IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Ivybridge held in The Library, The Watermark, Ivybridge on Monday 17 September 2018 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr A Khong (Town Mayor) Cllr T Parsons

Cllr T Bowden

Cllr A Rea

Cllr M Cade

Cllr S Rutley

Cllr P Dredge

Cllr E Silsbury

Cllr S Hladkij

Cllr A Spencer

Cllr M Kennard

Cllr H Whiting

Cllr A Laity

In Attendance: Cllr R Croad (County Councillor)

Cllr M Saltern (District Councillor)

Ms H Clark and Mr D Black (Highways Team, Devon County

Council)

PC M Perry (Police Representative)

Ms D Holloway (Pillar Land) arrived at 7.28pm

4 Members of the Public 2 Member of the Press Mrs L Hughes (Town Clerk) Mrs L Lane (Minute Secretary) Mrs J Gilbert (Assistant Town Clerk)

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Ms H Clark and Mr D Black from the Highways Team at Devon County Council.

An adjournment followed from 7.00pm to 8.06pm to allow any questions, reports or representations by the Public and County Councillor.

18/057 **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Jago, Pringle and Wilson.

18/058 **INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members were invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests. There were no interests declared.

^{*}Mr Black, Ms Clark, Mrs J Gilbert and 1 member of the public left the meeting at 7.40pm.

^{*}Police Representative left the meeting at 7.46pm

^{*} Ms Holloway left the meeting at 9.02pm

- 18/059 **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Town Council held on 6 August 2018 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 18/060 **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2018 (previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 18/061 **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:** The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor for the period to 1 September 2018 (previously circulated) were noted.
- COMMITTEES: Consideration was given to the information regarding the Emergencies Committee (previously circulated). Cllr Bowden explained that the Emergencies Committee has been dormant since 2011. A team has been built for the committee comprising of Cllrs Bowden, Hladkij, Laity and Rae. The Assistant Town Clerk and Assistant Parks Ranger will also attend meetings. The aims of this committee are to look at the position of grit bins, to ensure that they are filled as well as to review the emergency plan which covers where would people be evacuated to. Perhaps not being a hands on committee but one to signpost with numbers and contacts.

It was **RESOLVED** to note this information and to support the development of this committee.

18/063 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW: The report and background information (previously circulated) was considered. The Town Clerk referred to the earlier comments from Cllr Saltern. Gary Streeter is going to facilitate the meeting with the aim of hosting this in October. Tom Jones from South Hams District Council will be in attendance along with Cllrs Dredge and Laity. It was suggested that Cllr Silsbury could also attend.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information and support the attendance at this meeting.

PROPOSED MERGER OF DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE WITH DORSET POLICE: The information (previously circulated) was considered. The Town Clerk suggested that Members needed to decide whether to put in their views individually or as a Council. Cllr Parsons proposed that the Council should support this and this was seconded by Cllr Laity. Cllr Rea wished to propose that the Council do not support this as he believes it is due to austerity and the Town Clerk advised that as the motion of support had been put

then if that failed it meant that the Town Council did not agree with the merger.

Cllr Dredge commented that he has already given his views to support.

Cllr Cade queried where all the money for extra officers is to come from, and commented that the issues in the Scilly Isles would be very different to those faced in Bournemouth.

Cllr Rea asked for a recorded vote. This was seconded by Cllr Rutley.

It was **RESOLVED** to put this to a recorded vote as follows:

In favour – Cllrs Laity, Parsons, Dredge Against – Cllrs Rea, Cade, Bowden, Kennard, Whiting, Hladkij Abstain – Cllrs Khong, Rutley, Spencer, Silsbury.

18/065 **GAMBLING ACT 2005 – CONSULTATION BY SOUTH HAMS DC:**

Cllr Dredge explained that his report (previously circulated) summarises the original 55 page document. It looks at supporting children and vulnerable adults, and there is nothing in the report that he disagrees with, therefore he recommended that the Council supports this.

It was **RESOLVED** to commend the policy to South Hams District Council.

18/066 **CHILDRENS SERVICES:** The notes of the meeting on 6 August and supporting information (previously circulated) were received and noted.

