

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Council Offices, The Beehive, Dowell Street, Honiton on Monday 13th August 2018 at 7.00 pm

Present

St Michael's Ward
Cllr Sheila Edwards

Cllr Jill McNally
Cllr John Taylor
Cllr John Zarczynski
Cllr Philip Carrigan
Cllr R Hanratty

St Paul's Ward

Cllr Henry Brown (Chairman)
(from 19.06pm onwards)
Cllr Terry Darrant
Cllr Vera Howard
Cllr Roy Coombs
Cllr Mike Jones
Cllr Duncan Sheridan-Shaw

In attendance

Mark Tredwin, Honiton Town Clerk
Heloise Marlow, Deputy Town Clerk
Cllr Phil Twiss EDDC/DCC
Cllr Dean Barrow EDDC
One member of the public

PART A

18/701 In the absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Mayor welcomed Councillors and members of the public.

18/702 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr D Jefferson – Personal reasons
Cllr N Macve – Personal reasons
Cllr C Kolek – Personal reasons
Cllr O'Leary EDDC

18/703 To receive declarations of interest and receipt of requests for new DPI dispensations on items on the agenda

None received.

18/704 To note the grant of dispensations made by the Town Clerk in relation to the business of this meeting.

None were made.

The meeting went out of session at 7.02pm

18/705 Public question time on items on the agenda

- Mrs Jo O'Donoghue raised the following question:

Whilst searching the Town Council website for the minutes of the June meeting, it had been noted that the agenda for the July meeting had a link to a draft set of minutes. These draft minutes had details of the discussions both under Part A

and Part B. Was the disclosure of the detailed discussions in respect of items under Part B intended by the Council?

Cllr Taylor responded by advising that the information recorded in the minutes under Part B did not give away any confidential data and that the minutes on the website are noted as being in draft until they are approved at Full Council

The Town Clerk added that the information provided was available in the public domain and full disclosure of the discussions was deliberate.

Cllr Zarczynski added that the information provided did not extend to confidential information received by the Council.

Ms O'Donoghue thanked the Council for embracing this new transparency which had not historically occurred.

The meeting went back into session at 7.07 pm

Cllr H Brown joined the meeting at 7.06pm and confirmed that he had no declarations of interest.

18/706 The Mayor's announcements

Cllr Brown advised that he had attended the following events:

- 16/07 - helped open new sewing shop "Stitched up"
- Met with business person to discuss town marketing.

- had a photo with the Royal British Legion for the Silent Soldiers campaign.
- 17/07 - met with "my support and care services"
- 18/07 - "Gate to Plate"
- 19/07 - hot pennies with the Beavers
- presented Bronze awards to Beavers at the scout hut.
- 21/07 - Charter Day (war memorial service, judging window competition, judging cake competition, marching with suffragettes, pulling tickets for the dementia raffle). Met with many grand organisations.
- Concert in the Millennium Green.
- 22/07 - attended the war graves on my own in the evening as I was unavailable for the day walk.
- 23/07 - met with a ratepayer about an issue.
- met with Paul Quick to discuss supporting the MMA group as they are losing their current premises.
- 24/07 - Hot Pennies
- spent the whole afternoon with Dave Retter as per tradition
- 27/07 - Met with Spanish students at the St Rita's centre.
- 28/07 - attending a coffee morning at the Hospiscare centre.
- 02/08 - Honiton Show.

In addition to the above he had also visited the Makaton sign and song choir at the Rugby Club.

Cllr Zarczynski expressed his disappointment that the Royal British Legion had not invited all councillors to the photoshoot for the Silent Soldiers campaign. It was the Council as a whole who had agreed to fund the campaign and the Royal British Legion should have invited all Councillors and not just the Mayor.

18/707 To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th July 2018 and the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on the 16th July 2018.

Copies of the minutes of the meetings had been circulated in advance.

Members **RESOLVED** to confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th July 2018.

Proposed by Cllr Sheridan-Shaw and seconded by Cllr Edwards and resolved by a majority with one against.

Cllr Jones requested that information regarding the remedial works carried out on the CUB building by DCC be included in the minutes. The Town Clerk confirmed that he would do so.

Members **RESOLVED** to confirm that accuracy of the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on the 16th July 2018.

Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Darrant and resolved by a majority with 2 abstentions.

