

- 19/080 **PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019 (copies previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 19/081 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 (copy previously circulated) were received and it was noted that one member was listed as being present was not, therefore the minutes are to be amended to reflect this.
- 19/082 **WATERMARK COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019 (copy previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 19/083 **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2019 (copy previously circulated) were received and adopted.
- 19/084 **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:** The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor for the period 11 September 2019 to 22 October 2019 (previously circulated) were noted.
- 19/085 **IVYBRIDGE CLIMATE DECLARATION:** The Mayor provided a verbal update. She has met with the Business Manager. New heating controls are being installed at The Watermark which will minimise energy use, and the energy supplier has been contacted regarding a green tariff, although this will not be available until 2020. Cllr A Rea queried whether Council could discuss ideas as he feels excluded.
The Mayor advised that a sub-committee was set up and councillors are welcome to feed into this and put their ideas forward. Ideas are currently held on a spreadsheet which can be circulated.
The Town Clerk commented that a conference / event is in the pipeline which councillors can attend if they wish.
Cllr Munro queried whether youngsters in the town are also involved. The Mayor advised that the Community college are involved.
- It was **RESOLVED** to note this information and to circulate the spreadsheet to all councillors.
- 19/086 **STANDARDS REGIME:** The information relating to the standards regime highlighted by the Monitoring Officer and the Communications Officer at a training session (copy previously circulated) was considered.

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

19/087

MEDIA POLICY: The updated policy (copy previously circulated) was considered. Cllr Dredge commented that the policy has been brought up to date to reflect more modern means of communication. Cllr A Rea asked which code section 22 refers to. Cllr Dredge advised that the policy will be updated to refer to this as the 2011 Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity.

Cllr A Rea asked whether section 21 means that personal views cannot be communicated with other councillors. Cllr Dredge advised that it means they should not be communicated outside of the council.

Cllr A Rea advised that he uses facebook to inform residents of how he has voted and why. So if he voted in line with the majority it is fine to do this but if not then he is not allowed? The Town Clerk advised that this is the case. Cllr Lannin commented that this doesn't seem transparent as the minutes do not record who voted each way. Cllr Dredge advised that once a decision has been made by Council, that is the official stance of the Council.

The Mayor asked what the purpose of saying which way someone voted would be and was concerned that it could create an us vs them situation.

Cllr Jago queried what guidance and legislation this is based on. Cllr Dredge advised that it is from guidance issued by the Local Government Association.

Standing orders were suspended to allow Cllrs Croad and Abbot to speak on this matter.

Cllr Abbot commented that votes at the District are recorded to note who voted in favour or against.

Cllr Croad advised he was not aware of there being any rules such as these at Devon County Council but suggested that it would be best to speak to the Monitoring Officer at South Hams District Council for clarification.

It was **RESOLVED** to contact the Monitoring Officer at South Hams District Council for guidance on this issue.

19/088

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT: The technical consultation (copy previously circulated) was considered. Cllr Jago commented that the flexibility offered by this is good however for example at the meeting regarding the proposed Leonards Road car park development, suggestions were made for the Town Council to take over control of the bridges and put the precept up to cover this. He expressed concern that by having this flexibility to increase Council tax then it could be that more top/middle tier responsibilities were pushed down to Town/Parish level and precepts having to be increased to cover these.

The Town Clerk advised that the flexibility gives us the opportunity for projects such as Butterpark. In terms of taking additional responsibilities from the District or County then it is up to Councillors to choose whether to do so and how much this would increase the precept. Not everything the District Council wished the Town Council to do was legally possible.

It was **RESOLVED** to respond to the consultation document in support of the council tax referendum principles for 2020/21.

19/089

BUDGET 2020/21: The report (copy previously circulated) was considered. The Town Clerk advised that the changes in pay are in line with the percentage being adopted by South Hams District Council. The report provides an outline of the things likely to come forward for the budget this year, and for consideration by Councillors when reviewing the budgets for committees.

Cllr A Rea queried what the £1 is. The Town Clerk explained that it is £1 per household per annum.

Cllr L Rea asked if there is any update on the boundary petition with regard to the new developments which will not contribute. The Mayor advised that they must have collected in the region of 100 signatures at the stall at the last Town Centre market. The Town Clerk advised that it is progressing but requires at least 900 signatures. It would then be submitted to South Hams District Council who would decide whether to go ahead with the review.

