

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

28th October 2008

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs.L.Clark (Mayor)
Councillors P.Baker
Mrs.G.Belcher
Mrs.T.B.Coombs
Mrs.L.Dedden
A.R.Dedden
M.W.Dolan
S.Gibson
Mrs.J.Hazel
B.Mortimer
V.Redpath
Ms.J.Russell
P.Richardson
M.Simper

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Mrs.A.Daymond, M.V.Daymond, A.R.Nicholls & Mrs.L.Nicholls

Apologies were also received from Mr.W.Wells, Mayor's Advisor

In Attendance:- Mrs.V.Bright, Town Clerk, Mrs.J.Gaskell, Assistant to the Town Clerk & County Councillor S.Flower.

Public: 9

163/08

Declaration of Interests.

Councillor Mrs. G. Belcher declared a personal interest under agenda item 10(b) as she is a Trustee of the Verwood Hub Community Association.

Councillor Mrs.T.Coombs declared a personal interest under agenda item 4(a) and 4 (b), as she is a member of the Dorset County Council Cabinet and a member of the East Dorset District Council Planning Committee.

Councillor Mrs.J.Hazel declared a personal interest under agenda item 10(b) as she is a Trustee of the Verwood Hub Community Association.

Councillor B.Mortimer declared a personal interest under agenda items 4 (b) & 10(b) as he is a member of the East Dorset District Council Planning Committee and a Trustee of the Verwood Hub Community Association.

Councillor P.Richardson declared a personal interest under agenda item 4(b) as he is a member of East Dorset District Council Planning Committee.

164/08

Inspector Mike Darkin had been invited to attend the meeting to introduce himself to members as he is the new Section Commander for East Dorset. He was welcomed to the meeting after which he gave a brief history of his police service, stated that his door would always be open and that he would welcome any comments.

165/08 Minutes of the Meeting held 23rd September, 2008 as circulated, were confirmed and signed.

166/08 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Forestry Commission England** wrote with an update on the plans to create an open-air concert venue in Ringwood Forest and details of their long-term plans for a gradual change to Ringwood Forest. The letter was copied to all members and was noted.
- b) **Dorset County Council** wrote enclosing the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals & Waste Development Framework Minerals Site Allocations Document – Discussion Paper Consultation which is for consultation for an eight week period ending at 3pm on 12th December 2008. Once adopted, the Minerals Site Allocations Document will become a key document within Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals and Waste Development Framework identifying specific sites for the extraction of all types of mineral until 2026. The letter was copied to all members and the Discussion Paper can be viewed at the Town Council offices or by following the links from www.dorsetforyou.com/mwdf . The Environment Councillor agreed to look through the consultation paper.
- c) **Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils, Chief Executive's Circular 14/08.** This included information on: Revised CiLCA resit fees; CiLCA, Well Being and QPS; CiLCA – advice on the 2008 Portfolio; Alarm systems and Connecting Dorset (or other supplied) Broadband; retention of red telephone boxes; Councillors indemnity; surplus equipment at DAPTC; Yachting courses in West Dorset; Code of Conduct 2007 Personal and Prejudicial Interests – Councillor responsibilities; Use of red diesel by local councils; Level of burial fees (England); Training; Annual pay update. This was noted.
- d) **BDO Stoy Hayward LLP** The Clerk reported that BDO have now completed the audit for the year ended 31st March 2008. There were no matters which came to their attention which required a separate additional issues arising report. The Clerk and staff were thanked for all their hard work regarding this matter.
- e) The Clerk had circulated a written report to all Members regarding, “Which Way” A highways seminar, 34th National Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks, and a Flood Wardens Seminar. This was noted.
- f) The Clerk reported that the calendar for 2009 had been arranged. Due to the Bank Holiday Monday in May the Mayor making would take place on Tuesday 26th May and the Annual Town Meeting of the Council would take place on Wednesday 27th May 2009. The calendar will be copied to all members.

g) **Trinity First School** Clerk to the Governors emailed attaching a letter which they had sent to their parents, Orchard Day Nursery parents and local residents, with regard to the decision made by the governors following a consultation period to permanently close the car park between 8.25am-9.00am, and 2.30pm-3.10pm. They will be meeting with a representative from Dorset County Council next week to discuss/assess their request with regard to the provision of "School Keep Clear" markings and the possible installation of double yellow lines. The Clerk has spoken to the County Council who will consult with the Town Council after the meeting. This was noted.

167/08 The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held 14th October 2008 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.
155/08 Councillor T.Coombs wished it noted that she abstained from the ratification of this item.