Cllr Hladkij commented that the Childrens Centre have not provided a programme for this term and no one has turned up to hold Stay and Play at the Methodist Church although the booking hasn't been cancelled. The feeling from young mums is that they are very upset by the lack of facilities. The Childrens Centre are going to provide baby massage classes and other antenatal classes but these will be at a cost. She is very concerned as to how lvybridge appears to have been cut off from these services.

Cllr Rutley commented that this is really short sighted and is storing up trouble for the future.

The Town Clerk commented that the way that services are being cut is very haphazard. She happened to hear that the Childrens Centre were looking for a room to use for baby massage, followed it up and they are likely to use the Committee Room at the Town Hall on a Monday.

Cllr Hladkij commented that she has not had any contact from the Childrens Centre so will email them to follow up.

It was **RESOLVED** note this information.

18/067 **UPDATE AND INFORMATION**: A report outlining events and other information was received (copy previously circulated).

Councillor Updates

Cllr Rea provided an update following the meeting with Kev Henman from Space. Space are a not for profit organisation involved in Devon County Council Youth Services. The number of youth centre premises has reduced from 35 to 9. The decommissioning of sites seems to be haphazard rather than looking at the need. Some towns, such as Totnes, still have a reasonable provision, Space provide services 3 evenings a week, and another provider covers a fourth evening. Dartmouth Town Council provide some services for Dartmouth. Ivybridge has poor youth services provision compared to other towns, is there anything further that Ivybridge Town Council could do to help?

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council have been working with Young Devon, giving them with £8,000 per year to provide youth counselling services. Also looking at redirecting funding from the youth nights at the Leisure Centre to the Bridge Project. The town is very fortunate to have the Methodist Church and Salvation Army.

Cllr Cade queried what the provision is to support young carers.

Cllr Hladkij explained that Young Devon had been running a young carers group which stopped in March when the contract was taken away from them. They used to meet once a month at the Methodist Church. Going forward it is likely that the new provider is going to resurrect these meetings, and they will once again take place at the Methodist Church on a monthly basis.

Forthcoming Training / conferences

Cllr Rea is no longer able to attend the Travelwatch SW meeting on 6 October. It was agreed that Cllr Dredge will attend on his own.

General Information

Cllr Dredge explained that the document (summary previously circulated) was asking for intermediate stops to be removed on London trains. GWR do not currently intend to do this. Also

mentioned was the gate at lyybridge which can cause issues for wheelchair users.

The letter regarding Remembrance Sunday was noted. Cllr Croad advised that the crowd funding page for the big screen will be live shortly and would be very grateful if people could make a donation. The Town Clerk mentioned that a poppy will be projected onto the side of the Watermark from 4pm on Armistice Day.

Cllr Parsons thanked South Hams District Council for providing free parking on the day.

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

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

*Cllr Croad, Cllr Saltern, 2 Members of the Press and 3 Members of the Public left the meeting at 8.43pm.

IN COMMITTEE

18/068

BUTTERPARK: Following on from the resolution of 6th August where the Town Council rejected the alternations proposed by the developer to the legal documents, it was agreed that further discussions be held to ascertain if the original concept could be agreed in accordance with the original bid, or if not then other options would be explored. In the period since then the developers had met with Vickery Holman to revise the plans, financial structure and type of units offered with the aim of trying to work towards the delivery of this site which had been approved at the Council meeting on 23rd April 2018.

Debbie Holloway on behalf of Pillar Land, attended to answer questions in respect of the revised plans and costings which were circulated around the table at the meeting, along with advice from Vickery Holman. Members expressed their concern to Ms Holloway about the loss of Rentplus units on the site but more particularly the change of focus to the over 55s accommodation, rather than the mixed family, young and older peoples accommodation which was considered more appropriate to integrate with the units for people with Learning Disabilities.

At the conclusion of the questions Ms Holloway left the meeting at 9.02pm.

The Town Clerk referred to her report (previously circulated) and to the telephone conversation with Foot Anstey, as well as extracts from advice received that evening from them. The major concern was that the development proposed was materially different in its makeup, scale and costings from that originally agreed in April, when part of the resolution had been to "finalise the legal documents with a view to the development of the site in accordance with the final tender". However, Pillar continues to seek to significantly amend its proposals compared with its final tender that the Town Council resolved to accept (subject to receiving satisfactory clarification on certain points) on 23 April 2018. In light of this, it now appeared impossible to finalise the legal documents in accordance with the final tender and it then created a situation where returning to the market to consider an older persons development alongside other bidders would be inevitable particularly in view of the financial implications, if the Council were minded to take that route.