The Mayor commented that at the last Mayor's and Clerks meeting it was suggested to ask the District Councillors to support and lobby for this.

Cllr Jago queried whether it would be worth knocking on some doors with the petition.

The Mayor suggested putting an article in the Imag.

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

19/090

BUTTERPARK: The plan and progress report (copies previously circulated) were considered. The Town Clerk advised that this is now at the legal stage, and Tom Plant from the Dove Project has assisted by reviewing the plans. Further information will be brought forward to councillors as it becomes available.

The Beer Community Land Trust project has already delivered a housing project and if any councillors are interested then a site visit will be organised. Cllr Lannin advised that she would like to attend.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information and support a visit to Beer CLT.

19/091

HEALTH FACILITIES: The report (copy previously circulated) was considered. The Town Clerk explained that this is continuing with efforts to get a new health facility for the town, and thanked Sir Gary Streeter and Cllr Croad for their continued support. The only way to move this forward is to have a feasibility study carried out looking at various aspects including what other services could be provided in the building, bringing together various services including minor injuries. The Town Council would need to commit a sum of money for this study and the Localism Reserve was set up to support this type of project. Cllr Croad and Livewell Southwest have also indicated that they could contribute. There is an opportunity for 106 funding from the Wain Homes and Hannick developments.

Cllr Silsbury queried whether the Hannick land is still earmarked for health. The Town Clerk confirmed that it is, however there have been discussions with South Hams District Council regarding other uses, and if so this could provide some funding towards health facilities.

Cllr Spencer queried whether this would be another GP surgery. The Town Clerk explained that this would replace Highlands. The building would be owned by South Hams District Council and leased to Beacon Medical.

Cllr A Rea queried whether this could be separated from the Aldi plans, and asked whether the feasibility study would be looking at the use of the Leonards Road car park. The Town Clerk explained that the feasibility study would be looking at the need for and use of the building. It does not need to be sited on the car park. However a lot has changed since the land was allocated at the Park and Ride site, hence the need for the study.

Cllr Cade asked who would provide the funding. The Town Clerk advised that the feasibility study would look at the whole picture including funding.

Cllr Lannin asked whether some of the information would already be available – for example who lives in the area. The Town Clerk explained that the study would look at the type of services, the potential to relieve pressure on Derriford, for example consultancy

services or by providing chemotherapy treatment for local people so they don't have to travel.

Cllr Parsons asked who would carry out the study. The Town Clerk advised that the CCG has suggested an agency.

Cllr Spencer asked whether the CCG need to be convinced of the need. The Town Clerk explained that a strong case needs to be put forward to secure the funding.

Cllr Jago advised that he has an interest in this item, however he had a few points he felt would be useful to the discussion. It is important to note that a lot of organisations are involved so this is a complex issue. A lot of GPs are hanging onto buildings which they cannot afford and it is not as profitable for them as it might appear. The feasibility study in principle sounds reasonable but it does sound expensive as we do not know the agency who would provide the study or the scope of the study.

Cllr Parsons proposed that Council should agree in principle but would require more detail.

Cllr A Rea wished to amend this proposal to delegate to Council to decide whether to go forward once more detail was provided. Cllr Cade seconded.

All voted in favour of this with one abstention.

It was **RESOLVED** to note this information and agree to commit £5000 in principle but to bring this back to Council when further information on the study is available.

19/092

CYCLING AND WALKING STRATEGY IN IVYBRIDGE: The feedback from Graham Wilson (copy previously circulated) was received and noted. The Town Clerk and Cllr Lannin have attended meetings and the work of Graham Wilson in relation to this project was acknowledged. It was a very useful consultation.

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

19/093

EMERGENCIES GROUP MEETING: Cllr A Rea advised that he met with Martin Rich along with Cllrs Khong, Munro and Hladkij. A lot of questions were answered and it was agreed that the current emergency plan needs to be updated. Cllrs Khong and A Rea will attend another meeting in Sparkwell and Cllr A Rea will also attend a meeting at Rattery. After these meetings they will look at pulling together the information and updating the plan.

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

- 19/094 **MOOR OTTERS 2020:** The background information (copy previously circulated) was received and noted. The Town Clerk explained that we had an otter at the Watermark previously, and asked whether they would like to participate again this year.

