

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Ivybridge held in The Watermark, Ivybridge on Monday 5 December 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr D Gray-Taylor (Town Mayor) Cllr A Laity
 Cllr T Bowden Cllr T Parsons
 Cllr P Dredge Cllr S Prowse
 Cllr S Fourte Cllr S Rutley
 Cllr S Hladkij Cllr E Silsbury
 Cllr M Kennard Cllr A Spencer
 Cllr A Khong Cllr H Whiting

In Attendance: Cllr R Croad (County Councillor)
 Cllr D May (District Councillor)
 10 Members of the Public
 1 Member of the Press
 Mrs L Hughes (Town Clerk)
 Mrs S Hocking (Minute Secretary)

The Town Mayor welcomed the Community Award winners, namely 'The Bridge Project', 'The Ivybridge U3A', and Mr Ziggy Grewal to the Council meeting and presented them with their prizes. It was noted that the other winner, Mr Paul Jones would be given his Award at the January Council meeting. Congratulations were given to them all. A response was provided by them all.

**2 Members of the Public left at 7:09pm.*

An adjournment followed from 7.09pm to 7.21pm to allow any questions, reports or representations by the Public, the Community Police Officer, District and County Councillors.

16/115 **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Baggott and Wilson.

16/116 **INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members were invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests.

Cllr Silsbury declared an interest in item 16/129 in her role as Chairman of the Library Friends group.

16/117 **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Town Council held on 31 October 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.

Cllr Dredge referred to item 16/112 regarding the Devon Pension Scheme and clarified information relating to the money being put into the fund by Peninsula Pensions, which involved ten local authorities getting together to create the Brunel Scheme.

16/118 **PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2016 and 14 November 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.

16/119 **POLICY AND RESOURCES:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2016 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.

16/120 **PARKS AND OPEN SPACES:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2016 (previously circulated via email) were received and adopted.

16/121 **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:**
The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor during the last six weeks were noted and received.

The Town Mayor recorded a personal thanks to all those involved in the Christmas Festival held on 25 and 26 November 2016.

16/122 **SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL – JOINT LOCAL PLAN TO 2034:** Consideration was given to the additional consultation documentation and the deletion of the land for housing in the Woodlands area (extracts previously circulated). It was noted that the submission made previously by this Council could be updated in respect of potential development, but also ensuring that inaccuracies, like those in the Village assessments about facilities are corrected (additional background information previously circulated).

The Town Clerk expanded on the information provided and reported that there are three main points to the consultation documentation.

She advised that it is welcome news that the land allocated for housing in the Woodlands area north of the Persimmon site has been removed from the plan.

Comments made in the original submission need to be reiterated regarding land to the south of the A38 as it is now wholly owned by landowners who are supporting development. The Town Clerk advised there are procedures in place for building and developing near to pylons.

She then went on to confirm that there is a specific requirement to include land if the town is to meet key settlement criteria which will offer locations for sustainable development which were clarified in the recent consultation document. Discussions are taking place with the planning team to reiterate comments provided by Lee Bray for this Council to accord with the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan.

The Town Clerk then referred to the Village assessments and some of the inaccuracies about facilities in those Parishes, for example Ugborough has the railway station within its Parish and Ermington Parish has the provision of the large Tesco retail store (at Lee Mill) – these were anomalies created by the large Parish boundaries that had to be reflected in documents so that when development was proposed it was based on full and accurate information. Flagging up these issues to focus on the accurate assessments as required by the Joint Local plan team was important.

It was **RESOLVED** to respond to the documents in accordance with the comments as outlined above.

16/123

GOVERNANCE REVIEW OF IVYBRIDGE BOUNDARIES:

Following the meeting of the Town Council on 31 October legal advice had been sought in respect of Judicial Review (information previously circulated to Councillors by email) and it was acknowledged that regrettably even were this Council to win the case by proving an unreasonable decision by South Hams District, the process requires that the decision is returned to them for review. It would seem that there is no doubt that South Hams would reach the same decision again. However Members were made aware of the information regarding the new Barratts housing development and the boundary for Ivybridge which runs through the middle of some houses (copy previously circulated).