Members believed in the original concept, which had been the basis for delivering this project for the town for over two years, and were not prepared to change the whole emphasis. The Town Council was unlikely to have land available for this type of initiative again and it was imperative that it acted as a good neighbour to residents and achieved best value. Councillors even raised the prospect of the Town Council taking the lead on developing the whole site rather than compromise its principles.

It was **RESOLVED** to

- (i) reject the revised plans as submitted to Councillors on 17th September, as the two options significantly departed from the scheme submitted by Pillar in its final tender and approved by the Town Council resolution of 23rd April
- (ii) with regret, liaise with Foot Anstey, to advise Pillar Land Securities Ltd that, as it is no longer offering to undertake the scheme approved on 23rd April following a comprehensive tendering process, the Town Council is terminating the process with Pillar
- (iii) explore options for seeking a new partner or to develop the site itself.

The meeting closed at 9:25pm.	

Signed	Date	29th October 2018

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the discussions during the adjournment of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 17 September 2018

<u>DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS PRESENTATION by MS HANNAH</u> CLARK AND MR DAVE BLACK

Ms Clark explained that their presentation follows on from the meeting at Stowford Mill with regard to the transport report and car park surveys. This involved carrying out roadside interviews at 2 locations, asking people where they were coming from, where they were going and the reason for their journey, counting the number of cars using junctions at 7 locations around lyybridge and carrying out car park surveys. The data was then used to build a traffic model which was then used to look at different possibilities:

Southern Link Road

There are a number of constraints:

- Would only provide limited relief to key town centre roads
- Impact on Flood Zone 3
- Environmental impact
- No development south of the A38 currently in the Joint Local Plan
- Would require third party land acquisition.

Western Road Roundabout

- The traffic model shows that delays only happen at peak times
- With the new developments there will still be just enough capacity even at peak times.

Western Road

- On street parking provides a pinch point. When HGVs or buses need to get through it causes queues and delays
- Aim to reduce parking and reallocate using the verge at Wayside, several options for this
 - Provide 22 spaces, the same as are on the road and use the Old Fire Station as a pedestrian enhancement
 - Provide 22 spaces, the same as are on the road but use Old Fire Station footprint to provide some of this parking therefore retaining some of the verge
 - Remove only the worst parking on Western Road, replacing it with 10 spaces including the Old Fire Station footprint.

The next steps with the road are as follows:

- Go to public consultation with the above 3 options
- Finalise the plan

- Secure the funding
- Build the car park.

Ermington Road

 Looking at a plan to provide a left hand filter lane. The land here is owned by Highways England.

The Town Clerk queried whether there are any other options for car parking and what the plans are to enhance the footpaths.

Ms Clark advised that pavements would be widened as part of this scheme.

Cllr Bowden asked whether there would be enough space for the parking on Wayside, bearing in mind that it is a narrow road with onstreet parking. He also queried how the junction at Wayside would cope as there is only space for 1 car at the lights.

Ms Clark explained that the existing parking had been taken into account and would remain.

Mr Black said that there would only be a couple more cars per hour using the junction at Wayside.

Cllr Bowden commented that there would be a lot more cars at school drop off and pick up times. He then queried whether the pavement will be wide enough for wheelchairs as for example people from Dame Hannah's use the path and the parked cars provide some protection from the road.

Ms Clark said that they would be looking at addressing the narrow pavements.

Cllr Rutley queried what time the surveys were done, and when the last time the flood plain actually flooded.

Ms Clark advised the surveys were done between 7am and 7pm during term time.

Cllr Croad said that the flood plain flooded last winter.

Cllr Hladkij asked whether the pavement on the south side of the road would also be widened, and queried what the 'pedestrian enhancement' mentioned above is. Ms Clark explained that pedestrian enhancement meant some kind of pedestrian access.

Cllr Hladkij commented that the survey was carried out in 2017, there has since been a lot of development around Cornwood Road and there is already a greater buildup of traffic in the area.

Cllr Rutley asked how many parking permits have been issued for Western Road.

