

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Ivybridge held in The Watermark, Ivybridge on Monday 27 June 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr D Gray-Taylor (Town Mayor) Cllr S Rutley
 Cllr P Dredge Cllr E Silsbury
 Cllr S Fourte Cllr A Spencer
 Cllr A Laity Cllr H Whiting
 Cllr T Parsons Cllr R Wilson

In Attendance: Cllr K Pringle (District Councillor)
 1 Police Representative (PC C Mathers)
 1 Member of the Press
 2 Members of the Public
 Mrs L Hughes (Town Clerk)
 Mrs S Hocking (Minute Secretary)

An adjournment followed from 7.00 pm to 7.09pm to allow any questions, reports or representations by the Public, the Community Police Officer, District and County Councillors.

**PC Mathers left the meeting at 7.02pm.*

**1 Member of the Public left the meeting at 7.08pm.*

16/030 **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Bowden, Charles, Hladkij, Khong, Kennard and Lloyd.

16/031 **INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members were invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests. Cllr Gray-Taylor declared an interest in item 16/043, cheque number 13694.

16/032 **COUNCILLOR CHARLES LLOYD:** Members considered formally endorsing a four month leave of absence from Council duties starting on 1st June until 30 September in view of his working commitments including an overseas contract.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the absence as outlined above for Cllr Lloyd in accordance with the Local Govt Act 1972, section 85 (1).

16/033 **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Town

Council held on 16 May 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.

- 16/034 **PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2016 and 17 May 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 16/035 **PERSONNEL:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 16/036 **WATERMARK COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 16/037 **PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 16/038 **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:**
The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor during the month of June 2016 were noted and received.
- 16/039 **COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE INTERESTS:** Consideration was given to an updated Committee membership list (to include Policy and Resources Committee) and representatives for outside interests (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the lists.

- 16/040 **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:** Members considered the Annual Return (copy previously circulated with draft covering letter) and noted the order in which this must be done.

Cllr Dredge stated that the accounts were a good reflection on a Council which is well managed and that it should be congratulated, together with the Town Clerk and staff.

Item 9 of the Governance Statement was highlighted that it was a non applicable statement in Section 1 and should be altered accordingly.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the:

- i) Annual Governance Statement – to confirm 'yes' to all the statements in Section 1, with the exception of Item 9 which should be recorded as non applicable

- ii) Annual Return and submit it with the relevant documentation to the Auditor by the due date.

16/041 **BUTTERPARK:** Consideration was given to a report on a potential community/social housing project (copy previously circulated).

Cllr Wilson highlighted that this project would provide something for the more vulnerable members of the community and it was a welcome development.

It was **RESOLVED** to support this initiative and submit the expression of interest on behalf of the partnership in accordance with the final paragraph of the report.

16/042 **HEALTH PROJECT WITH BEACON MEDICAL GROUP AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR:** Consideration was given to developments on closer working between Town Council, health and voluntary sectors (report previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to support the progress of the project as outlined in the report.

16/043 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** Consideration was given to the May accounts for payment (copy previously circulated).

Cllr Wilson sought clarity on an item pertaining to Longtimber Woods and the Town Clerk confirmed that the works were complete with the exception of the installation of the barbecue rings.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for payment in the sum of £63,737.27.

16/044 **ACCOUNTS:** Consideration was given to a report on the accounts for the period to 31 May 2016 (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to note the income and expenditure report for the month.

16/045 **SHDC LOCAL PLAN:** Consideration was given to the press release and an invitation to a workshop at The Watermark regarding the joint local plan (copy previously circulated).

Cllrs Silsbury and Whiting were both members of the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan group and volunteered to attend. The Town Clerk advised that she would also be attending on behalf of the Council and the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Silsbury and Whiting represent the Town Council at the workshop.

16/046

IVYBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: Consideration was given to an update on progress in respect of the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan (copy previously circulated).

The Town Clerk reported that the Plan was progressing and that a recent email from Lee Bray had stated that the basic document would be submitted to South Hams District Council very shortly. The District would need to assess the information and it would then be forwarded onto an Inspector.

The document ultimately becomes part of the formal planning guidance, subject to it being approved at referendum; a process which the District Council is required to fund.

Cllr Rutley highlighted the photograph on the 'travel and movement' of the powerpoint presentation provided whereby the Jolly Rogers Fish Bar should be removed as it was not in Ivybridge.

It was **RESOLVED** to welcome the progress of the plan.

16/047

ENDSLEIGH GARDEN CENTRE: Consideration was given to the information regarding the Endsleigh planning appeal and related documentation regarding another appeal decision (background information previously circulated).

Cllr Spencer highlighted his surprise that the Inspector is unable to make any decisions relating to this matter.

