

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

26th October 2021

PRESENT: Councillor S Gibson (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors A Biggs
Mrs L Clark
Mrs T B Coombs
Mrs L Dedden
Mrs S Grove
A.Maw
P J Mann
Mrs P Morrow
Ms J Russell

Apologies from Cllrs: Mrs.S.Bhose, S Flower, M Hudson, M Parker, Mrs S Rose Miss B Salmon, Miss K Stephens & M Thorpe

In Attendance: Mrs V Bright Town Clerk & Mrs J Sebire, Assistant Town Clerk

Also in attendance: Rev. James Whately & Cllr Laura Miller, Dorset Council

Public: 1

104/21 Declaration of Interests.

None

105/21 Minutes of the meetings held 28th September 2021 as circulated, were confirmed and signed.

106/21 Policing.

Members were reminded about the link for local police crime statistics. A report by one of the Police Councillors was given on two events that the Police had taken part in, one of which was a corner event at Morrisons. An update was also given on the Neighbourhood Watch signs on Hainault Drive.

107/21 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Residents' Enquiries and Complaints** were copied to all members and were noted.
- b) **Three Legged Cross Village Hall** wrote thanking the Town Council for Grant Aid 21/22. This was noted
- c) **Citizens Advice East Dorset & Purbeck** wrote thanking the Town Council for Grant Aid for 21/22. This was noted
- d) **Speed Indicator Device (SID)**. A resident has requested that consideration be given for a speed indicator device to be placed on Springfield Road. The Clerk was instructed to contact Dorset Council to request counter lines be put down.
- e) **Town Clerk** Information was given that five interviews had taken place on Monday 18th October to fill the vacancy of Town Clerk. After interviewing all the candidates, the decision was made to appoint Mrs Carrie Lloyd. Further information on her start date was also given.

108/20 The Report of the Plans Consultative Committee meeting held 6th October 2021 as circulated, was adopted and signed.

109/21 The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held 12th October 2021 as circulated, was adopted and signed.

110/21 DAPTC AGM

Information was copied to all members which included the date of the AGM and the three motions put forward by Town and Parish Councils. Members were asked to nominate a representative to attend the AGM and it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that Councillor Mrs.L.Dedden and Councillor A.Maw attend the zoom meeting. Councillor Ms.J.Russell would attend if one of the other councillors could not.

Motion A Submitted by: Blandford Forum Town Council

The Town Council requests that, with the new Code of Conduct in place which is considered to be lacking in means of enforcement, the government continues to be lobbied for stronger penalties should Councillors breach the Code of Conduct.

DAPTC are asked to follow this up by:

- Write to NALC's Chair to encourage support and a focus on the motion
- Engage with Monitoring Officers to encourage county wide support for stronger sanctions
- Write to Dorset MPs seeking support

After discussion it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support the motion.

Motion B Submitted by: Wimborne Minster Town Council

The Town Council would like to see the inclusion of enhanced tree protection measures in subsequent legislation, for example more stringent protection for trees and hedgerows compared to those in Tree Preservation Orders.

- Write to NALC's Chair to encourage support and a focus on the motion
- Engage with Tree Preservation officers in the unitary authorities in Dorset
- Write to Dorset MPs seeking support

After discussion it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support the motion

Motion C Submitted by: Studland Council

The local councils call on Dorset Council to re-instate a) the provision of yellow notices associated with properties seeking planning developments and b) the notification in writing of neighbours where there are planning applications.

- Write to Dorset Council in support of the motion and asking for a response to the specific points raised
- Engage Dorset MPs to ensure awareness

After discussion it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council abstain from voting on the motion.

111/21 Report from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Deputy Mayor reported he had presented gold awards to two brownies.

112/21 Report of Representatives on Other Bodies.

a) Dementia Group. A report was given that keep fit sessions were being held and well attended.

b) Verwood Friendship. Information was given that the group have restarted in the Verwood Memorial Hall and was well attended.

113/21 Verwood Youth & Community Management Committee & Youth Worker.

The minutes of the meeting were copied to all members. Information was given that the Constitution will be re-written as it was found to be restrictive regarding holding an AGM. It was also decided to have one constitution for the Youth Club and one for the Management Committee. Discussion took place regarding the recommendation for the six-month rolling contract and if that was also the period of notice. A question was asked regarding referrals for food.

The recommendation to the Town Council was that from the 1st January 2022 VCSG continue to use the music room on a rolling six month basis and free of charge and that the VCSG give a regular report every six months to the Management Committee.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that the recommendation is accepted.

Information was given on the need for CCTV for the outside of the Centre and a quotation had been received from a preferred supplier who also provided CCTV coverage for the Town Council. There would be three cameras, one by the front of the building, one at the side of the building by the entrance to the centre and one at the rear of the building. The cost would be:

To supply, install and maintain system
(during the 12 month warranty period)

as per the attached specification

£2,595.00 + VAT

Total Care Maintenance Contract

£750.00 + VAT

The recommendation to the Town Council was to provide CCTV for the Youth & Community Centre. It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that the recommendation is accepted.

114/21 Internet Councillor

No Report

115/21 Press & P.R.Councillor

No Report

116/21 Reports from the Dorset Councillors.

The regular newsletters received from Dorset Council provide information and updates and are greatly appreciated. Information was given that the council has had a reshuffle and Councillor Simon Gibson's new role was Highways. Information was also given on the diversions for the emergency tree work taking place on Ringwood Road and that communication regarding the work had not been very clear. The work should be done by this Thursday or Friday. The Deputy Mayor introduced Councillor Laura Miller who had taken on the role of Customer Community Services. Councillor Miller introduced herself and advised that she was trying to get around as many Parish and Town Councils to improve communication between Parish/Town Councils and

Dorset Council, as this was part of her role, which also included bins, library's, food standards and dog wardens to name a few. She had visited The Hub with fellow local Dorset Councillors and felt it was more than a Leisure Centre. It was reported that a lot of member councils of the DAPTC never see their Dorset Councillors, but that Verwood was very lucky as all three of their Dorset Councillors attended meetings. A request was made to publish all roles that the Dorset Councillors were responsible for. Information can be accessed individually but it would make it easier for members of the public to see all 82 Cabinet members' responsibilities on one page after this latest re-organisation. Councillor Miller also gave information on the Library Consultation which was about understanding how people used the service. She also talked about staffing problems with the bin collections and advised that she would be going on a collection round to see which problems existed.

117/21 Accounts.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the accounts £19,993.66 for October 2021 were approved for payment.

118/21 Items of report and matters for future agendas.

- a) A request was made to investigate the provision of a street lamp on Church Hill by St. Michael & All Angels Cemetery.
- b) Information was given on the next Litter Pick which would take place this Saturday from Ebblake Car Park.
- c) A complaint had been received from a resident in Howe Lane regarding young people attending the Youth and Community Centre. The Youth Worker would be informed.
- d) A suggestion was made that during the ongoing work on the A31 progress should be discussed by Hampshire and Dorset Councillors. It was also advised that a suggestion for road markings being changed had been made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55p.m.

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Mayor