

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

PRESENT: Councillor M Parker (Mayor)  
Councillors S Gibson  
M Hudson  
P Mann  
Ms J Russell  
Miss K Stephens

Also: Mrs., V.J. Bright, Town Clerk.

*Mrs. Bright sat in another room during the meeting.*

Public:0

20/21 Declaration of Interests.

Councillor S Gibson declared an interest regarding the proposed charging strategy for car parks in Dorset as he is a Dorset Councillor.

21/21 To receive the 2020/2021 Final Internal Audit Report of the Internal Auditor.

The Final Internal Audit for 20/21 was copied to all Members. It was proposed and seconded and

RESOLVED that the final internal audit report of the Internal Auditor be accepted.

22/21 Annual Return of the Audit for the year ended March 2021

A copy of the accounts and supporting statements for the year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 was circulated to all members. The accounts were approved and signed by the Mayor and the Responsible Financial Officer, and the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts was completed. It was proposed and seconded and RESOLVED that the Mayor and Responsible Financial Officer sign the Annual Governance Statement and then the Mayor sign the Statement of Accounts which the Clerk had already signed.

23/21 Accounts.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the accounts £27,722.61 for May and £24,434.34 for June 2021 were approved for payment.

24/21 The Report of the Plans Consultative Committee meetings held 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2<sup>nd</sup> June & 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 as circulated, were adopted and signed.

25/21 Other Reports.

- a) Dorset Council sent an email regarding a proposed charging strategy. The intention is to align parking charges across Dorset Council car parks, on-street parking and car park permits. The consultation ends on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Discussion took place regarding: how it would affect businesses; extra street parking; using facebook to inform the public; that the Local Plan was encouraging more retail in the town but

charges may discourage this; the cost of the upkeep of the car parks: with regard to the permits would they be just for Verwood parking, East Dorset wide parking or Dorset wide parking; what would the times for parking be, similar to the New Forest which is 7.00am to 6.00pm? Members felt that there were two parts to decide, the principle of the charging and to comment on permits if the charges were to go ahead. The Clerk was asked to send out the email to all members to ask if they were for or against parking charges and also ask them for short points to make regarding charging and permits which would be collated.

b) A request was made to invite an officer from the enforcement team to a plans consultative committee.

c) A question was asked regarding grass cutting of verges in the parish? A response was given that it would be in the next week hopefully.

d) Discussion took place regarding holding meetings of the Town Council which included: that Dorset Council has decided not to meet but that Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole were meeting; information from DAPTC; putting any F&GP items on the next Full Town Council in July. It was agreed that the Plans Consultative Committees would continue with five members and an officer, and that the F&GP would be combined with the Full Meeting in July. If the restrictions are not lifted on 19<sup>th</sup> July then a larger venue which will allow appropriate social distancing to take place will be sought so that the full Town Council meeting would go ahead.

e) It was reported that a horse and swings had been placed on open space land at Three Legged Cross. The clerk would contact the relevant authority.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.23p.m.

.....  
Mayor