual great mix of events and community activity, so well organised by the town's Lions Club.
- He concluded by advising that this year's Civic Service would be held at St Peter's Church on Sunday 22 July at 1800hrs.

18.039 Clerk's Report

Mrs J E Vanstone reported:

- Norman Centre
 - She was still waiting for updated quotations for the renovations.
 - Work to replace the lintel above the main entrance door would be carried out in the next week or so. It had been agreed that this was important and should be done separately from the renovation work.
 - She had received one or two enquiries from interested hirers which was encouraging.
- Ladies' Toilets
 - The damp expert, Tony Stokes, had carried out his investigation work and the dry rot had not spread as far as initially feared.
 - She had given him the go-ahead to carry out the treatment work which would entail removing the floor of the third cubicle and the wall between the first and second cubicles. He would then rebuild the wall and reinstate the floors once all areas had been treated.
 - The insurance surveyor had inspected the rooms with Mr Stokes and she was waiting for his report.
 - Quotations for this work and replacement pipework and sanitaryware had been received and forwarded to the insurance company.
- Register of Interests forms for the current year were in Members' folders and she asked that they be completed and returned to her as soon as possible.
- The East Devon District Council Car Park Consultation had not been included on the agenda as no responses had been received. She had spoken to the Chairman and he had agreed that it could be completed at the end of the meeting using the projector and screen.

18.040 Reports of Council Representatives on Other Bodies

Budleigh Salterton Nursing Association

Cllr A L Jones had attended a recent meeting and reminded members that if they knew of anyone who was in need of assistance or equipment, to let him know as the Association had funding available.

18.041 Reports of County and District Councillors

County Councillor

County Cllr Mrs C Channon reported:

- The opening of the Hub had been a wonderful occasion and County Councillors/Officers responsible for Social Services had been in attendance and the issues mentioned at the last Town Council meeting regarding the Devon Card had been discussed.
- The Hub caterer had offered to supply meals during the school holidays for children who usually have free school meals. Cllr Mrs Channon said she had been in touch with Drakes School in East Budleigh and Otterton School to get an idea of numbers and would also contact the Head Teacher at St Peter's.

Cllr C A Kitson said there may be funding for this scheme from the Fryer Welfare Trust.

- She had received an email from the Devon County Council Civil Parking Enforcement Technician regarding the bus stop markings outside the Public Hall and wondered if the Clerk had any comments to forward to him.

The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr S V Hall said he and the Clerk had discussed this and had a few questions that needed answering!

- She had spoken to the Highway Neighbourhood Officer regarding the sink hole which had appeared on the cycle path near Bear Lane. She was waiting for her response.
- Some S106 funding had been paid regarding the planning application for 5 West Hill Lane and she would be keeping an eye that it was used correctly.
- She updated members on potholes. In December 2017 there were 15 potholes gangs operating the County – during the last week there had been 38! She said the number of potholes which were being reported had increased significantly and priority had been given to repairing safety defects on A and B roads. She explained that a pilot scheme was being trialled in East Devon where a triage system was in operation. She said there were a number of potholes around the town which she had reported, Jocelyn Road and Boyne Road were pretty bad. She said the best way of reporting them was via the Devon County Council website.
- She had received a telephone call from a concerned resident that youths had spray painted the outdoor gym equipment on The Green. She had reported this to the police but had yet to hear back from officers.

District Councillors

Cllr T D Wright reported:

- He continued to act as Chairman of the Lower Otter Restoration Project Stakeholder Group. The group had met on 9 May and the main points were:
 - The Environment Agency (EA) is still committed to the project.
 - The bid to the Lottery Heritage Fund was unsuccessful but there would now be an application to the Regional Lottery fund.
 - The EA stated that Brexit should not affect funding from the European Intereg machinery.
 - The result of the investigations at the old tip was reassuring. The contents are inert.
 - The consultation showed 60% in favour of option 3, flooding both areas
 - Devon County Council's (DCC) proposal was for a raised road, not bridges, with culverts under to allow free flow of water.
 - There was some concern on the impact on the aquifer that supplies most of the water for East Devon.
 - The project will lead to greater speed of flow into and out of the river mouth and that will probably result in widening and/or deepening of the channel but that will settle down as the channel widens and deepens. South West Water will look into the implications of this on the overflow sewage outfall pipe than runs across the river mouth.

- Should the project get approval preparation of a new cricket ground will take longer than building the road and so he had asked the EA to consider separating the planning application for the relocation of the cricket club and bringing it forward.
 - There was much more detail on the LORP website.
 - There will be another public consultation event in the autumn.
- At the East Devon District Council (EDDC) annual meeting on 16 May he was again appointed portfolio holder and cabinet member for the Environment. There was a slight change in that he was no longer responsible for car parks which now lay within the Economy portfolio.
 - He was also very pleased to inform Members that Cllr A J Dent was now a cabinet member with the Corporate Services portfolio, which cut across all aspects of the council's work to see how better the District Council can communicate with and enable residents to communicate with us. It also looked at all services to see how they could be improved.
 - He continued to be EDDC's representative on the Police & Crime Panel.
 - He had attended the South West Beachwise Forum in Plymouth. This used to concentrate almost exclusively on bathing water quality and there was no doubt it had a major impact on improving the water quality throughout the Westcountry. He was pleased to advise that so far this year the water on Budleigh beach had been classed as excellent.
 - Just under 7000 households had signed up for the green waste collection service.
 - Members would be aware of the caterpillar infestation on the beach. The caterpillars had emerged from nests in the undergrowth and in future StreetScene operatives would look for and destroy any nests they find before the caterpillars hatch.