The Town Clerk reported that her understanding was that the Inspector had been as helpful as possible in suggesting that the conditions applied by the District Council should be enforceable and the document referring to the decision in Somerset assisted in this regard. At that Garden Centre where the Wyevale group incorporated a Bon Marche ladies fashion outlet the key difference was that the ladies fashion exclusion clause had been removed at the time of the appeal. However, it remains within the Endsleigh Garden Centre conditions in the schedule four exclusions.

It was noted that Cllr Saltern has raised this issue with South Hams District Council, so the enforcement team had then been in contact with the Wyevale group just prior to the Bon Marche outlet opening at Endsleigh Garden Centre. At that time the case had been made that as the outlet was included at their other stores it therefore met

the condition in schedule 2. The District had therefore indicated that it believed that the outlet was acceptable.

The Town Clerk suggested that it would be worth presenting the issues to Gary Streeter, MP to gain his further support in the light of the information available.

Cllr Silsbury suggested that it may open the door for the large supermarket chain nearby to start selling other goods, contrary to the conditions in its planning approval. Cllr Parsons stated that the Council should not give up on this matter as Planning Laws are being undermined. Cllr Wilson mentioned that if nothing else it will put pressure onto South Hams District Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to liaise with Gary Streeter, MP to seek support for the enforcement of the planning conditions at Endsleigh Garden Centre.

16/048 **EMERGENCY SERVICES ACCESS:** Consideration was given to the residents written responses (background information attached/sent by email) following Cllrs Gray-Taylor and Charles highlighting an access problem for emergency services.

The Town Mayor expanded on the information provided and reported that if there were double yellow lines on every road that there would not be anywhere for cars to park. Cars should park responsibly.

Cllr Parsons stated that it was shocking that people park irresponsibly and suggested that the Police should be involved and that they should be prosecuted and be made an example of, as he knew from his time as a paramedic the real problems that could arise in gaining access for emergency services.

Cllr Wilson highlighted that with new developments in the town that lessons should be learned from the modern estates and that we should ensure that all emergency vehicles can get through all roads. Cllr Parsons added that off road parking and yellow lines would assist this.

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the emails and information provided.

16/049 **LARGER COUNCIL TRANSPARENCY CODE:** Consideration was given to responding to the consultation document from DCLG (report previously circulated).

Cllr Dredge expanded on the information provided in the report and reported that centralisation of records may or may not be sensible for Local Authorities and that the proposals may need to be changed.

Cllr Dredge enquired of the Town Clerk her availability to discuss the items in the report currently shown as 'Not Applicable' which in hindsight probably needed a different response to reflect concerns which this could create for local councils.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk and Cllr Dredge be delegated to agree the appropriate amendments to the document to reflect the concerns of this Council and submit it to DCLG and NALC when completed.

16/050 **COUNCILLOR SURGERIES:** Consideration was given to a report from Cllr Spencer (copy previously circulated).

Cllr Spencer expanded on the information provided in the report and a discussion took place.

Cllr Whiting suggested that Ivybridge residents were unaware that there were Public Participation sessions at Council meetings which they could attend and that if a more central location was agreed that the Co-Op in Glanvilles Mill would be happy for Councillors to hold surgeries outside the premises as required.

Cllr Parsons advised that there is a Notice Board outside the Town Hall which provides details on all the Council meetings and the Town Clerk stated that all information is on the Council's website.

Cllr Wilson suggested that prior to a Council meeting there would be nothing wrong in a small area being made available for any members of the public wishing to speak with Councillors to come along. He highlighted that most Cllrs are usually in attendance and it would offer the opportunity to raise any matters at the Council meeting that follows if necessary.

Cllr Parsons enquired whether the surgeries for our MP, Gary Streeter were well attended. The Town Clerk advised that people did attend from around his constituency, but that residents do come along to Committee meetings, for example, Manor School children recently attended the Parks Committee Public Participation session. Cllr Wilson mentioned a key point that was raised by them that a sign in St John's play park which is owned by South Hams District Council states no ball games, however, there are basketball

hoops in the Park. As Cllr Pringle was in attendance at the meeting it was drawn to her attention.

Cllr Dredge reminded Cllrs that some ago that there was a disappointing response when some of them were in Glanvilles Mill.

Cllr Fourte proposed what is written in the report provided by Cllr Spencer be approved.

It was **RESOLVED** to cease the surgeries that take place on the first and third Saturday of each month with immediate effect and to meet with the public, potentially as part of wider community events.

16/051 **BELMONT ROAD IVYBRIDGE:** Consideration was given to the email and plan of the link between Bowdens Park and Belmont Road (information previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the information.

