

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2019 at 6.00pm at the Druitt Hall, High Street, Christchurch BH23 1AJ

Present:-

Cllr Mrs L Dedman – Mayor

Cllr Mrs S Bungey – Deputy Mayor

Present: Cllr J Abbott, Cllr Hon Freeman Cllr C R Bungey, Cllr A E Coulton, Cllr M Cox, Cllr S Fotheringham, Cllr W Grace, Cllr G R Jarvis, Cllr D C Jones, Cllr T Lane, Cllr S J McCormack, Cllr F F T Neale, Cllr G E E Polson, Cllr Mrs S Spittle and Cllr M J Tarling.

Apologies: Cllr Mrs F Cox, Cllr C A Gardiner and Cllr P Hilliard

Officers Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk

Present: Susan Roxby, Administrative Support Officer

84. Prayers

The Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Charles Stewart opened the proceedings with prayers.

85. Declarations of Interest

Cllr D Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Minute No. 86 (Public Participation), as a regular attendee at St Johns Church, and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr T Lane and Cllr M J Tarling declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Minute No. 100 (Planning Application: 8/18/3263/FUL) as both Councillors had visited the application site and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr S Mc Cormack declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Minute No. 89 (Motions from Councillors) and Minute No. 100 (Planning Application: 8/18/3263/FUL) as he sits on the Planning Committee for Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council (BCP Council) and left the room for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr W Grace declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Minute No. 96 (Legates) as a Trustee of Legates Charity and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr S Spittle declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Minute No. 98 (Town Hall Use – Requests) and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr M J Tarling declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No.100 (Planning Application: 8/18/3263/FUL) as he had been a member of a group called ‘Discover Science in Christchurch’ which was formed to open a Museum in Christchurch and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2019 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

The Town Clerk updated Members that the Chairman of the Community Committee had been added to the membership of the Residents Survey Working Group and the Civic Working Group had agreed a request that the Mayor be Patron of the Christchurch Dementia Community Friendly Alliance.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 27 August 2019 were agreed and signed as an accurate record subject to Cllr S Fotheringham’s name being removed as being present at the meeting.

Announcements

1. The Mayor

The Mayor announced that, since the last meeting of the council, she had been privileged to attend some wonderful engagements, highlighting the recital by Daniel Bell at Christchurch Priory as wonderful to hear such a beautiful voice in such a beautiful setting.

In addition, the Mayor gave mention to the opening of Christchurch Sailing Club’s Disabled Access Lift & facilities official installation adding that it was good to see others less mobile being catered for.

The Mayor further advised that gifts had been received from Christchurch’s Twin Town, Aalen following the Reichsstaedter Tage event held in Germany.

The full schedule of events had been circulated to each Member, a copy of which appears as Appendix ‘A’ to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

2. The Town Clerk

The Town Clerk advised that he had no announcements on this occasion.

86. Public Participation

1. Mrs Muriel Haugh

Mrs Muriel Haugh spoke regarding concerns that St. John's Church site may be disposed of for redevelopment and felt this was a valued community hub and urged the Council to safe guard St. John's Church for future generations and presented a signed petition to the Mayor.

2. Reverend Canon Charles Stewart

Reverend Canon Charles Stewart reassured Mrs Haugh and Members of the Council that there were no plans to dispose of St John's Church and also expressed sadness that a request had not been received to talk about this issue.

Cllr Jones raised a point of order that it was normal for a petition to be referred to the Council's Community Committee.

The Town Clerk advised that there was nothing in the Town Council's Standing Orders to refer a petition to the Community Committee.

The Town Clerk further informed Members that the Council could nominate St. John's Church as an Asset of Community Value.

The Mayor advised that the best course of action would be for Reverend Canon Charles Stewart and Mrs Haugh to have a meeting first to discuss this issue and then bring this back to the Council to be considered if required.

Cllr D Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a regular attendee at St Johns Church, and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

3. Mr Peter Fenning

Mr Peter Fenning spoke regarding conservation and consultation in the Town Centre. Mr Fenning felt that there was a richness in archaeology in Christchurch, but there were less iconic areas such as the Barrack Road Recreation Ground which did have Town Green protected status.

Mr Fenning advised that a new Fitness Trail at Barrack Road Recreation Ground and a new Ducking Stool in Christchurch had been installed without consultation.

The Mayor advised that the Fitness Trail had been the remit of the former Christchurch Borough Council which the Town Council was aware of.

The Town Clerk gave an undertaking to residents that once further parks and recreation grounds have been transferred to the Town Council that this shall be disseminated to residents.

Cllr S McCormack left the room at 6.30pm.

4. Ms Susan Suliman

Ms Susan Suliman raised concerns regarding the Police Station site in Christchurch and felt the process for determination of the Planning Application should not be dealt with under permitted powers, but by BCP Council's Planning Committee.