Cllr S V Hall reported:

- He had again been appointed as Chairman of Licensing and would also be sitting on Audit and Governance. He had also been appointed to sit on the Overview Committee which he had not been on before. He explained that this Committee looked at different schemes for increasing EDDC income.
- Over 900 Street Trading applications had been received and during the week he would be chairing a full Licensing Committee meeting which would also be looking at the Council's revised Gambling Policy. He said that there were no casinos in the South West but adult gaming centres were a concern as were the fixed odds gambling machines in betting shops.

County Cllr Mrs C Channon left the meeting.

18.042 Finance Inspection

- (i) Payment of cheques for the month of May 2018, in accordance with Appendix A, was approved.

Mrs J E Vanstone advised that the list of cheques would be completed at the end of the month and circulated at the next meeting of the Town Council.

- (ii) It was noted that the Chairman of the Finance Committee had carried out the internal finance inspection for May 2018.



18.043 Accounts 2017/18

- (i) The Accounts (plus Supporting Notes and Risk Assessments) for Financial Year 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, all of which have been the subject of Internal Audit, were received.
 - (ii) Members noted:
 - the matters the Internal Auditor wished to bring to the attention of the Council
 - that these matters will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Cllr C Richards said that the Internal Auditor had pointed out the amount in the Council's Reserves. He said the Council had a five-year plan which would account for a substantial amount of these funds!
- Mrs J E Vanstone said she would add this information to the Supporting Notes in future years.
- (iii) It was agreed that the Accounting Statement 2017/18, which forms part of the Annual Return, be completed.

18.044 Precept 2018/19

- (i) The changes to the following Budget Headings were noted:
 - 296 – increased by £250
 - 305 – decreased by £15000
 - 726 – increased by £700
 - 235 – increased by £14750
 - 255 – increased by £400
 - 550 – increased by £250

Cllr C Richards added that the budget for the Town Improvement Fund had been reduced to enable the work at the Norman Centre to be carried out. He explained that the Precept work was done in October so by the end of the financial year some rejigging was needed!

- (ii) The addition of a new Cost Centre for the Norman Centre and associated Budget Headings was noted.

18.045 Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan

- (i) The formation of an additional Council committee to actively pursue the Community Action Points raised in the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan was unanimously agreed.
- (ii) It was agreed that the following members of the Council should sit on the Committee:
 - Cllr S V Hall
 - Cllr A L Jones
 - Cllr C A Kitson
 - Cllr R D Sherriff

The Town Mayor, Cllr T D Wright added that the Committee would probably not meet monthly, just as and when was needed.

Cllr C A Kitson said that its purpose was not to revise the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan but to make sure that all the Community Action Points, which were allocated to the Town Council, were looked at.

Cllr R D Sherriff said that it would be a good idea for the Committee to monitor all planning applications to see how the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan can prove its worth.



18.046 Annual Town Meeting

The format of future meetings was discussed.

The Town Mayor, Cllr T D Wright said that this year's meeting had taken a different format and all agreed it was not successful.

Other points raised were:

- In future the reports of Committee Chairmen will be read out
- The meeting needs to be better advertised with some advertising in the Journal
- It was suggested that a formal invitation be sent to all town organisations asking that they send a representative to the meeting.

18.047 Correspondence Received

Devon County Council: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic – Knowle Village, 25 to 29 June 2018

The Clerk: May 2018

Clerks & Councils Direct: May 2018

Allotment & Leisure Gardener: Issue 2 2018

18.048 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

- Cllr C A Kitson asked if there was any progress with the Emergency Plan. The Town Mayor, Cllr T D Wright advised that a possible meeting date had been forwarded to Jane Fletcher-Peters at the EA but no response had been received as yet.

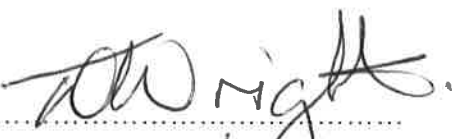
Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt left the meeting.

Councillors and the Clerk then completed the East Devon District Council online Car Park Consultation.

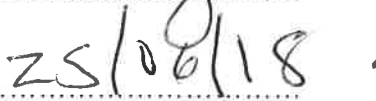
18.049 Dates of Next Meetings

Planning Committee:	11 June 2018 at 7.00pm
Public Hall Committee:	11 June 2018 on the rising of the Planning Committee
Planning Committee:	25 June 2018 at 7.00pm
Town Council:	25 June 2018 on the rising of the Planning Committee

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.17pm.



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Chairman



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Date