16/052 **CITIZENS OF THE YEAR:** Consideration was given to a report for the Citizens of the Years Awards 2016 (draft previously circulated). Members hoped that there would be a good response from the community in terms of nominations for the awards.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Awards criteria and launch the Awards for 2016.

16/053 **SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL EVENTS POLICY CONSULTATION:** Consideration was given to the consultation documents outlining the proposals for the events policy (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the consultation documents.

16/054 **NOTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** Consideration was given to the notes of the Annual Town Meeting (copy previously circulated but omitting Appendix A).

It was **RESOLVED** to receive the notes.

16/055 **UPDATE AND INFORMATION:** A report outlining events and other information was received (copy previously circulated).

Cllr Dredge and the Town Clerk expanded on the information provided for the Devon Strategic Partnership event. The keynote speech was from senior officers of the Police and Fire Services where there was increasing collaboration with shared buildings and

staff. It had been suggested that eventually the Police and Crime Commissioner role could potentially include the Fire Service. In terms of Ivybridge, the Town Clerk suggested that it would make sense to have the Police and Fire Service co-located.

Cllr Dredge provided further information on the Peninsula Rail Taskforce and that there was a timetable to submit a business case; however it had ground to a halt as there had not been enough information from the businesses.

Cllr Wilson congratulated Mrs Thatcher for her response on milestones and boundary markers. The Town Clerk provided information on the boundary stone near Erme Playing Fields and that Mrs Thatcher has reached agreement to have the stone lifted out of the river and that a meeting with South Hams District Council would discuss it being reinstated back on the bank.

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the remainder of the report.

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be invited to withdraw.

*Cllr Pringle, 1 Member of the Public and 1 Member of the Press left the meeting.

16/056 **ERME COURT SERVICE CHARGES:** Consideration was given to an update from the Town Clerk in respect of the Erme Court arrangements (report previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council seeks to negotiate to achieve a settlement of the claimed liability for service charges at Erme Court, subject to any legal advice on the terms of any settlement.

16/057 **FILHAM PARK ACCESS:** Consideration was given to the letter and comments from Foot Anstey solicitors (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to support the approach outlined by the solicitors ensuring that the ability to challenge the order is still retained.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed Date 8 August 2016

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the discussions during the adjournment of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 27 June 2016

PC Charlotte Mathers provided information on the month of June 2016 as follows:

Total offences	2016	20
	2015	29

Arrests	3
Offenders dealt with by other means	2
Offences still under investigation	10

Assaults

2 x offences (1 x ABH, 1 x Sexual Assault)

- 1 x ABH, Male offender got involved in ongoing domestic incident
- 1 x Sexual assault, domestic related, under investigation

Burglary Dwelling

1 x Burglary under investigation believed domestic related

Burglary other

1 x Stowford Mill, under investigation

1 x Private residence, under investigation, possible young offenders.

Other

3 x Theft from motor vehicle adds to local series where mainly insecure vehicles are being targeted, still under investigation.

July 2016 Roads Policing Thematic

Vulnerable road users – Motorcycles, pedestrians and cyclists

Unfortunately I am unable to supply statistics for previous monthly themes as data is now entered on new mobile data devices and require training on how to download stats.

**PC Mathers left the meeting at 7.02pm.*

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Pringle

Leisure Procurement Update - an update on this matter would be available at the next Council meeting.

LACC – There is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow, followed by a further meeting and an update would be available at the next Council meeting.

Planning Server – Cllr Rutley enquired about the Planning Server at SHDC and if it has improved. Cllr Pringle advised that SHDC had started improvements, however Cllr Whiting advised that it is still not good.

GENERAL

Mr Vincent, Western Road required an update on Western Road, following the public meeting that had taken place, and in particular in relation to the pavements.

The Town Clerk advised Mr Vincent that there is an issue with the old Fire Station and that cheaper options for its demolition were being sought. She reported that Devon Highways do not support work to Western Road and that there is no clear view coming forward from the community.

Mr Vincent stated that at the Public meeting that residents were advised that funding was available and that the Mayor had advised that the work would happen. The Town Clerk clarified that only funding for a limited scheme was available, dependent on 106 funding from the housing developments for the town.

Mr Vincent advised that this information was not helpful and that it is not acceptable to inform residents that funding was available. The Town Mayor confirmed that the meeting that took place was to seek residents' opinions on the matter. Mr Vincent advised that there are notes available from the meeting and the Town Mayor asked that a copy be forwarded to him.

Mr Vincent left the meeting at 7.08pm.

Cllr Wilson reminded Members that at 10pm on Friday 1 July 2016, there would be an Act of Remembrance and Candlelight Service at Harry's Patch to commemorate the 100th Year Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. All are welcome.

The public participation session closed at 7.09pm.