Ms Suliman advised that residents' concerns had not been addressed by the revised plans as follows:

- Increase in traffic
- Loss of parking
- Quality of buildings
- Conservation

Ms Suliman was concerned that high density housing would be built up to their properties and would impact on the residential and visual amenity and also impact on the town and requested that:

- (1) The Town Council Planning Committee Members visit Twynham Avenue to see what the impact would be; and
- (2) The Town Council request that BCP Council Planning Committee Members visit their homes to be fully informed before making a decision.

87. Public Questions

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted to the Town Clerk in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

88. Questions from Councillors

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted by Councillors to the Town Clerk in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

89. Motions from Councillors

A Motion was received from Cllr David Jones registered Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 11:53:

Motion: "That this Council raise objection to the proposal to develop the Accident and Emergency Unit at Royal Bournemouth Hospital"

Members expressed concerns regarding traffic and how it would be managed along Castle Lane, which at times was solid grid lock with traffic. Members considered that if the infrastructure was not in place that there would be more delays for people to get to hospital.

Before being put to the vote it was proposed by Honorary Freeman Cllr C Bungey and seconded by Cllr D Jones that the motion be amended as follows:

'That this Council raises concerns to the proposal to develop the Accident and Emergency Unit at Royal Bournemouth Hospital and would like the infrastructure on the highway in place prior to the construction'

The amendment was put to the vote and carried.

Voting: 11:1 (3 abstentions)

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be delegated to write to BCP Council to advise that this Council raises concerns to the proposal to develop the Accident and Emergency Unit at Royal Bournemouth Hospital and would like a condition to secure the infrastructure on the highway in place prior to the construction.

Voting: 11:1: (3 abstentions)

Reverend Canon Charles Stewart left the meeting 6.55pm.

Cllr S McCormack re-joined the meeting at 6.55pm.

90. Verbal Reports from Partner Organisations

There were no verbal reports from Partner Organisations on this occasion.

91. Committee Minutes

The Committee Minutes for the last cycle of meetings were received as follows:

Planning Committee, 23 July 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held 23 July 2019 were received and approved.

Voting: unanimous

Resources Committee, 6 August 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2019 were received.

The recommendation arising from the meeting was considered and approved:

Minute No.69 Risk Management Strategy and Schedule

Voting: unanimous

Planning Committee, 21 August 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2019 were received and approved.

Voting: unanimous

92. Town Clerk's Report (Invoices, Urgent Delegation)

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were asked to consider the Town Clerk's report.

RESOLVED that The Town Council:

- (a) **noted the attached schedule of invoices received for immediate payment and authorised the Town Clerk/Admin Officer to pay;**
- (b) **noted and confirmed the acceptance of the quotation for the replacement of the fire alarm sensors at the Old Town Hall and delegated to the Town Clerk to sign, arrange and prepare for the installation as quoted; and**
- (c) **noted the exercise of the use of the Urgent Delegation procedure pursuant to Standing Order 26.**

Cllr Mrs S Fotheringham joined the meeting at 7.29pm.

93. Residents' Survey

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were asked to consider the proposed survey questions and matters relating to the residents' survey

The Mayor expressed thanks to the Town Clerk and the Residents' Survey Working Group for all the work undertaken.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- (a) **accepted the findings of the Residents' Survey Working Group and agreed to the methodology and questions posed;**
- (b) **delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Mayor, Chair of each committee the final typesetting, layout and format of the survey and a subsequent press-release;**
- (c) **that the survey period runs between the 21st September 2019 through to 31st December 2019 so that the results reflected in a draft Council Plan can be considered at Full Council on the 17th January 2020; and**
- (d) **accepted the Council's proposed Mission Statement and Values as set-out.**

Voting: unanimous

94. Bus Routes – BCP Response

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Town Clerk updated Members that Cllr Jarvis had undertaken a survey and knocked on over 200 residents' doors in Stanpit and received overwhelmingly support for a conventional bus-service facility, there were only 2 residents who preferred a dial a bus service.

After comprehensive debate by Members the following points were noted:

- Dial a bus service could not be relied on and a conventional bus service was preferred.
- Public transport needed to be enhanced if BCP Council was to achieve its objective of zero emissions.
- Options of rerouting the bus service and subsidising trials should be considered.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- (a) noted the ongoing work undertaken by Cllr Gillian Jarvis;**
- (b) delegate to the Town Clerk to write to BCP Council to include the points debated by members of the Full Council on bus routes.**

Voting: unanimous

95. Precept Transfer

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'E' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were informed that the Town Council had received the first half of the precept from BCP Council.

RESOLVED that the report was noted.

