

BRIDGWATER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8 MAY 2014 AT 7.45PM AT THE CHARTER HALL TOWN HALL BRIDGWATER

PRESENT: Cllr Austen (Dep Mayor in the Chair), Cllrs D L Baker, AM Glassford, GJ Granter, MJ Lerry, AJ Moore, Mrs PM Morley, KF Richards, Mrs GJ Slocombe, BD Smedley, IC Tucker, and J Turner (JP)

Apologies: Cllrs Loveridge (Mayor), Monteith, Parker & Redman

These constitute a summary of the meeting – more detailed Minutes will follow

78/13 PUBLIC SPEAKING:

Civic enhancement reserve fund – Mr David Preece spoke in relation to the fund and to letters which he had submitted. He questioned the nature of the fund, its validity and purpose. He asked for more detail which the Town Clerk would provide. Members responded.

79/13 MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 06/03/14 be approved and signed by the Dep Mayor as a correct record.

80/13 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (06/03/14):

- I **Community Assets: (Min 65/13i & 76/13.3)** – Members noted representations at the annual town meeting. The working group had highlighted certain buildings for application for the register held by SDC. These included the magistrates court, Hope Inn and the Friarn Chapel which were being investigated.
- li **Youth services: Min 65/13/ii & 71/13)** - following invitations to 12 organisations – 3 tenders had been received for provision of services in south Sydenham and were being evaluated by the working group. £40k had been received from SCC as transitional funding to work towards continuing youth provision across the town. Cllr Baker (with the group) acknowledged the excellent contribution from the users group, towards the tender process and role in the evaluation.

- iii **Twinning Forum: (Mins 68/13/ii & 77/13)** - the notice of the meeting held on 3 April 2014 were circulated, prepared by Cllr Smedley acting as secretary. The twinning forum had been well supported: new twinning opportunities were being investigated and an annual twinning conference was planned.
- iv. **Somerset Levels (Min 74/13)** – Town Clerk reported that draft 20-year plan had been prepared and comments invited by SDC by end May.

81/13 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND RECEIPTS:

RESOLVED: That the payments, including Section 137 payments, made during March (month 12) as circulated, be approved and confirmed and income received during the period, together with the Cost Centre Reports be noted.

82/13 NOTICE OF AUDIT: - Audit of accounts 2013/14 – outturn and governance: Notice of audit had been received for 2013/14 with the appointed date of 16 June 2014. Public notice would be issued and year end papers were distributed at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor & Town Clerk (&RFO) be authorised to sign off and forward accounts for audit by due date and confirm the approval of the governance statements, subject to confirmatory report to the next appropriate meeting.

83/13 76/13 PUBLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

The Town Clerk reported on correspondence and papers received, those for decision and those for information.

RESOLVED: That all items be noted as listed in the report dated 01/05/14 (agenda item 8) and decisions taken as follows:

Decisions:

1. EDF/HPC – monthly reports Feb/Mar/Apr, Transport Forum 27 Feb 2014 and Community Forum 15 May 2014 – **RESOLVED** that the reports be noted and the revised terms of reference and membership of EDF community fora accepted.
2. Multi agency meeting 7 Apr 2014 – issues in Blake Gardens and town centre – **RESOLVED** that further representations as reported through the town clerk's office be pursued at the meeting on 19 May 2014.
3. Bridgwater multi pitch project – **RESOLVED** that the draft feasibility study be noted and BTC continue to press for the optimum solution for pitches at all levels in the town.
4. Land adjoining 330 Bristol Road – **RESOLVED** that the interest in purchasing land or a access on permanent/temporary basis be followed up, provided this is not on a piece meal basis, and has regard to the development brief and design principles for land east of Bristol Road.
5. Land at former allotment site Bristol road – **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk follow up the interest in a short term lease to best accommodate within the Bristol Road site.
6. Unit to rear of Victoria Hair – **RESOLVED** that the end of lease term be agreed and

- the Town Clerk take the necessary steps to re-let.
7. West Quay pedestrianisation – **RESOLVED** that the town council support the proposal for tables/chairs on highway in front of 3 establishments.
 8. Watergate – **RESOLVED** that the initial grant of £7k be acknowledged and further help considered if the proposal for complete remediation and conservation via BHRP and Bridgwater Heritage Group is pursued.
 9. GRANT APPLICATIONS – that the following be approved: 1. ACTs theatre group £2,500. 2. Bridgwater & District Civic Society core grant £300. 3. Sedgemoor Citizens Advice Bureau £2,500. 4. Bridgwater Flower Show Society £600, and the following referred to the Finance committee for further consideration: St Francis community hall and church – re-roofing and St Mary's church clock – maintenance and the following be declined sponsorship of Science Festival.
 10. WARD GRANT APPLICATIONS: that the application for Fairfax – Bridgwater College Academy – awayday project £500 be approved.
 11. SALC – affiliation request £2395.21 – **RESOLVED** that this be declined, but the association requested to review the pricing structure.
 12. Community Council for Somerset – **RESOLVED** that membership be declined.
 13. Dog bins in Bridgwater Without – **RESOLVED** that the request for a contribution be declined.
 14. NHS application - John Ware Ltd – **RESOLVED** that the extension to the consent on pharmaceutical list be approved.
 15. Outside appointments – **RESOLVED** that Cllr Redman be nominated for the Kings Down pavillion community group and Cllr Richards for Ivy House lunch club.
 16. Rev Charles Chadwick – acknowledgement of gift received

(Cllr Baker declared an interest in item 9 – grant application for St Francis - took no part in the consideration and did not vote thereon)

For Information

Items 1 - 15 as circulated – noted.

The meeting finished at 9pm

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Signed Chairman