18/708 Reports from District and County Councillors

The following report was received from Cllr D Barrow:

Cllr Barrow thanked all Councillors and Council staff for their help with the Gate to Plate event which was an amazing success. It was great to see 5000/6000 people in Honiton mid-week. He also advised that there were funds available for community projects. There is the Community Buildings Fund in the sum of £20,000 which will be publicised shortly. Applications need to be submitted in July and January and groups can apply for up to £5,000.00 of funding and there are set criteria which have to be complied with but for example, the fund has just agreed to part fund a new kitchen in a village hall. There is also the Communities Together Fund in the sum of £200,000.00 which is an EDDC/DCC initiative. Applications also need to be submitted in July and January but there are different criteria which need to be complied with. It is for cross border community work and applicants can apply for up to £30,000 with 20% of the project to be self-funded.

Cllr Hanratty asked whether this was in addition to the Parishes Together Funding. Cllr

Barrow advised that the previous Parishes Together Funding scheme had finished but that a new scheme was being introduced shortly.

The following report was received from Cllr Twiss:

Health

During what is largely a summer recess month at DCC, I am taking the opportunity to catch up on reading on a variety of subjects and forward planning for what is going to be a very busy autumn and up to the end of 2018, including a joint meeting of the DCC Health Scrutiny and Wellbeing Boards, where discussion will be supported presentations on the priorities emerging from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the important links with the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, and the respective roles of the Health & Wellbeing Board and of Health & Adult Care Scrutiny in relation to improving the health, healthcare and wellbeing of the people of Devon.

The new NHS Online 111 service was launched in Devon at the end of the July.

NHS 111 online allows patients to get urgent healthcare online. It also helps to manage increasing demand on 111 telephone services. Patients can get medical help or advice from 111 online using their smartphone, laptop or other digital device.

The service is free to use and helps to direct patients to the right care. Patients can use the online service to:

- answer questions about their symptoms
- find out where to get the right healthcare in their area
- get advice on self-care
- get further advice from a nurse or doctor on the phone or during a consultation

NHS 111 Online connects with the Devon directory of service, so provides local meaningful information about services that are available and open at that time.

The service is currently being introduced right across England. While implementation is mandatory, there is the potential to implement a 'stop' process and turn off NHS 111 Online in Devon if it has an overwhelming impact on the urgent care or primary care system.

Tour of Britain

Just a reminder that the fantastic Tour of Britain cycle race hosted by DCC will be coming to Honiton, albeit in a short blur on Monday the 3rd of September at approximately 11.37AM; blink and you might miss it (the sight coming down from Honiton Golf Club in to the town centre is likely to be spectacular!!!!!!)

Financials

There is much local and National debate that with County Councils such as Northamptonshire approving £70m of emergency reductions to its budget, the wider financial pressures facing county authorities, there is a real risk that without additional resources the basic 'core offer'

set out by East Sussex could become the norm; in the case of DCC thanks to very careful financial planning in recent years we are not in that position yet, but clearly there is no reason to be complacent and the position is monitored actively.

LGA

In September I take up a post on the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport which will occupy me for around 2 days each month at Westminster and elsewhere, where I hope to learn a variety of things from my peers that will benefit constituents across the County; key objectives for me of the Board are:

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board

Local Government Association (LGA) Boards engage with and develop a thorough understanding of councils' priorities in relation to their particular programme area. They also help shape our business plan and, through extensive engagement with councils, oversee programmes of work that deliver the strategic priorities set by the LGA Executive.

The Board will provide strategic oversight of all the LGA's policy and improvement activity in relation to libraries, the visitor economy, sport and physical activity, the arts, museums, public parks, and heritage, in line with wider LGA priorities.

The Culture, Tourism and Sport Board has the following objectives:

- Champion the role that cultural, sporting, tourism and heritage services play in making places where people want to live, visit and work.
- Support portfolio holders and officers to lead transformational change of cultural, tourism and sport services and seize the opportunities presented by wider public sector reform, including devolution and the government's Industrial Strategy.
- Ensure that the LGA is well positioned to advance our arguments on culture, tourism and sport nationally to government and others and that our advocacy is shaped by robust intelligence from councils. In particular, steering the LGA / DCMS Libraries Taskforce, supporting the implementation of Sport England's new strategy, and ensuring English destinations have a strong voice in the national governance arrangements for tourism.
- Support other LGA Boards to recognise how culture, tourism and sport helps to achieve their priorities
- Contribute to wider LGA work any risks or opportunities that may arise for the culture, tourism and sport sectors from leaving the European Union and act on them as required.
- Ensure that the flagship Annual Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference continues to give national profile to the innovation that councils are leading and influences national policy and debate through giving a platform to leading people from the sector.