168/08 The Report of the Plans Consultative Committee meeting held 15th October 2008 as circulated, were confirmed, adopted and signed.

169/08 Election of a new Town Council Representative for the Hub Community Association (Trustee) and for the Verwood Hub Consultative Committee.
Due to a misunderstanding at the last meeting, regarding minute 136/08, this item has been put back on the agenda as the representative elected did not wish to be a trustee, but would remain the representative on the Consultative committee. Information was given that an Executive Committee would be formed which would include a Town Council representative, however, the Chief Executive was obtaining guidance on how to proceed regarding the implication that the Executive Committee would be Trustees. Therefore it was agreed that the item should be deferred, including the election of a representative of the Town Council to the Hub Community Association, until guidance had been received.

170/08 Report from the Mayor.
The Mayor gave a report on functions and events she had attended during the month which included: Wimborne Civic Day; the buying of the first poppy from the Verwood British Legion from a D-Day veteran for a press release; the Autumn Concert of the Verwood Concert Brass which also celebrated their success in coming 2nd in their group at the National Finals in Harrogate; the judging of the children's Halloween costumes at the Sports and Social Club. The Mayor had also attended a Quarterly Meeting with officers of East Dorset District Council, a report of which was copied to all members.

171/08

Report of Representatives on Other Bodies.

- a) **Environment Theme Action Group.** A written report was copied to all members on meetings that had been attended which included: a special meeting on the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Secretary of State's proposed modifications; a meeting of the Dorset Waste Forum; a presentation by East Dorset District Council on the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Dorset. The Environment Councillor also attended an event entitled 'The Role of the Dorset Strategic Partnership.
- b) **Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils.** Written reports on the last meetings of the Eastern Area and the Larger Parish and Towns Committees were circulated to all members.
- c) **Heathland Heritage Trust.** A report was given on: election of committee members; fundraising; the valuable work carried out by the volunteers.
- d) **P.A.C.T. Meeting.** A report was given on the last meeting where three priorities were discussed from the Community Action Plan: Alcohol use by youths and anti social behaviour; speeding vehicles; general anti social behaviour. The next meeting would be held on 14th January 2009 when the three priorities will be re-assessed.

172/08

Internet Councillor.

Nothing to report this month but any comments would be welcome.

173/08

Press & P.R.

It was reported that articles were being collated for the winter edition of the Verwood Vista and that a picture of the Mayor buying the first poppy had been in the press.

174/08

Verwood Community Association.

A written report had been circulated to all members which included information on: finances; competition with other venues; the future of the re-build of the Leisure Centre; successful play funding for Potterne Play Park; the demolition of Ilkley Moor bungalow which was used to store VCA materials.

175/08

Verwood Hub Community Association.

A report was given on the last meeting where matters discussed included: finances; the formation of the Executive Committee; booking of events and room hire; bistro opening times.

176/08

Reports of the County & District Councillors.

County Councillor Spencer Flower gave a report on: the starting of the re-build at Queen Elizabeth School; Dorset County's banking arrangements; speeding traffic along Ringwood Road.

Questions were asked regarding: concern that the monies being spent on QE school may affect funding for the Ferndown Upper School, the response was that this was Government sponsored and would not affect any other school.

District Councillor Boyd Mortimer gave a report on: changes to concessionary fare changes; the decision by East Dorset District Council not to take part in the Government's free swimming initiative for over 60s; the annual budget 2009/10; East Dorset's banking arrangements.

177/08

Accounts.

It was proposed and seconded and RESOLVED that the accounts totalling £112,652.89 for October were approved for payment.

178/08

Items of report and matters for future agendas.

- a) **Active Games for All Committee.** Cllr. Simon Gibson circulated a report to all members on the committee which was formed to assess the viability of a multi use games area (MUGA) in Verwood. The next meeting will be held on 19th November 2008. Any comments should be given to Cllr. Gibson who will pass them on to the Committee.
- b) Concern was raised that the gate to the Potters Wheel Car Park had not been closed during a weekend by the Police and that young people had been congregating in there after 11pm. The Clerk would contact the Police and discuss the matter.
- c) It was reported that there had been fly-tipping of fridge freezers between the Ebblake Industrial Estate and Ringwood Forest, the details of which had been passed to the Member of Parliament in the neighbouring county.
- d) The Clerk gave some information about the lengthsman scheme.
- e) An update was given on the meetings of the Fairtrade group which is making good progress. An agenda item was requested to consider the Town Council's position in regard to making Verwood a Fairtrade Town.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

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Mayor