

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

22nd November 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Ms.J.Russell (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors S. Bhose
A.Biggs
Mrs.L.Clark
S.Flower
Mrs.S.Grove
S.Hazel
Mrs.A.Manley
P J Mann
Mrs.P.Morrow
M.Parker
Mrs S.Shaw
Mrs.N.Thompson

Apologies from Cllrs: Mrs.T.B.Coombs, Mrs.L.Dedden, S.Gibson, M.Hudson & Miss K. Stephens.

In attendance:- Mrs.V.J.Bright, Town Clerk, Mrs J.Gaskell, Assistant to the Town Clerk & PC Andy Robertson

Public: 2

173/17 Declaration of Interests.

168/17 Councillor S. Flower declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of EDDC and did not take part in the discussion or resolution.

174/17 Minutes of the Meeting held 24th October 2017 as circulated, were confirmed and signed.

175/17 Policing.

A report was circulated to all members. Discussion took place regarding: the change of response to attending incidents; joint engagement at Morrisons with the Town Council; Anti-Social Behaviour incidents and the reporting of them; the retirement of the community beat officer for Three Legged Cross and neighbouring parishes.

176/17 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Residents' enquiries and complaints** were copied to all members and were noted.
- b) **43rd National SLCC Conference.** A report was circulated by the Town Clerk on the conference. This was noted
- c) **External Auditor.** The new external Auditor for the Town Council will be PKF Littlejohn LLP who are based in London. This was noted

177/17 The Report of the Amenities Committee meeting held 7th November 2017 as circulated, were confirmed, adopted and signed.

178/17 The Report of the Plans Consultative Committee meeting held 8th November 2017 as circulated, were confirmed, adopted and signed.

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179/17 The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held 14th November 2017 as circulated was adopted and signed.

180/17 Report from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor sent a written report on various functions and events she had attended which included: Verwood Arts and Crafts Society Exhibition and sale; Hillside First School 50th Anniversary celebration tea; Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday; Colehill Parish Council Reception; EDDC Chairman's Tea Party for couples celebrating their Platinum Wedding Anniversary in 2017.

The Deputy Mayor reported that she had attended the East Dorset District Scout Council presentation evening at which eight Verwood Cubs and Scouts received a Chief Scout's award. It was reported that volunteers were needed and it was suggested that this could be an item in the Verwood Vista.

181/17 Report of Representatives on Other Bodies.

a) **DAPTC AGM.** A written report on the Annual General Meeting was circulated to all members which included information on: the four motions: Beaminster Town Council, Blandford Forum Town Council and Chideock Parish Council were passed and Hurn Parish Council was rejected; a presentation update from members of NHS Dorset CCG: an update on local government.

b) **DAPTC Larger Parish and Town Councils Committee.** The report was circulated to all members on the last meeting where matters discussed included: election of officers; discussion on the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government's 'minded to' decision about the future of Local Government in Dorset; Chief Executive's report; information on future dates.

c) **Heathland Heritage Centre AGM.** A written report was circulated to all members which included information on: finances; outside refurbishment; information on displays that have been staged; re-election of officers.

d) **Verwood and Three Legged Cross Twinning Association AGM.** A written report was circulated to all members which included information on: events and excursions; quarterly newsletters; future events; election of officers.

182/17 Internet Councillor

Information was given that a couple more profiles had been updated. Consideration should be given for a new web site next year. Provide access for administration to the Facebook website by the Town Council staff.

183/17 Press & P.R.Councillor

A short report was given on the good coverage of the Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday.

184/17 Reports of the County & District Councillors.

County Council Report, Councillor S.Flower. A written report was circulated regarding: Local Government Reorganisation where the Secretary of State has said he is minded to implement the locally-led proposal for improving local government in Dorset. Before he takes his final decision, there will be a period until 8th January 2018

during which those interested may make further representations or alternative proposals. The decision will also be subject to Parliamentary approval which is
(54)

scheduled in March 2018; funding of the 97 Service which has lost short term funding. A question was asked regarding the possibility of Christchurch joining with Hampshire and it was stated that Christchurch Borough Council and East Dorset District Council were each their own sovereign body.

District Council Report, Councillor S.Gibson. A written report was circulated regarding: Local Government Reorganisation; Community Housing Fund; the Car Park Review.

185/17 Accounts.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the accounts for November 2017 £17,385.49 were approved for payment.

186/17 Items of report and matters for future agendas.

- a) Discussion took place regarding information on planning.
- b) It was suggested that, in the next Verwood Vista, volunteers could be sought for the Guides, Brownies and Youth Club as all were looking for help.
- c) It was reported that a charity event had to be cancelled due to wrong information being given to a resident from the Hub.

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

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Deputy-Mayor