Cllr Twiss was asked about the decision by EDDC to refuse to list Honiton Hospital as a Community Asset. He confirmed that Cllr Mike Allen was leading on this but that both

he and Cllr Allen have concerns that the decision had been taken based on the wrong interpretation of the guidelines. As a result, the matter will be raised at the next strategic planning meeting in September.

The Town Clerk added that he had now received confirmation that Honiton Town Council had no right to appeal the decision and so it was now up to the District Councillors to take the matter further.

Cllr Zarczynski wished to thank Cllr Twiss as Lower Brand Lane had now been re surfaced and Littletown Road.

Cllr Hanratty congratulated Cllr Twiss on his new appointment. Having regard to the recent press articles about too many tourists' visiting Cornwall, should DCC undertake more marketing of Devon as a tourist destination?

Cllr Twiss confirmed that Cornwall County Council has a large tourism budget whereas DCC and EDDC have no tourism budget. However, he agreed that this is something which should be looked at again.

Cllr Brown advised Cllr Twiss that there was a banner in the office for the Tour of Britain.

Cllrs Barrow and Twiss left the meeting at 7.25pm

18/709 Reports from the Police (recorded crimes and logs)

Members noted the July figures but queried the first paragraph as there had in fact been an increase in recorded crimes on the same period last year rather than a reduction.

Cllr McNally advised that there was an online form regarding the consultation relating to the proposed joining of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary with Dorset. She encouraged all to complete the form to ensure their views are known.

Cllr Coombs queried why online crime was not recorded.

18/710 Reports from Councillors with Special Responsibilities

None were received.

18/711 Update Report

The Town Clerk presented the report which was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed that he had now received confirmation that Honiton Town Council had no right to appeal the decision not to nominate Honiton Hospital as a community asset although it can re-apply in 18 months' time.

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that she had received a quote for the tree survey requested by the EDDC Tree Officer and that the Town Clerk had confirmed that he would authorise the payment as part of the planning application already submitted. The solicitors for Coombe Estates have responded to the queries raised by the Town Council's solicitors and as such it was hoped that the lease could be signed shortly. Once the lease was signed and the planning permission granted, the Deputy Clerk would then look at instructing contractors to do the ground works.

PART A MATTERS FOR DECISION

18/712 To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 3rd July and 17th July 2018.

The minutes were received and noted.

18/713 Finance Committee

Members RESOLVED to receive and note the minutes.

Proposed by Cllr Sheridan-Shaw and seconded by Cllr Zarczynski and resolved by a majority with 2 abstentions.

Members RESOLVED unanimously to accept the reconciled accounts for June 2018.

Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Howard.

Members RESOLVED to vire £15,000.00 from Reserves to the Legal Fees budget heading specifically for the Bailey Partnership Legal fees.

Proposed by Cllr McNally and seconded by Cllr Zarczynski and resolved by a majority with 2 against and 1 abstention.

The Town Clerk advised that he had now received the quotation referred to in the grant application received from Action East Devon/Honiton Health Matters and that it was a valid quote.

Cllr Taylor queried whether the Council needed to see three quotes to support the grant application from Action East Devon/Honiton Health Matters, but it was confirmed that this was not necessary.

Members RESOLVED to approve the following grant 2018-19 payments.

Proposed by Cllr McNally and seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved by a majority with 1 against.

18/714 Committee Membership and representation on outside bodies

The report was received and noted.

Cllr Coombs queried the membership of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The terms of reference limited the membership to 10 with a majority of Community Members. With the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on the committee ex officio did this go against the terms of reference?

The Town Clerk advised that it had been agreed that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor would be on every committee ex officio. However, the matter could be resolved if the Mayor and Deputy Mayor agreed not to vote when attending meetings.

Cllr Darrant asked whether the terms of reference allowed the public to be on the Town Management Committee.

The Town Clerk advised that the terms of reference allowed for experts to attend meetings as and when required but they would not be able to vote and would need to be invited to attend.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to add Cllr Edwards to the Town Management Committee membership. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Howard.

18/715 To close the meeting

The meeting was closed at 7.56 pm.