Cllr Cade proposed this should be supported. Cllr Munro seconded and all were in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** to contact Dartmoor NPA to host an otter for £360.

- 19/095 **UPDATE AND INFORMATION:** A report outlining events and other information was received (copy previously circulated).

Councillor Updates

Cllr Silsbury advised that unfortunately the stall at the Glanvilles Mill market on 26 October was rained off but they would like volunteers for the November market.

The Mayor and Town Clerk attended Ivybridge Health Centre. Beacon Medical have recognised that there is a problem. Of 340 telephone calls that morning, around half of them had hung up. They had been having a lot of missed appointments with people having to book four weeks ahead. They have now moved to booking appointments two weeks ahead. In November they will introduce online forms for people to fill in to book an appointment. This will allow residents to see the doctor of their choice. In theory it sounds as though it will work but will see whether GPs have the time to work through the forms and also to see patients. This method has been a success in other areas. There has been a high turnover of staff due to them being on the receiving end of a lot of abuse.

Cllr Parsons commented that he feels sorry for the receptionists who receive abuse for doing their jobs. For example, they have to ask what people need to see the doctor for etc but people don't like this. Cllr Dredge commented that receptionists receive so much abuse it can make them become very defensive.

Cllr Munro attended the Street Pastors meeting. An EGM has been called on 12 November, he will report back after this.

Cllr Dredge commented that the new Sergeant had indicated that the new Inspector was not keen to engage with the Council as they have

previously. Cllr Jago queried what they are proposing to not do. The Mayor explained that they are proposing to no longer hold the policing meetings in future and to only send a report to Council. This is unfortunate as the policing meetings are an opportunity for a number of agencies to get together and discuss issues, only around three times per year for just over an hour.

Cllr Dredge advised that the IDALC meeting went well. It is interesting to discuss what is happening in other parishes.

Cllr Dredge attended the TWSW meeting which was a very worthwhile meeting to attend and addressed issues across the region.

Forthcoming Training / Conferences

Cllr Dredge advised that he is happy to attend the Towns and Parishes session at Follaton House, however he would require a lift.

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 Abbot, Cllr A Rea and 1 Member of the Public left the meeting at 8.37pm.*

IN COMMITTEE

19/096 **IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY AWARDS:** Consideration was given to the list of nominations for the Citizen and Group of the Year 2019 (copies previously circulated).

A general discussion took place about the nominees.

A vote was taken for the David Britton Citizen of the Year Award.

**Cllr Munro withdrew at 8.40pm during the vote for the Nick Cummins Community Group of the Year*

A vote was then taken for the Nick Cummins Community Group of the Year Award.

**Cllr Munro returned to the meeting at 8.44pm*

A discussion took place regarding renaming the Henlake Suite. All were in agreement to change the name to The Carol Beeson Suite

as a tribute to Carol Beeson, a former Mayor who worked tirelessly for the good of the town and its residents, both during her time as a councillor and afterwards

It was **RESOLVED** to award the:

- (i) David Britton Citizen of the Year to Colin Allum.
- (ii) Nick Cummins Community Group of the Year to Manstow Football Club.
- (iii) Rename the Henlake Suite to The Carol Beeson Suite.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed Date 9 December 2019

IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the discussions during the adjournment of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 28 October 2019

POLICE REPORT

The police were unable to attend the meeting, however the report for September 2019 was provided and circulated.

IVYBRIDGE CRIME FIGURES SEPTEMBER 2019

Total Offences	2018 - 53
	2019 - 48

Assaults

8x Assault ABH - 4 insufficient evidence, 3 under investigation and 1 not supported

8x Common assault - 1x under investigation, 3 not supported and 4 insufficient evidence

Burglary Dwelling/Other

1x Aggravated burglary - 4 arrested and remains under investigation

2x Burglary non-dwelling - 1 insufficient evidence and 1 under investigation

1x Attempted burglary - insufficient evidence

Other

2x Sexual offences - 1 under investigation and 1 not supported

6x Malicious communications - 1 under investigation and 2 not supported

5x Harassment - 2 under investigation and 3 insufficient evidence

3x Criminal damage - 2 insufficient evidence and 1 person charged

1x Dog dangerously out of control in public - 1 community resolution

2x Shoplifting - 2 insufficient evidence

1x Cultivate cannabis - 1 warning

1x Possession of class C drug - under investigation

1x Breach of Court order - under investigation

1x Drink driving - charged

1x Blackmail - under investigation

1x Robbery - under investigation

3x Section 5 Public order - 1 not supported and 2 insufficient evidence

OTHER NEWS

This month saw a highly publicised incident in Ivybridge where a stabbing has taken place inside a dwelling. This incident was initially attended by Ivybridge neighbourhood team supported by officers from Totnes and Kingsbridge. The victim is currently in a stable condition and CID are investigating the matter. There has been a high police presence in the area to reassure the public at this time.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

