

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held on Monday 26th November 2018 at 7:02pm

PRESENT

Cllr R Carter – Chairman
Cllr P Clark
Cllr H Mieville
Cllr H White
Cllr B Quayle
Cllr Jackie Stayt
Cllr H Galpin

Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman
Cllr D Robinson
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr C Stevens
Cllr P Osborne
Cllr John Stayt
Cllr L Lindsay

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk
Operations Manager
District Cllr J E T Tanner
Mark Williams – Treads

Assistant Town Clerk
District Cllr B Cooper
Nicci Brown – Press

106. PUBLIC SESSION

106.1 Cllr Carter thanked Cllrs S Hitchings and Stevens for putting up the small Christmas trees.

106.2 Treads – Mr Williams thanked the Town Council for the funding they have received in the past year and provided an overview on the new projects they are running. They are keeping abreast with the changes and problems that are evolving. They've started a new teenage club for young children with various backgrounds. Just in the last two weeks five new people have been attending. He believes there has to be more joined up thinking due to the funding issues lying ahead, i.e. joint buildings, to provide the best for the young people.

Cllr Mieville thanked Mr Williams for the report and enquired if they are working on the county lines and drug problems that the police are reporting. Mr Williams is finding that currently most of the issues are around self-esteem and bullying and not so much substance misuse.

Cllr Carter thanked Mr Williams for all their hard work, which benefits the young people in town.

107. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

107.1 Pavement Slabs - The current options being looked in to are not viable. Cllr Quayle has been in discussions with the County Council who are able to provide funding for new slabs. The District Council would also look into giving funding, which should meet the cost of replacing the existing slabs with concrete slabs that are used in every other town in England. A meeting with the Conservation Officer was held and the outcome was that an options appraisal needs to be carried out to include natural slabs. Cllr Quayle is still dealing with the options appraisal and is conscious that there is a tight time frame due to the Unitary council.

107.2 Parking Review – Cllr Quayle reported that a lot of work has happened at County Council and that the current focus needs to be on the infrastructure, as put forward by the Steering Group. There is little capacity at County Council to look at a wider Infrastructure at the moment. The current options to look towards are looking at the current infrastructure, i.e. resident permits. County Council are able to keep looking in to creating surveys.

107.3 Christmas Parking – Cllr Quayle approached the County Council for free Christmas parking, who have confirmed that they will provide free parking on the last three Saturdays leading up to Christmas, in line with the District Council.

107. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR (CONT.)

- 107.4 Highways – The County Council has put £1.4m towards highways and the Road Minister announced that Dorset will be receiving £6.1m in addition to this. Blandford is at the top of the list for pot hole repairs.
- 107.5 Dorset Council Logo - The new Dorset Council logo has been published. Cllr Mieville enquired how much the logo cost and was informed that it was designed in-house.
- 107.6 Points to note – The Armed Forces survey of becoming a hub at Blandford Camp is currently running and Cllr Quayle asked Councillors to engage. The Library services are also holding a survey that Councillors should take part in, which closes on 2nd December. Cllr Quayle spoke about the ransom strip at Tin Pot Lane and the e-mail received by Councillors from the Developer. He has contacted the Developer, who was aware that the ransom strip was never going to be opened. Subsequently, he spoke to County Council and requested that they only support any development in that area if the infrastructure is put in first. An agreement has been written, which the Developer has signed, subject to any development being approved.

Cllr Mieville enquired about the Parking Review projects being started before the Parking Review is done and wanted to know if that is wise. Cllr Quayle explained that issues need to be on a works programme, so they are not overlooked at Unitary and Councillors can continue to lobby for the extra infrastructure.

108. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- 108.1 Cllr J Tanner – Cllr Tanner spoke about the good work by Treads, which is far reaching across the County, and the brilliant working relationship with The Blandford School. Cllr Tanner spoke about the complaints he is receiving about work vans taking up parking spaces and blocking the roads, years ago there was a bylaw that they could not park in roads like Edward Street and Victoria Road, but this is not the case anymore. Cllr Tanner is pleased that the planning application for the Cricket Pavilion has been submitted. The next special Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting will be held w/c 10th December.
- 108.2 Cllr B Cooper – At the last Town Council meeting Councillors spoke about the time planning applications take to be validated. Cllr Cooper has raised this with the Planning Officer at North Dorset, he has received a reply, that as of 19th November the timeframe was 2 weeks and 2 days. The new inspector for North Dorset said there will be a reduction of PCSOs and their role will be changed to Police Community Investigators. He does not know what that role entails. Cllr Lacey-Clarke clarified the PCSO role will not become a PCI role, they are working alongside each other. Cllr Robinson expanded about the role of the PCI.
- 108.3 Cllr Jackie Stayt – Nothing to report.
- 108.4 Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Nothing to report.
- 108.5 Cllr T Handford – Not in attendance. Cllr White enquired why Cllr Handford is in support of both planning applications at Tin Pot Lane. Cllr White also requested for regular attendance from Cllr Handford to provide updates on her Ward. Cllr Lacey-Clarke requested for a letter to be sent asking for clarification.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

109. APOLOGIES

Cllr L Hitchings

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

None had been submitted.

111. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29TH OCTOBER 2018

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Mieville, SECONDED by Cllr John Stayt, and AGREED unanimously that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED, subject to a change to minute no. 90.5 following comments from District Cllr Cooper.

112. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

112.1 ANPR – The Police have reported that they have had success with the ANPR cameras in the town. The relocation and the additional camera are being installed this week, meaning the entrances will now be fully covered.

112.2 Safeguarding Training – As the staff come into contact with children/vulnerable adults on a daily basis, all staff attended a training session on Wednesday with a social worker with 30 years of experience. It was incredibly worthwhile and feedback from staff has been very positive.

112.3 Temporary Closure - of Various Streets in Blandford Forum for the Yuletide Festival on 12th December 2018 – For the purpose of the Yuletide Festival, DCC has issued a Notice under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to prohibit the use of part White Cliff Mill Street, part Salisbury Street, The Plocks, Church Lane, Market Place, Sheep Market Hill, part West Street (Market Place to the entrance to River Mews and The Crown Hotel), East Street and the southern end of The Close, Blandford Forum by cyclists, horse riders and all mechanically propelled vehicles, except those taking part in the event and emergency vehicles on Wednesday, 12th December 2018 between 16.00 hrs and 22.00 hrs. During the closure, B3082 White Cliff Mill Street from its junction with Eagle House Gardens to its junction with Milldown Road and B3082 Park Road will be open to 2-way traffic to allow access to the western side of the closed roads. No waiting or parking will be allowed upon the highway in this area from 12.00 hrs. Otherwise there will be no signed alternative routes for diverted traffic. During the preparation of and display of the fireworks, pedestrians will be prohibited from using Church Lane, and also from using part of the Plocks and Salisbury Street at the organisers' discretion. Marshals will be stationed around the festival area.

112.4 Sports Pitches Audit – The tri-council partnership and the Dorset County Football Association is considering the development of Local Football Facilities Plans for Dorset, which will act as an investment portfolio of priority projects to improve grassroots football. The priority investment areas include:

- 3G Football Turf Pitches
- Improved Grass Pitches
- New Changing Pavilions/Clubhouses
- Small Sided Facilities

The consultants will be contacting us in December/January and we have therefore confirmed the facilities we are responsible for. In addition to the Local Football Facility Plans, the consultants have also been commissioned to undertake the Dorset Playing Pitch Strategy, which will provide them with the opportunity to collate information for both plans in unison. This will also mean that an audit of sites and quality standards will be undertaken with on-site visits providing a more in-depth analysis that will be used across both plans.

