

At the **MEETING** of the **DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Dorchester on Tuesday, 22nd July, 2008:

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor C.M. Hebditch) in the Chair.

Councillors M.A. Allwood, C.S. Biggs, R.M. Biggs, T.C.N. Harries, L.E. Heath, T. James, E.S. Jones, Trevor Jones, F.E. Kent-Ledger, A.J. Lyall, L.M. Phillips, R.B. Potter and M.E. Rennie.

In attendance:
Father J. Ryan, Mayor's Chaplain

APOLOGIES for absence were received from Councillors A.J. Canning, A. Harries and P.G. Mann.

19. **PRAYERS**

The Mayor's Chaplain opened the Meeting with a short prayer.

20. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 19th May, 2008 and of the Adjourned Annual Meeting of the Council held on 20th May, 2008, copies of which had been circulated to all Members of the Council, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

Minute 10 (95) – White Hart, High East Street A Member expressed her concern about the continuing insecurity to the rear of the White Hart and the Town Clerk agreed to draw the attention of the West Dorset District Council to the problem with a request that it be addressed expeditiously.

Minute 11 (101(b)) – Proposed Improvements to Top o' Town Car Park A Member reported suggestions that coach drivers using the Top o' Town Car Park were having difficulty manoeuvring due to the confusing markings within it and the Town Clerk agreed to draw this matter to the attention of the West Dorset District Council.

Minute 11 (107) – Post Box – South Street In response to a question from a Member the Town Clerk reported that he had not yet received written confirmation of Royal Mail's agreement to install an additional post box in South Street in the Autumn but that their compliance with the undertaking would be monitored.

21. **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor expressed her appreciation of the support of Members at the various events which had taken place since the last Council Meeting and referred in particular to the following matters:

(a) Borough Gardens – Green Flag Award

The Mayor was pleased to report the Council's success in achieving a Green Flag Award for the Borough Gardens, one of only eight town and parish council parks and gardens across the country to achieve the accolade.

Members expressed their appreciation of the significant contribution made by the Outdoor staff to the success.

(b) The Rifles Regiment

At the invitation of the Mayor a Member reported that battalions from the Rifles Regiment would be embarking on overseas deployments both just before and just after Christmas and invited Members to contribute to the collation of parcels under the Support Our Soldiers initiative; she circulated a list of suitable contents. Items could be delivered to the Council Offices or to The Keep in the first instance.

(c) Poundbury Development

The Mayor was pleased to report that the Poundbury Development had been awarded the Prix Rotthier for the best new village by the Fondation pour l'Architecture, a Europe-wide organisation based in Bologna, Italy. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should write to the Duchy of Cornwall extending the Council's congratulations.

22. **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 2nd JUNE, 2008**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 2nd June, 2008 be adopted.

23. **POLICY COMMITTEE – 26th JUNE, 2008**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Policy Committee held on 26th June, 2008 be adopted.

24. **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 30th JUNE, 2008**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 30th June, 2008 be adopted.

25. **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 8th JULY, 2008**

It was proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Management Committee held on 8th July, 2008 be adopted.

Minute 3 – Minutes of Grants Panel – 17th June 2008 The Mayor declared personal interests in the grant applications received from the Friends of the Riverside Reserve and

Dorchester Opportunity Group because of her involvement in the organisations and in the application received from the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Tourism because of her relationship with the applicant.

Minute 5 – The Stanley Mansbridge Perpetual Trophy The Mayor declared a personal interest in this matter because of her relationship with the applicant.

Minute 9 – Monitoring Reports In connection with the Municipal Buildings Monitoring Report a Member expressed her concern that it was not proposed to replace the flooring as part of the refurbishment of the Municipal Buildings toilets and it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Property Management and Maintenance Panel be requested to consider this matter and to report back to the next meeting of the Management Committee.

It was also

RESOLVED

- (2) That the Minutes of the Management Committee held on 8th July, 2008 be adopted.

26. **POLICY COMMITTEE – 15th JULY, 2008**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Policy Committee held on 15th July, 2008 be adopted.

27. **POLICE MATTERS**

The Council received a statement of recent crime statistics for the town.

In the absence of Inspector Fry one of the Council's representatives on the Dorchester and District Crime Prevention Panel drew attention to significant reductions in the levels of thefts from motor vehicles and assaults and to the fact that there had been no reported public order offences. The Police were also of the opinion that they had now apprehended the perpetrator of the majority of the burglaries which had shown an increase over the corresponding period in 2007.

The Council rose at 7.17pm.

Mayor