

# **Dorchester Town Council**

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

**22 May 2018**

**Present:** Mayor D. Taylor and Councillor, C. Biggs, R. Biggs, A. Canning, A. Chisholm, G. Duke, T. Harries, J. Hewitt, S. Hosford G. Jones, S. Jones, T. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger, A. Lyall, R. Potter, M. Rennie, K. Rice and P. Stein.

**Apologies:** Councillors B. Armstrong-Marshall

**Interests:** Councillor Harries declared an interest in Minute 83/3 of the Management Committee relating to a grant decision to Lions Club of Dorchester

### **5. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 March 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

### **6. Communications & Questions**

The Mayor thanked all those involved in the Mayor Making event on the previous evening.

The Town Clerk notified Members regarding plans for an Informal Briefing event to receive a report previously received by the DTEP Stakeholder Group.

### **7. Updates from Partner Authorities**

Councillor R. Biggs provided an update regarding the work of Dorset County Council. He noted ongoing work on Local Government Reorganisation, the rebranding of the website to Dorset Councils Online and a recent decision to sell six County farms. Councillor A. Canning identified proposed reprioritisation of works within the DTEP programme to focus on Maumbury Cross and enhanced traffic calming in Victoria Road, with delays planned to the Williams Avenue/Damers Road junction to allow for consideration of the impact of new proposals for the County Hospital site and the resolution of land issues with Network Rail. A Member requested that the DTEP Stakeholder Group consider a design competition for planned upgrades to the Town Pump and South Gate area and the Town Clerk agreed to take this idea to the Group.

Councillor S. Jones updated Council on issues at West Dorset District Council, in particular noting the preparations for the creation of the Shadow Authority to the new Unitary Council, the receipt of a further presentation from officers on the Local Plan and the ongoing consultation exercise for Fairfield Market. A number of questions regarding the composition of the Shadow Authority were answered.

8. **Planning and Environment Committee – 9 April 2018**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted. The Chairman identified that planning application WD/D/17/003034 relating to a proposal by Lidl was due to be heard at a forthcoming West Dorset DC Development Control Committee.

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 9 April 2018 be adopted.

9. **Planning and Environment Committee – 30 April 2018**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted. Councillor P. Stein requested that the minutes record his attendance for part of the meeting.

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 30 April 2018 be adopted.

10. **Management Committee – 8 May 2018**

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

Council debated a recommendation from the Committee that a draft Biodiversity Statement be adopted. They received comments from a local resident regarding hedgehogs and the use of slug pellets. A Member asked for clarification in relation to the Council's experience with bats and swifts.

While expressing support for the majority of the Policy it was

**Resolved**

- i) That the draft Biodiversity Statement and Action Plan 2018-2023 be returned for further consideration at the next meeting of the Management Committee
- ii) That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 8 May 2018 be adopted.

11. **Policy Committee – 15 May 2018**

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

A Member highlighted minute 35 and, noting that previous attempts to deliver

affordable housing on Council owned Recreation sites had not found favour with the community, encouraged Members to get involved in a re-evaluation of the Council's approach to the high priority policy aim concerning the delivery of Affordable Housing for Young Workers.

Council debated a Position Statement developed by Town Council Members of the Dorchester Markets Joint Panel, produced to clarify this Council's position in response to preliminary ideas developed by West Dorset District Council for development of the Fairfield site. A number of questions of clarification were answered.

Noting that the project to create an access ramp at Dorchester West Railway Station had made negligible progress over a 10 year period a Member requested that a report regarding the background and current position of the project be submitted to a future Committee meeting. Councillor R. Biggs commented on discussions to be held imminently with officers of Dorset County Council and the Town Clerk undertook to report on the project to the July meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee.

### **Resolved**

- i) That the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017-18 be adopted and signed by the Mayor and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
- ii) That, in respect of the Wednesday Market, the Position Statement developed by Town Council Members of the Joint Markets Panel be adopted
- iii) That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 15 May 2018 be adopted.

## **12. Annual Business**

Council considered appointments to Committees, Panels and Outside Bodies, to the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committees, Bank Mandate signatories and the re-adoption of the Council's intention to use the Power of Competence. Attendance records for 2017-18 were received.

The Town Clerk answered a question regarding the nature of the General Power of Competence.

### **Resolved**

- i) That appointments to Committees, Panels and Outside Bodies be as laid out in Appendix 1 and 2
- ii) That Councillor S. Jones be appointed Chairman and Councillor K. Rice be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee
- iii) That Councillor R. Potter be appointed Chairman and Councillor R. Biggs

be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Planning and Environment Committee

- iv) That Councillor G. Jones be appointed Chairman and Councillor B. Armstrong-Marshall be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Policy Committee
- v) That Councillors T. Harries, S. Jones, R. Potter, M. Rennie and D. Taylor be authorised to conduct business on the Council's Bank Accounts during the period ending with the Annual Council Meeting in 2019
- vi) That Council re-adopts the General Power of Competence for the period to May 2019

The Council rose at 8.10pm.

Mayor

There were no questions at the public Question Time that followed the meeting.

Dorchester Town Council - Committee Membership

Appendix 1

Councillor	Council	Planning & Environment	Management	Policy	Markets Joint Panel	Heritage Joint C'ttee
D. Taylor (Mayor)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
B. Armstrong-Marshall	Y			Y		
C. Biggs	Y	Y	Y			Y
R. Biggs	Y	Y		Y		
A. Canning	Y	Y	Y			
A. Chisholm	Y			Y	Y	
G. Duke	Y		Y			
T. Harries	Y	Y		Y		
J. Hewitt	Y	Y	Y		Y	
S. Hosford	Y	Y		Y		
G. Jones	Y			Y		Y
S. Jones	Y	Y	Y			
T. Jones	Y			Y	Y	
F. Kent-Ledger	Y	Y	Y			Y
T. Loakes	Y	Y	Y			
A. Lyall	Y		Y			
R. Potter	Y	Y	Y		Y	
M. Rennie	Y	Y	Y		Y	
K. Rice	Y		Y			
P. Stein	Y			Y		
	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>

**Dorchester Town Council – Outside Body Representation**

**Appendix 2**

<b>Internal Roles</b>		<b>Appointed</b>
DAPTC Larger Towns Rep	R. Potter	2012
<b>Charitable Trusteeships</b>		
Dorchester Municipal Charities (2)	J. Hewitt S. Hosford	2016 2011
Ashley Churchill & Thorner Trust (2)	C. Biggs G. Duke	2009 2016
<b>Other Bodies</b>		
Dorchester Arts	F. Kent-Ledger	2015
Dorchester Association L. History & Arch.	D. Taylor	2016
Dorchester BID	S. Hosford	2016
Dorchester Bayeux Society	T. Harries	2018
Dorchester Lubbecke Society	T. Harries	2011
Dorchester, Sherborne and North Dorset CAB	T. Jones	2018
Dorchester Youth & Community Centre	K. Rice	2016
Heart of Wessex Rail Partnership	G. Jones	2015
Maltings Arts	B. Armstrong-Marshall	2017
St Osmund's Community Sports Centre	S. Jones	2011
Thomas Hardy Society	A. Chisholm	2015
Transition Town Dorchester	T. Loakes	2011
Volunteer Centre Dorchester	J. Hewitt	2015