112.5 Remembrance – The Blandford Garrison, RBL and the Parish Church have written to thank the staff for their efforts in organising the Remembrance events.

113. CIVIC REPORT

The paper was sent to Councillors via email.

114. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES

114.1 Recreation & Amenities Committee Meeting held on Monday 12th November 2018

114.1.1 To consider approval and expenditure authority to install a temporary AV screen and speaker system in the Corn Exchange

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

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

The Committee agrees that officers can proceed with the introduction of a temporary AV screen and speaker system in the Corn Exchange using funds of £6,033.38 from General Reserves (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

114.1.2 The minutes were RECEIVED.

114.2 Town and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th November 2018

114.2.1 The minutes were RECEIVED.

115. TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A SAFEGUARDING AND PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES POLICY

The paper was noted (See Appendix A).

Cllr Osborne said it was, overall, a good piece of work but he feels that there is, unintentionally, an institutional unconscious bias towards trans people and trans identities and that this is not being taken seriously. Cllr Osborne therefore asked that it is minuted that he objects to this item. The Town Clerk stated that the staff are taking it seriously and advised that this document had been checked over by a social worker with over 30 years' experience and Cllr Osborne stated that he is wrong. Cllr Robinson stated that, within her work, they recently updated all their safeguarding policies and have been scrutinised by DCC and their policy is very similar to this and there has been no negative feedback from it.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Clark and AGREED (11 in favour, 3 abstentions) that

The Town Council adopts the Safeguarding Policy Statement.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

The Town Council adopts the Professional Boundaries policies.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Post Meeting Note: Due to the accusations made about the staff/Councillors/qualified and experienced peoples and external bodies involved in compiling the document, and to reassure Councillors, the Town Clerk has contacted Stonewall and they have not raised any concerns with the document and suggested the Town Council refers to the Equality Act 2010, which describes the nine protected characteristics as being age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership (in employment only), pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. These are the same terms used in the document. Having then further researched the wording used by major organisations (including the NHS and

115. TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A SAFEGUARDING AND PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES POLICY (CONT.)

the NSPCC), it would appear that they have used the same terminology as the Town Council has in their safeguarding policy statement and the Equality Act 2010 (i.e. gender reassignment and sex).

116. TO CONSIDER THE AMENDED GUIDELINES FOR THE MAYOR'S SCOUT/GUIDE/CADET/YOUNG PERSON

The paper was noted (See Appendix B).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (12 in favour, 2 against) that

The Town Council adopts both guidelines as outlined in Appendix A and B.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

117. TO AGREE THE CONTINUATION OF THE LOAN OF VARIOUS ITEMS (MAINLY DORSET BUTTONS & LACE BOBBINS) TO THE BLANDFORD FASHION MUSEUM

The paper was noted (See Appendix C).

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

The Town Council agrees to extend the loan of the collection of Dorset Buttons & Lace Bobbins and other items to the Blandford Fashion Museum for a period of ten years, or offer a permanent loan, which is the agreement for items loaned to the Town Council, as well.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

118. TO APPROVE THE PROMOTIONAL VIDEO FOR THE TOWN

The paper was noted (Appendix D).

Cllr White left the meeting at 8.01pm.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr John Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (11 in favour, 2 abstentions, 1 non-vote) that

The Town Council approves the advertisement and 'launch' of the finalised Promotional Video to local residents, organisations and groups on the Council Website, Facebook Page and other media.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Cllr White returned to the meeting at 8.03pm.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr John Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED (11 in favour, 3 against) that

The Town Council approves the expenditure for a further £370 (1/2 day filming + 1 day editing) to cover the additional footage of the Corn Exchange/ Town Hall / Council Chamber. (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

118. TO APPROVE THE PROMOTIONAL VIDEO FOR THE TOWN (CONT.)

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Osborne and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council delegates authority to the working group to finalise the content of the remaining videos.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

