

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held on Monday 23rd April 2018 at 7:02pm

DRAFT
Not to be committed

PRESENT

Cllr P Clark – Chairman
Cllr H White
Cllr B Quayle
Cllr John Stayt
Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr N Lacey–Clarke
Cllr D Robinson

Cllr R Carter – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr C Stevens
Cllr Jackie Stayt
Cllr H Galpin
Cllr H Mieville
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr P Osborne

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk
Operations Manager
District Cllr J Tanner

Assistant Town Clerk
Nicci Brown – Press
District Cllr B Cooper

191. PUBLIC SESSION

191.1 Cllr Clark conveyed his condolences on behalf of the Town Council to Cllr Mieville for the passing of his mother.

192. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

192.1 Highways – Cllr Quayle reported that on top of daily e-mail exchanges he carries out monthly meetings with the Community Highways Officer regarding the new potholes and other road issues in Blandford. A white line on the corner of Kingston Close and Jubilee Way will be installed. Lines to stop vehicles parking by the bus stop on Heddington Drive will be installed as well as at the bottom of Tinpot Lane. A section of road from Damory Street to the bridge (Alexandra/Oakfield Street) will be put forward for repair after the building work has been completed, as well as Shorts Lane for surface works. Emergency investigations were carried out as to why a ‘sinkhole’ opened up in Sheep Market Hill. It has been found that a utility provider has caused this problem due to incorrect procedure. The hole will be made safe. Cllr Quayle had a meeting with Highways Team Leader regarding the proposed development off Tinpot Lane among other ‘longterm’ issues faced in town.

He has received a list with the current surface dressing plan for August and is pushing for more roads to be added. He has forwarded that list to the Town Clerk.

Cllr Quayle has requested that any road related issues Councillors are aware of are to be reported to him as they need to be logged on Dorsetforyou.com.

192.2 Shottsford House - Following a recent planning application to change the use of the property and install a 3m-security wall Cllr Quayle received a number of complaints/concerns from residents. He has been able to arrange a meeting with residents and the Priory Group (who now run the site) so questions from residents can be answered. Meeting date to follow.

Cllr Carter asked what the facility will be used for and Cllr Quayle confirmed it will be a mental health facility.

192.3 DCC Youth Funding – Dorset County Council, in partnership with crowdfunding, has grants up to £10,000 available for youth projects. Cllr Quayle already managed to use this process to get funding for the youth centre and would like to see more money being funnelled into Blandford for our youth. He would like for Councillors to get in touch if they have any ideas.

192.4 Points to note – There is little to report for the Joint Committee work as the working groups were halted to allow the project management group time to priorities other legal and structural issues first. The County Council is not looking to cut services currently. The next meeting for the Living and Learning project is scheduled for Monday 23rd May.

Cllr Robinson asked if Black Lane is still the only option. Cllr Quayle confirmed that this is what they are looking at still.

The pavement slab test is scheduled for the 16th May at 2pm outside the Corn Exchange.

Cllr Mieville asked about the Boundary Review. Cllr Quayle explained that the County Council has looked into it and prepared a report which is going to the Boundary Commission, there will be a public consultation in July/August. Cllr White hopes that the Town Council will oppose a two or three-member ward as this is not democratic.

193. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

193.1 Cllr B Cooper – Cllr Cooper spoke about the Boundary Review and explained that there will be 3760 electorates per ward member with, possibly, 82 members. The public consultation will be in July/August 2018. Cllr Cooper reported on an alleged planning breach in 6 Ann Close, which Cllr Stevens thinks has been rectified already. Regarding the Lidl bus service, he has been trying to get in contact with officers at Dorset County Council. Cllr Lacey-Clarke asked for Cllr Cooper to get in touch with him to discuss this further as he is looking into this issue already.

193.2 Cllr J Tanner – The River Stour has been sprayed against the Blandford Fly. There will be a presentation about rough sleeping on 7th May as it is a growing problem. Cllr Tanner reported that there is no further news about Norden. A new variation of the planning application for the Cricket Pavilion has come in to North Dorset District Council. He feels the building is in urgent need of replacing. Cllr Tanner reported that Christchurch Borough Council is preparing a new legal challenge for the Local Government Review. Cllr Tanner is disappointed that the Spectrum repair service is not as good as in previous years, as they are not responding to individual problems. He is asking for District Councillors to coordinate a case to bring forward. Cllr Tanner confirmed that NDDC has decided to sell Shaftesbury Cattle Market.

193.3 Cllr Jackie Stayt – The next NDDC planning meeting is on Tuesday 24th April. A large and illegal structure has been built at the corner of School Lane and Orchard Street. She has reported it to NDDC and received an acknowledgment that it will be looked in to.

193.4 Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Nothing to report.

Cllr White reported that West Dorset District Council distributed £4m to town and parish councils. He was asking all District Councillors what is happening with NDDC and their assets. Cllr Lacey-Clarke explained that the unitary authority has not yet been approved by Parliament. Once this has been done this will be looked at. He is therefore concerned that WDDC are distributing their assets already.

194. APOLOGIES

Cllr L Hitchings

195. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Cllrs Jackie Stayt declared that taking part in the discussions and vote on new planning applications at this meeting, has been done on the understanding that her decisions are based on the information available at this time and that she reserve the right to change those decisions when the applications are discussed at North Dorset District Council.

Cllr Carter declared an interest in agenda item 17.1.

