

Dorchester Town Council

Meeting of the Dorchester Town Council

2 October 2017

The meeting had been rescheduled from 26 September 2017. It commenced at 6.30pm

Present: Mayor S. Hosford and Councillors, B. Armstrong-Marshall, C. Biggs, R. Biggs, A. Canning, A. Chisholm, T. Harries, G. Jones, T. Jones, F. Kent- Ledger, M. Rennie, K. Rice, P. Stein and D. Taylor.

Apologies: Councillors G. Duke, J. Hewitt, S. Jones and R. Potter

21. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 25 July 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

22. Communications & Questions

The Mayor read out an apology she had received from the Chairman of West Dorset District Council regarding the clash of dates which had necessitated the change of date for the full meeting of Council. A Member voiced the view that this Council should not have changed its meeting date.

The Mayor thanked Members who had supported the August Bank Holiday Music Day, where nearly £500 had been raised for the Mayor's charities. Both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the dedication of the new memorial to the County Regiments in September; a visit for Members was planned as part of the 2018 World War 1 commemorations.

The Deputy Mayor noted the successful distribution of £27,000 to local organisations from the Sunday Car Boot Fund. A Member confirmed that at a recent meeting of the Youth Council the primary focus had been on widening attendance at meetings.

The Town Clerk identified that an informal briefing open to all Councillors would take place on 31 October, the primary aims being to receive presentations from several local project sponsors and to give consideration to the services most at risk of termination or reduction by the District and County Councils.

23. Updates from Partner Authorities

Councillors R. Biggs and A. Canning reported on recent activity at Dorset County Council, covering progress on elements of the DTEP project, the widening of the footpath to Damers School, the outcome of a recent Ofsted inspection of Maumbury House Community Home and a review of the future role of Monkton Park.

A Member asked that at some point the Council consider raising questions about the necessity of new signs identifying the Poundbury part of town. A Member raised concerns received at a recent DCA conference regarding the impact of county level cuts on the voluntary sector.

Councillor D. Taylor reported on activity at West Dorset District Council, in particular highlighting the recent presentation by a Strategic Director, Martin Hamilton regarding the future of retail in the town. He also identified the already positive impact of the paving works in lower South Street. On a personal note he mentioned a recent talk he had delivered on Hidden Dorchester.

24. Planning and Environment Committee – 7 August 2017

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

Updates were provided regarding stalled delivery of highway obligations linked to the St Georges Road/Lubbecke Way junction on the Red Cow Farm development and the access ramp to the Dorchester West Railway Station.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 7 August 2017 be adopted.

25. Planning and Environment Committee – 4 September 2017

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

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 4 September 2017 be adopted.

26. Management Committee – 12 September 2017

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

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 12 September 2017 be adopted.

27. Policy Committee – 19 September 2017

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

Resolved

- i) That the certificated Annual Return 2017 is approved and accepted
- ii) That the Balloon and Sky Lantern Release Policy is approved
- iii) That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 19 September 2017 be adopted.

The Council rose at 7.10pm.

Mayor