The Town Clerk highlighted the illogicality of the boundary for the Barratts development as two parts of the housing estate were within the Ivybridge boundary.

It was **RESOLVED** to note with regret, the information provided.

16/124

BUTTERPARK: Consideration was given to supporting the progress being made in respect of the Butterpark project (notes of meeting and letter of support previously circulated) but as meetings are still scheduled with Devon County Council in December, it was intended that the final proposal would be ratified for submission by Policy and Resources Committee on 19 December 2016.

The Town Clerk expanded on the information provided and reported that she will be attending a meeting with Social Services, representatives of the DOVE Project and Brook Housing to establish an understanding of the local ambitions could fit the criteria of DCC.

Cllr Parsons stated that this project is really good news for vulnerable people in our society and thanks were given to Cllr Croad for his input. Cllr Fourte supported Cllr Parsons comments and highlighted that it showed partnership working for the good of the town which makes a big difference.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the progress being made and to welcome the information provided.

16/125

HIGHWAYS GRASS CUTTING 2017/18: Consideration was given to the letter from Devon County Council regarding the urban grasscutting (copy previously circulated).

The Town Clerk reported that this Council supplements the costs of highway verge cutting and suggested that with Devon County Council only funding the cost of cutting visibility splays only, the town would look grim without the input from this Council.

Provision has been made in the Council budget for 2017/18 to continue to supplement the highway verge cutting.

It was **RESOLVED** to continue with the additional highway verge cutting for 2017/18 and note the contribution towards the costs from Devon County Council.

16/126

DCC WASTE REVIEW AND BUDGET CONSULTATION: Consideration was given to the community composting and recycling centres consultation from Devon County Council (information previously circulated, with a response already sent by Cllr Wilson). Members were also made aware of the online budget consultation which is open until 6 January 2017 (extracts from questionnaire also previously circulated).

Cllr Rutley enquired if individual responses were required and the Town Clerk advised that it would be difficult to provide a corporate response. However Cllr Wilson's response could be forwarded on behalf of the Council, alternatively, individual responses to the document were suggested.

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

- 16/127 **IVYBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:** Consideration was given to the submission of the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan to South Hams District Council and the feedback received.

The Town Clerk reported that an apology has been received from South Hams District Council for the delay in the submission to the next process, however congratulations due to all involved. She commended the work that the Chairman, Steve Hitch and particularly our consultant, Lee Bray, had done to enable this submission to be put together.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the submission.

- 16/128 **TAPS FUNDING:** Consideration was given to the TAPS fund application, the principle of which had been previously noted by Policy and Resources. The application from Ivybridge for 2017/18 was therefore in respect of the social prescribing role (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to support the TAPS fund application from Ivybridge as proposed.

- 16/129 **IVYBRIDGE LIBRARY:** Members considered confirmation from the Solicitors of the provisions of the underlease of The Watermark Library from Devon County Council to Libraries Unlimited SW. (Summary of documentation circulated previously to Town Councillors only).

The Town Clerk highlighted the advice from the Solicitors that they are content that the key clauses in the headlease are incorporated in the underlease.

Cllr Parsons proposed that the Council recommended that the Council proceed with the Lease on the terms outlined.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the advice from the Solicitors and to proceed with the Lease.

**Cllr Silsbury declared an interest in this item- see 16/116.*

16/130

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL:

- i) **EVENTS POLICY CONSULTATION:** Consideration was given to the consultation update from South Hams District Council (copy previously circulated).

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

- ii) **REMINDER ABOUT REGISTERS OF INTEREST:** Consideration was given to the email from the Monitoring Officer. All Councillors have completed their Registers of Interests, but the amendment form where any interests have changed for Councillors or spouse/partner (copy previously circulated).