119. TO COMPLETE THE TABLE OF NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS IN BLANDFORD FORUM

The paper was noted (Appendix E).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Stevens, SECONDED by Cllr Jackie Stayt and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council agrees to the following list:

Community

- **A multi-purpose building on the Badbury Heights housing development (originally planned for a neighbourhood hall only) to include services, but not limited to, such as a neighbourhood hall, satellite services, a pre-school/playgroup, etc.;**
- **Extension to Larksmead pavilion**
- **The Corn Exchange Refurbishment.**

Recreation

- **Larksmead pavilion extension, to include car park improvements;**
- **Improvements to existing sports pitches/Creation of new sports pitches**

Public Realm

- **Public Art on roundabouts (Sunrise, Two Gates, Hilltop roundabouts).**
- **Public Art around the town**
- **A depot / storage facility for the Town Council**
- **Seeking money to purchase the ransom strip at Badbury Heights Industrial Estate in Front of Hospital Metalcraft to be able to turn it into a Bridal Way**
- **Purchase and semi-pedestrianisation of the Market Place**

Education

- **Retain library in Blandford Forum, but requires improvements.**

Transportation

- **Bus shelters at bus stops;**

Leisure

- **Development of a scenic leisure walk along the River Stour to include, but not limited to, a foot bridge to the parish of Bryanston (to support Bryanston Parish Council's vision and to improve access to school for pedestrians) and a tourist attraction building;**
- **A shelter and trim track at the Milldown open space.**

The allotments were removed as this is already being discussed re land north of bypass. Councillors also queried the possibility of compulsory purchase of the former grocers on Salisbury Street and asked officers to contact NDDC.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

120. TO CONSIDER REQUESTING A LONG-TERM LEASE FROM NDDC FOR THE PROVISION OF ALLOTMENT LAND AT PHILIP/ELIZABETH ROAD

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

The Town Council requests details of a lease but does not approve it until the cost implications are known.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

121.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford +

Cllr Carter thanked the Project Co-Ordinator for all her hard work and provided an update on the status of the Neighbourhood Plan.

121.2 14-18 Working Group (First World War Centenary)

The last exhibition was very successful, and the group is £800 in profit. A wash up meeting will be held shortly.

121.3 Corn Exchange Project

Cllr Clark gave an update on the recent proposals put forward by the architect.

121.3.1 To receive the proposed plans for the new project and to consider the current needs of the complex

The paper was noted (Appendix F).

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

The Town Council accepts the proposed plans.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

121.4 Public Art Plan

121.4.1 To receive the notes from the working group meeting and approve the remit

The paper was noted (Appendix G).

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

The Town Council approves the remit.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk updated Councillors on the consultation, which was presented to the Working Group, which includes the art students at The Blandford School and Blandford Arts Society. The consultation was also shared with the Arts and Cultural Officer at WDDC and NDDC officer Hugh de Iongh. Once the consultation paper has been printed Councillors are asked to deliver it to the Badbury Heights Estate. The consultation will end on 14th January 2019, with feedback at the council meeting scheduled for January 28th January 2019.

122. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

There were no reports, apart from the distribution of an e-mail prior to the meeting, minuted below.

122.1 Great Dorset Steam Fair- Cllr Lindsay shared a response by the GDSF board of Directors to the minutes of the Tarrant Hinton Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd September 2018.

123. CONFIDENTIAL

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Jackie Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Clark 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.

123.1 Town Clerk's Report

123.2 To consider a nomination for Freeman of Blandford Forum (Stage 2) (papers distributed at the 29th October 2018 meeting)

Cllr Lindsay left the meeting at 8.34pm.
Cllr Lindsay returned to the meeting at 8.36pm.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr John Stayt, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 abstention)

The Town Council approves the nomination. The Town Clerk will notify the nominee, in confidence that the Town Council has agreed to offer this honour to them. If the honour is accepted the Town Clerk will report this to full council accordingly and arrangements will be put in hand for the Ceremony.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.

SIGNED

DATED