

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held on Monday 14th May 2018 at 8:35pm following the Annual Meeting

PRESENT

Cllr R Carter – Chairman
Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr H Mieville
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr John Stayt
Cllr C Stevens
Cllr L Hitchings
Cllr P Osborne

Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman
Cllr P Clark
Cllr H Galpin
Cllr H White
Cllr Jackie Stayt
Cllr D Robinson
Cllr B Quayle

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk
Assistant Town Clerk
Nicci Brown – Press

Operations Manager
District Cllr B Cooper
Member of the public

26. PUBLIC SESSION

26.1 District Cllr Cooper is concerned about any potential bullying in the Town Council (which was referred to at an earlier meeting) and asked that this is dealt with immediately. Cllr Carter read out a statement about how Town Councillors need to behave in their roles and at all Town Council meetings.

27. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

27.1 Highways Meeting – Cllr Quayle reported that the sinkhole at Sheep Market Hill was completed the week before the Georgian Fayre, however further work in the future will need to be carried out. Pavement works at West Street were also completed by the Friday before the Georgian Fayre. Cllr Quayle has made some notes of the potholes developing on Wimborne Road and reported them.

27.2 Shottsford House Meeting – 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 hosted a meeting with local residents and the new manager, Caroline Williams, where she addressed any concerns. Cllr Quayle is happy to report that the facility isn't going to be the "mental health prison" as the rumours had it but a youth support hospital, which is the only one in Dorset. Residents were reassured and felt happy and confident after the meeting. He would like to thank Cllrs John and Jackie Stayt and Cllr Lacey-Clarke for attending.

27.3 Grass verges – Cllr Quayle is aware of the current state of the grass verges and has spoken to the Rangers about this issue. They have confirmed that their new 'cut and collect' mower took longer to arrive than expected. As of Friday, they have started on Blandford and will do all the County verges over the week. The cut and collect is a new pilot scheme run by the Rangers, which they have decided to run from Blandford.

27.4 Lidl Bus Service – Cllr Quayle held a meeting with the Service Director for Economy, Built and Natural Environment about the issues related to the Lidl bus service. He has personally taken this issue on and has approached District Council to renegotiate the current service provision. Cllr Quayle will keep the Council updated.

27.5 Points to Note – The Joint Committee work meeting is Tuesday 15th May. Dorset County Council has a painting of Blandford Town Centre, which they asked Cllr Quayle if he would like the painting to be loaned to the Town Museum. A fostering advice service is held at Costa Coffee on 17th May from 10am -2pm. The pavement slab test is scheduled for the 16th May at 2pm.

27. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR (CONT.)

Cllr Lacey-Clarke spoke about the grass verges and the County Council is looking into planting wild flower seeds. Cllr Osborne said we all need to be more environmentally friendly and Cllr Carter was in agreement that the public needs educating.

28. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

28.1 Cllr B Cooper – Cllr Cooper reported that houses of multiple occupancies need to be licensed now and there are about 30 properties in North Dorset. If there are properties that are not licensed this should be reported to the District Council.

28.2 Cllr J Stayt – Nothing to report.

28.3 Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – District Councillors will receive training on rough sleeping on Thursday 17th May.

29. APOLOGIES

None

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

None had been submitted.

31. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

31.1 Meeting with Simon Hoare MP – The Chairman of Council, the Chairman of the Finance & Staffing Committee and the Town Clerk met with the Member of Parliament on Friday and discussed the local government reorganisation, the localisation of council tax support, the relocation of the allotments, and the wards/boundaries.

31.2 Localisation of Council Tax Support – A letter has been sent to Matt Prosser enquiring if NDDC will follow the Government's recent recommendation to pass on the funds from the localisation of council tax support.

32. CIVIC REPORT

The paper was tabled (see Appendix A).

33. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES

None

34. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FROM:

34.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford +

34.1.1 To confirm withdrawal of B+ Neighbourhood Plan Version 1

The paper was noted (see Appendix B)

Cllr Mieville thanked the B+ group for all their valued and hard work. Cllr John Stayt is hopeful that North Dorset District Council is now on board and will cooperate with B+ after some very positive meetings with them.

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

- **The Council agrees to formally withdraw the current Neighbourhood Plan.**

34. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FROM (CONT.):**

- Delegated authority is given for the day to day processes of developing a revised Neighbourhood Plan for the Blandford + area to Blandford +.
- Expenditure authority is approved of up to £17,000 from the Locality grant budget line, and the remaining £6,178 left in budget line 1013 that has been committed to providing a Neighbourhood Plan for the purposes outlined above (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.2 14-18 Working Group (First World War Centenary)

Over 440 people attended the latest exhibition and the group raised over £460. They are currently deciding how to spend the money raised by contributing to commemoration events. Cllr Quayle congratulated the group on the fantastic work they did and reported that he has received very positive feedback.

34.3 Corn Exchange

34.3.1 To receive the recommendations from the Corn Exchange working group and consider expenditure approval on the appointment of an architect

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

Cllr S Hitchings requested a recorded vote.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Stevens, SECONDED by Cllr John Stayt and AGREED (11 in favour, 4 against) that

Cllr Carter	- in favour	Cllr Lacey – Clarke	- in favour
Cllr Clark	- in favour	Cllr Jackie Stayt	- against
Cllr John Stayt	- in favour	Cllr Galpin	- in favour
Cllr Stevens	- in favour	Cllr Osborne	- in favour
Cllr L Hitchings	- against	Cllr S Hitchings	- against
Cllr Mieville	- against	Cllr Robinson	- in favour
Cllr Quayle	- in favour	Cllr White	- in favour
Cllr Lindsay	- in favour		

Company B is appointed as the new architect for the Corn Exchange project using funds of approximately £70,000 from the Corn Exchange Regeneration budget line (1105) (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 9:03pm.

SIGNED

DATED