Ms Clark advised that as it is done by zones it is hard to tell.

Mr Black explained that permitting would need to be sorted out as part of the development.

Cllr Croad advised that there are about 98 parking spaces and 120 permits have been issued. If 10 spaces were removed from the road and 22 spaces created on Wayside, this would help.

Cllr Dredge carried out a survey on the A38 slip road many years ago. Following this they requested better signage and road markings to try to prevent people using the incorrect lane.

Mr Black asked for a copy of the information from the survey and explained that road markings would be a Highways England issue.

Cllr Laity asked whether there is another solution should the public reject the plan for parking at Wayside.

Mr Black advised that there is not at the moment.

Cllr Laity asked whether they would still go ahead with the plan should the public reject it.

Mr Black explained that they would have to look at all the information from the public consultation and make a decision based on that.

Cllr Cade queried whether the air quality would improve significantly if these plans when ahead.

Ms Clark said that the survey carried out by South Hams District Council suggests so.

Mr Black commented that air quality problems are also reducing due to cars becoming cleaner.

Cllr Rutley commented that with regard to the A38 roundabout, due to an intended waste plant at Challonsleigh Farm there are plans to send HGV lorries up to Ivybridge to turn around instead of allowing them to use the Lee Mill junction. This is likely to be an extra 10-12 HGV lorries per hour. Has this been considered at all?

Mr Black advised that this is application has not been approved yet. The Town Clerk pointed out that Highways have recommended to pass the application based on this rather than the traffic going through Lee Mill!

Cllr Parsons commented that if parked cars are removed from Western Road, the speed limit should be reduced to 20mph otherwise people will drive far too quickly. He also asked Highways to bear in mind that there have been accidents due to hold ups at the A38 roundabout causing traffic to queue on the A38 itself. Ms Clark advised that they would be looking for comments such as those about the speed limit to come forward at the public consultation.

Cllr Kennard asked what time of day the traffic flow shown by the model is supposed to be as he has never seen it move so well.

Ms Clark explained that it is only a 45 second snapshot.

Cllr Kennard commented that it is very misleading.

Cllr Saltern said that the car parking information is completely at odds with what we see on a regular basis, does not tie up with the number of spaces we see as being available. With regard to Wayside, he would be glad to see the back of the Old Fire Station. He would definitely support widening of the pavements along Western Road. The original plans for the road south of the A38 did not take it through the flood plain so this is a bit confusing. The lack of development south of the A38 is partly due to there being no road there – with the amount of development going ahead this could have been looked at. There are willing landowners who are pressing for development in this area. It is likely to form part of the review of the Joint Local Plan in approximately 5 years.

Cllr Khong asked when the public consultation for Western Road will be. Ms Clark advised that it will be in the spring.

Cllr Rea commented that the bus stopping along Western Road creates a backlog. The bus often waits here for a long time because it is a busy stop. There are 3 stops between Marjorie Kelly Way and the end of Western Road. Mr Black advised that there have been discussions regarding this but moving bus stops can be contentious and do not want to discourage people from using the bus.

Cllr Hladkij commented that the bus stop at Bowdens Park serves all the western end of Ivybridge so removing it really cannot be an option.

The Town Clerk agreed that we want to encourage people to use the bus. Concerns about people crossing the roads at the A38 roundabout. With 1,000 new homes and additional traffic coming into the town she was sceptical that the roundabout will cope with this and it is not really fit for purpose.

POLICE REPORT

PC Perry provided the crime statistics for the months of July and August 2018

IVYBRIDGE CRIME FIGURES JULY 2018

Total Offences 2017 - 44 2018 - 34

Assaults

4 x ABH - 1 under investigation, 2 not supported and 1 summonsed 6 x Common assault - 4 not supported, 1 not in public interest and 1 suspect below age of criminal responsibility

Burglary Dwelling/Other

1 x Theft in the dwelling - under investigation

Other

1 x Stalking - Insufficient evidence

- 2 x Harassment 1 not supported and 1 under investigation
- 1 x Malicious communications not in public interest to proceed
- 2 x Theft by finding 2 insufficient evidence
- 4 x Sexual offence 1 insufficient evidence, 1 not supported and 2 under investigation
- 1 x Drug driving arrested
- 5 x Criminal damage insufficient evidence
- 2 x Public order under investigation
- 1 x Possession of cannabis community resolution
- 1 x Arson insufficient evidence
- 1 x Racially aggravated public order under investigation
- 1 x Kill a wild bird words of advice/warning
- 1 x Blackmail insufficient evidence