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

16/131

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

Cllr Hladkij confirmed that she had met with the Citizens Advice area co-ordinator, Tina Barratt, and has found the meeting useful.

Cllr Gray Taylor advised that having attended the Community Resilience Forum he had checked all the grit bins and taken details to highways, but thanked Cllr Spencer for his photographs of the various bins.

Cllr Gray Taylor and Cllr Hladkij had attended the Devon County Council highways event and Cllr Hladkij indicated that she would be able to give a full update at the next Council meeting.

Cllr Silsbury referred to the success of the Christmas festivities and that most of the shops in the town had stayed open for the Friday evening.

Cllr Kennard had attended the PL21 AGM and confirmed that the committee was re-elected and that projects were ongoing. The meeting had run through all that had been achieved over the year, including collaborations with others.

Cllr Dredge had attended the Town and Parish Councils event on 30th November and his notes had been circulated by email. At the meeting Jackie Hodgson had spoken on the Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement project which had used TAPS fund money and

she was willing to talk to those who might wish to learn from their experiences.

In respect of future events it was noted that Ann Laity would attend the TAPS fund meeting on 19th January and that the Fusion Lifestyle presentation to full Council in February would be promoted in the Ivybridge Magazine to encourage attendance by members of the public.

It was **RESOLVED** that the information in the report and supplemented by verbal updates be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm.

Signed Date 16 January 2017

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the discussions during the adjournment of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 5 December 2016

In the absence of Police Officers who had given their apologies, the Town Clerk read out information on the month of October 2016 as follows:

Total offences	2016	20
	2015	29

Arrests	2
Offenders dealt with by other means	2
Offences still under investigation	3
Known offender still to be arrested	1

Assaults

2 x ABH, one suspect arrested and on bail. 2 children under the age of criminal responsibility.

Burglary Dwelling

1 x No evidence offered.

Burglary Other

1 x Non dwelling (toy scooter from school shed) – No evidence.
1 x Theft in dwelling – No evidence.

Other

6 x Theft from motor vehicles (insecure vehicles) – Under investigation.
2 x Malicious communications – 1 No evidence and 1 under investigation.
3 x Criminal damage – 1 No evidence, 1 not supported by victim and 1 Restorative Justice.
3 x Shoplifting – 1 male arrested for 2 offences and charged, 2 youths Restorative Justice for 1 of the offences and no evidence offered on the other.

Police Staff

Current vehicle crime series in IVYBRIDGE, insecure vehicles being targeted on roads and driveways across the whole town. Any loose items and money being taken. Urge residents to ensure that vehicles are locked at all times. Measures are being undertaken to try and locate a suspect for these offences.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Croad

Cllr Croad had nothing to report.

Cllr Rutley congratulated Cllr Croad for the work undertaken on the new Recycling Centre. He advised that it would be officially opened during March 2017 and that the Contract to re-let all the Recycling Centres across Devons was imminent.

Cllr Parsons sought clarity on the situation in Devon on the 'bed blocking' occurring due to cut backs in Social Services and that some Councils were reported as having funding in Reserves which could be used to address this problem. Cllr Croad reported that Devon County Council has three days of funding in Reserves, however was conscious that some County and Metropolitan Borough Council were holding a great deal in Reserves. In terms of Social Care costs were increasing. There is a £610 million Revenue spend and £244 million has come out of that to keep the County going.

Cllr Dredge asked Cllr Croad's opinion on the devolution issue surrounding BREXIT and if he agreed. Cllr Croad explained that under the previous Prime Minister there had been a view that a Mayor would not be required and this had enabled the bid to keep 17 Local Authorities in South West England working together. However the new Secretary of State seemed to view a Mayor for the South West as being a requirement, which in his view was unworkable, and it appeared that devolution was slipping down the priorities.

Councillor May

Cllr May provided information on the meetings he was involved in at South Hams District Council and the average weekday email and phone calls he had to deal with.

Councillors Pringle, Cuthbert and Saltern had given their apologies.

The public participation session ended at 7:21pm.