COUNCILLOR CROAD

Cllr Croad advised that the Devon Highways winter service started on 15 October. Grit bins will not be routinely filled, and will rely on people reporting when they are empty or damaged. The grit is for highways including pavements and not for individual's drives!

4 tonnes of salt are available free.

1650 miles of Devon roads are on the salting network. If the weather is really bad, an additional 3000 miles of secondary routes will also be salted.

The Town Clerk commented that the Assistant Parks Ranger will be checking grit bins.

Cllr Dredge commented that he saw someone emptying the contents of a grit bin into their trailer and queried whether there is any point in reporting this activity. Cllr Croad asked him to forward on the details.

Cllr A Rea asked what is happening with the subsidence on Station Road. It was repaired but has happened again. Cllr Croad advised that it has been reported 3 times and South West Water are investigating. It is likely that it is caused by an issue with a drain. Cllr A Rea asked whether this is exacerbated by heavy traffic going to the Stowford Mill site. He witnessed a very large truck becoming stuck on the road and having to reverse. He asked whether it would be possible for an alternative route to be used. Cllr Croad advised that he would speak to Burrington Estates to see if anything can be done. The Town Clerk commented that the development plan for the site may stipulate that that route has to be used.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

COUNCILLOR ABBOTT

Cllr Abbot provided the following report prior to the meeting:

The District Council continues to take forward discussions on the Climate Emergency but the only outcome to date is to publicise the County's consultation (www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk).

There was a workshop on clarifications [Supplementary Planning Document, SPD] to the Joint Local Plan and these will be discussed at the next Executive on Thursday. The South Hams was well represented at the Workshop.

There have been Planning Visits around the South Hams but none within Ivybridge, though one proposal in Ivybridge came before the Committee due to flooding concerns. Other applications have progressed without contention.

I have been involved with two local groups and a number of local residents:

- arranging for 'litter pickers' (i.e the tools) to be delivered to a Community College group;
- joining with others trying to get the view from New Bridge upriver to the Ivy Bridge re-established;
- have been informed of RSPCA guidelines including limiting the noise levels of fireworks to reduce the effects on pets and farm animals. I'd be interested in the Town Council's view on this;
- trying to support a local resident and his neighbours over potholes, overgrown trees, obscured lighting, and slip and trip hazards created by root damage and fallen beech nuts.

Car parking remains a significant issue on some local streets;

Car parking on Woolcombe Lane causes egress issues from Gorse Way as there's limited visibility;

There are issues over the timing of street lights switching on & off.

Yet, currently, whilst waiting to hear about the discount supermarket & repairs to the bridges, my largest issue is a consultation on the operation of the four Town Leisure Centres, including our own. I'd be very pleased to hear any comments.

Cllr Parsons raised the issue of the Leisure Centre going cashless, and advised that he is aware of 3 members who will no longer use the facilities due to this.

He also advised that he has heard they have a high turnover of staff and wanted to know what is causing this, are there staff on zero hour contracts?

Cllr A Rea said that when Tone Leisure were running the Leisure Centre, instructors were paid based on how many clients attended their classes which seems very unfair on the instructors. He was assured that Fusion would sort this out, and asked whether this was the case. Cllr Abbot advised that he would pick this up.

Cllr Spencer commented that information regarding the cards for the leisure centre may be getting confused and he thinks that they are a good idea.

Cllr Lannin asked whether the bike hoops by the leisure centre could be reinstated. Cllr Abbot advised he would investigate.

Cllr Parsons advised that the trees around Claymans Pathway had been checked by an inspector, however the inspector advised they did not know about trees.

Cllr Abbot advised he would investigate.

CLLR MAY

Cllr May advised that he had nothing to add following Cllr Abbot's report but was happy to take any questions. No questions were forthcoming.

GENERAL

There were no queries from members of the public.

The public participation session closed at 7.25pm.