IVYBRIDGE CRIME FIGURES AUGUST 2018

Total Offences 2017 - 35

2018 - 31

<u>Assaults</u>

- 1 x ABH arrested and charged
- 3 x Common assault 2 insufficient evidence and 1 under investigation

Burglary Dwelling/Other

- 1 x Burglary non dwelling insufficient evidence
- 1 x Attempted Burglary non dwelling insufficient evidence

Other

- 1 x Stalking under investigation
- 1 x Harassment arrested and charged
- 2 x Malicious communications 1 under investigation and 1 not supported
- 1 x Sexual offence not supported
- 1 x Drink driving arrested and charged
- 1 x Drive whilst disqualified charged
- 8 x Criminal damage 2 insufficient evidence and 6 under investigation
- 4 x Public order 1 under investigation, 1 arrested and 2 insufficient evidence
- 1 x Possession of Class A drug charged
- 1 x Taking a vehicle without the owner's consent not supported
- 1 x Theft of motor vehicle arrested and charged
- 1 x Shoplifting insufficient evidence
- 1 x Theft from a motor vehicle under investigation
- 1 x Affray arrested and charged

Cllr Parsons commented that Ivybridge is still one of the safest places to live and wanted to thank the Police for their hard work.

PC Perry explained that for a number of the above, where there is insufficient evidence it is because people do not want to go pursue for a variety of reasons, or it is something that has been found out some time later and it isn't worth taking it forward.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

COUNCILLOR CROAD

Cllr Croad advised that it has proved impossible to locate the missing kissing gate. A resident of Ivybridge had attended previous meetings of the Council and queried this – unfortunately he was not present at this meeting but Cllr Croad has sent him an email to keep him updated.

Childrens Social Services at Devon County Council is approximately £8.7 million over budget for this year. In 2009 there were 309 looked after children. It has risen to 726 in 2018. It costs on average £47,000 per annum to look after each child, with a cost of £327,000 per annum for the most challenging child who requires 24/7 care from 4 staff.

Cllr Parsons commented that an excellent service is provided to children – it is not overspent, it is underfunded. Which services will be cut to support this? Cllr Croad replied that all of them would be. Some other services are underspent and there are contingency plans for children. 55 children have come onto the looked after list in the last 6 months.

Cllr Rea queried whether Central Government is being lobbied for more funding.

Cllr Croad explained that they are constantly lobbying.

Cllr Bowden gueried whether the number of children in care is correct.

Cllr Croad advised it is as far as he is aware.

Cllr Hladkij commented that the lack of early years, childrens centre and youth provision is having a knock on effect.

With regard to the police merger, the panel will make a choice whether to support the merger on 5th October. Cornwall and Plymouth have indicated that they are unlikely to support. Devon County Council will support if the figures add up. Cllr Rutley commented that other mergers have happened in more compact areas. This is to cover a geographically much larger area.

Cllr Rea queried that if austerity is not the prime reason for the merger, then what is? Cllr Croad did not have any information on this.

COUNCILLOR SALTERN

Cllr Saltern advised that the medium term financial strategy for South Hams District Council is predicting a £600,000 deficit to close next year, and a £1.5million deficit to close the following year. They are lobbying central

government for extra funding. They are exploring the potential of investing in economic developments, would need to borrow to invest – if they do invest, it would be in this district.

Cllr Rea thanked Cllr Saltern for lobbying central government and asked whether it was proving to be effective.

Cllr Saltern explained that we would find out when the funding review takes place.

A number of meetings are lined up with regard to S106 funding. Meeting with Ivybridge town Council on 12 October. There is inequality in relation to community governance, the answer to this lies in developing a good relationship with Ugborough, conceding to some of their requests. Cllr Parsons thanked Cllr Saltern for his work regarding the boundary.

Apologies were received from District Cllrs May, Cuthbert and Pringle.

GENERAL

There were no queries from members of the public.

The public participation session closed at 8.06pm.