196. **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26TH MARCH 2018**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr John Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

197. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

197.1 Market Transfer Update – The solicitor at the tri-council partnership has provided another update to confirm that the market rights transfer for Bridport has now been completed and they will go ahead with registration at the Land Registry. She has asked them to provide her with a copy of the registered title and also to let her know of any queries raised during the registration process. Assuming all goes well, the process can then be adapted to Blandford Forum Town Council's market.

197.2 Railway Club Grant – Mr Warrington has written on behalf of The Blandford Forum Railway Club to thank the Town Council for approving their request for a £200 grant towards the shed roof replacement project.

197.3 Meeting with Simon Hoare MP – A meeting has been arranged for 4th May 2018 with Cllrs Peter Clark and Steve Hitchings attending with the Town Clerk. Matters for discussion will be the LGR, localisation of council tax support and rates relief on the public conveniences. A letter has been sent to Mr Hoare regarding the rates on the toilets and he has responded to confirm that he will be raising this matter with the Chancellor and will determine if the Treasury is able to assist in some way.

198. **CIVIC REPORT**

The paper was tabled (see Appendix A).

199. **RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

None

200. **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON INSTALLING BOLLARDS AT BADBURY HEIGHTS**

The paper was noted (see Appendix B).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr White and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council approves expenditure of £2072.96 to install 12 bollards using S106 funds allocated to the maintenance of public open spaces at Badbury Heights, Phase 2 (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

201. **TO CONSIDER TWO REQUESTS FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL TO ACT AS A CUSTODIAN FOR A TROPHY AND A PLATE, TO BE DISPLAYED WITH THE TOWN SILVER**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Clark, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

The Town Council agrees to accept these items. The Town Clerk has advised the Blandford Stour Valley Band that the trophy will not be professionally cleaned and there is no room in the silver safe for it to be stored. The insurance details are awaited from the Band so the Town Council can insure it.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

202. TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

The paper was tabled (see Appendix C).

Cllr Lindsay, Lacey-Clarke and Mieville congratulated the Town Clerk and her staff for the hard work they have put in to this. Cllr Lacey-Clarke urged all Councillors to use the Town Council e-mail addresses in order to comply with GDPR and the Town Clerk confirmed that this will be a future agenda item.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council adopts the Privacy Policy and Freedom of Information Policy.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

203. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FROM THE:

203.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford +

Cllr Carter reported that they had their first meeting with NDDC on 5th April which was very successful. There seems to be a good chance to move forward with the Neighbourhood Plan Version Two. This plan will work with the local plan. They are hoping that the Neighbourhood Plan is in place before North Dorset District Council is dissolved.

203.2 14-18 Working Group (First world War Centenary)

Cllr Carter reported that the Tanks and Aircrafts event is this weekend in the Corn Exchange. There will be a flight simulator, a bombing run and various other things to interest the young and old.

203.3 Corn Exchange

203.3.1 To consider expenditure approval for the replacement lantern light in the Corn Exchange lobby

The paper was noted (see Appendix D)

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr John Stayt and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council approves expenditure for the Quote from Company A. Option 1, using funds of £5000.00 from General Reserves, (committed from underspend from salaries 2017) and the balance of £3665.70 from the Corn Exchange regeneration budget line (1105). (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

204. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECTS

The paper was noted (see Appendix E)

Cllr Carter thanked Officers for the thorough plan and the way it is moving forward.

205. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

None were received.

The Chairman took the decision to take a comfort break.

206. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

206.1 2/2018/0381/OUT – Land North West Of, Tin Pot Lane – Mr Laws – Development of 15 C3 residential dwelling and 2 B1 units, surface water attenuation feature and highway improvements to Tin Pot Lane

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council objects to the application on grounds of the material planning considerations highways issue (traffic generation, insufficient vehicular access and highway safety). Furthermore, there is no evidence supporting the fact that the relief road will ever be opened. Officers need to ensure that this evidence is provided when deciding on the application.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

206.2 2/2018/0383/HOUSE – 16 Mortain Close – Mr & Mrs C Trent – Erect single storey side extension, single storey rear extension and front porch

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Mievile, SECONDED by Cllr John Stayt and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 against) that

The Town Council has no objections to the application, subject to the Planning Officer being satisfied that the application is in line with the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

206.3 2/2018/0379/out – Land at Nyali, Tin Pot Lane – Mr Laws – develop the land by the erection of 28 no. dwellings including a Local Area of Play, surface water attenuation feature and highway improvements to Tin Pot Lane (outline application to determine access and layout)

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Mievile and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council objects to the application on grounds of the material planning considerations highways issue (traffic generation, vehicular access and highway safety) as well as an adverse impact on nature conservation.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

207. CONFIDENTIAL

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Robinson and AGREED unanimously that

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

207.1 To consider a nomination to present a certificate of appreciation to members of the community

The paper was noted (see appendix F)

207.1.1 Nomination A, B, C and D were taken together.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr White, SECONDED by Cllr Lindsay and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council accepts the nomination for A, B, C and D.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

207.1.2 Nomination E

Cllr Lindsay requested that a letter is sent to explain that the nominee should be nominated to North Dorset, as he is not just acting within Blandford Forum but the whole of the North Dorset.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council does not accept the nomination.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Cllr Robinson left the meeting at 8.47pm.

207.2 To receive an update and consider a new proposal on the land north of the bypass

Cllr Robinson returned to the meeting at 8.49pm.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr S Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Quayle and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council would not commit to the new proposal until the issues addressed in the recent letter to the agents have been answered.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 8:50pm.

SIGNED

DATED