Voting: unanimous

96. Legates

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'F' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were asked to consider the proposal to transfer the Legates Charity to Dorset Community Foundation (DCF).

Members raised concerns that DCF only provided support to groups and not individuals. Members considered that the Town Council did not have the right to instigate the proposed transfer of the Legates Charity to DCF and that it should be BCP Council and the Trustees of Legates that should agree this.

The Town Clerk advised Members that he was not able to act as administrator for the Legates Charity as this was not in his job description and that the Trustees may wish to advertise for a new administrator.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the proposed transfer of Legates Charity be deferred; and**
- b) the Town Clerk be delegated to write to the Legates Charity administrator at BCP Council to request that they call a meeting of the current Legates Trustees to consider registering new trustees and to advertise for a new administrator as the BCP officer was no longer able to continue as administrator.**

Voting: 15: 0 (1 abstention)

Cllr W Grace declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a Trustee of Legates Charity and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

97. Noticeboard

The Town Clerk advised that comment had been received from Members that they would like to consider the installation of a sympathetically designed notice board to be installed to the exterior of the Old Town Hall.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the Town Clerk prepare for Members' consideration solutions for the installation of a sympathetically designed noticeboard to be affixed to the exterior elevation of the Old Town Hall; and**

- b) the matter be delegated to Community Committee in the first instance to make recommendations which shall then be reported to Full Council for the final determination.**

Voting: unanimous

98. Town Hall Use – Requests

The Town Clerk submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix ‘G’ to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were asked to consider the report for two requests for use of the Town Hall relating to Remembrance and Christmas for this year.

Members were informed of a proposal for the front of the Old Town Hall to be decorated with crocheted and knitted poppies for the duration of Remembrance week as a mark of respect for those fallen in both World Wars.

Members were further informed of a request to use the Town Hall to host guests and dignitaries for the Christmas lights switch-on.

RESOLVED that the Town Council noted the requests for use of the Town Hall and grant consent for such uses.

Voting: 15: 0 (1 abstention)

Cllr S Spittle declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to this item and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

99. Standing Orders and Updated Financial Regulations

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix ‘H’ to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were informed of the updated Model Financial Regulations and were asked to re-affirm adoption of the Council’s Standing Orders.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- a) adopt the up-dated Financial Regulations as proposed by the National Association for Local Councils; and**

b) re-affirm the adoption of the Council's Standing Orders for a further year.

Voting: unanimous

100. Planning Application: [8/18/3263/FUL](#)

Erection of 131 residential dwellings, 39 units of age-restricted sheltered accommodation (C3), and 612 m2 of flexible commercial/community space (A1, A2, A3, A4, B1, D1 (Museum only) use classes), new road between Bargates and Barrack Road, new vehicular access from Barrack Road (to serve sheltered accommodation only), new private and semi-private gardens, public open space, hard and soft landscaping, surface vehicular parking and residential garages, following the demolition of the Police Station and Magistrates' Court, nos. 23 and 41 Barrack Road, former Goose and Timber public house, and ancillary buildings and structures

Members were asked to consider the application and resolve accordingly to a) Raise Objection, b) Raise no objection, c) Pass no comment and to delegate to the Town Clerk to write to the BCP Case-Officer encapsulating the resolved position.

Members were informed that due to an anomaly, BCP Council's current constitution did not allow for this planning application to be called in as an application must be called in within 30 days of being registered, and as this was originally registered by the former Christchurch Borough Council in November, it was now too late.

Members felt that the Town Council should discuss this application and forward the debate to BCP Council.

The Town Clerk informed Members that new plans were to be submitted and therefore it would be more appropriate to write to the case office at BCP Council and raise a constitutional point.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be delegated to write to the BCP Council Case Officer, Head of Planning, Chairman of Planning Committee and Ward Members to advise that the Police Station site was a contentious planning application effecting the wider public interest which the current BCP Council's constitution did not allow for it to be called in.

Voting: 14:0 (1 abstention)

Cllr S Mc Cormack declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as he sits on the Planning Committee for BCP Council and left the room for the discussion and voting.

Cllr T Lane and Cllr M J Tarling declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as they had both visited the planning application site and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr M J Tarling declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as he had been a member of a group called 'Discover Science in Christchurch' which was formed to open a Museum in Christchurch and remained present for the discussion and voting thereon.

- 101. RESOLVED to exclude the press and public pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the matter relating to the financial and business affairs of the authority and other authorities.**

Voting: unanimous

- 102. Resources Committee, 6 August 2019**

The exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2019 were considered and approved.

Voting: unanimous

- 103. Allotment Collection.**

The Town Clerk provided Members with a Verbal Report on Allotment Collection for the Council.

Members received a verbal update and were asked to consider Allotment Collection.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm

CHAIRMAN