

## IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Ivybridge held in The Town Hall, Ivybridge, on Monday 11 December 2023 at 7.02pm

**Present:** Cllr A Spencer (Mayor)                      Cllr T Lannin  
              Cllr V Abbott                                    Cllr S Murphy  
              Cllr L Austen                                   Cllr A Rea  
              Cllr C Cao                                        Cllr L Rea  
              Cllr P Dredge                                  Cllr D Smith  
              Cllr A Khong                                    Cllr M Steele

**In Attendance:** Mrs K Elliott-Turner (Town Clerk)  
                         Mrs L Lane (Minute Secretary)  
                         Cllr Dommatt (South Hams District Council - SHDC)  
                         Cllr Munoz (South Hams District Council - SHDC)  
                         2 members of the police  
                         1 member of the press

The Mayor, Cllr Spencer, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

*\* 2 members of the Police left at 7.06pm*

- 23/079         **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J Cole, S Hladkij, K Pringle and S Weeks.
- 23/080         **DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS:**  
In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members were invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests.  
a) Cllr Dredge declared he had an interest in item 23-090 as he was previously a Chair of South Hams CVS. Although he is no longer in this role he felt he should not take part in discussions or voting for this item. Cllr A Rea declared an interest in item 23-093 as he is a member of the Royal British Legion and his wife had requested the grant for the Ukrainian English lessons. Cllr A Khong advised that he has an interest in item 23-093 as a member of the Royal British Legion and Chair of Ivybridge Caring. Cllr L Rea advised she has an interest in item 23-093 as a family member had requested the grant for Ukrainian English lessons.  
b) There were no written requests for dispensations from members.
- 23/081         **PUBLIC SECTION:** No members of the public were present.
- 23/082         **REPORTS – POLICE & EXTERNAL AGENCIES:** The report from the police (copy previously circulated) was noted.

23/083

## REPORTS – COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

### Devon County Council

Cllr Croad was unable to attend the meeting but had provided an update on two previous queries:

- The Devon Bus (bus user and stakeholder) Committee has been established for nearly 12 months now. The link to the webpage is below with details, terms of reference and an explanation about the membership. Rachel Phillips ([Rachel.phillips@devon.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.phillips@devon.gov.uk)) co-ordinates this.  
<https://www.traveldevon.info/bus/bsip/devon-bus-forum/>
- 20's Plenty - I believe the Councillor refers to a Notice of Motion brought by a Member some time back now – this was discussed and rejected, but not entirely. DCC runs a scheme whereby Parishes can apply for selected areas to be subject to a 20-mph limit following a strict criteria such as volume of traffic, mean speed and location such as near a school etc. The criteria can be provided if required.

There will be a relaxation of rules regarding DIY-type waste going into Household Waste Recycling Centres. Certain types of DIY-type waste will be, from 31<sup>st</sup> December, free to deposit. A paper regarding this will be brought before DCC Cabinet this Wednesday. He advised that he would write to the Town Clerk, setting out the criteria following that meeting.

The following queries/questions were raised:

- Members wished to know how Cllr Croad had voted with regard to 20's Plenty.
- Is the criteria for 20's Plenty publicly available and could this be circulated?

### South Hams District Council

The District Councillor report from Cllr Steele (copy previously circulated) was noted.

There was a discussion following a press article about overflowing wheelie bins by Golden Bridge and the access to these via the rear of a property. Concerns were voiced that if the bins are not permitted, businesses could close.

It was noted that the residential recycling and bin collections had been restarted and appeared to be working well.

The following queries/questions were raised:

- With regard to the Freeport, have there been budgetary changes as originally SHDC were due to make £2million in the first two years, now it looks as though they are going to spend £5million. Cllr Abbott will investigate.

23/084

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (copy previously circulated) were received.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 are confirmed as a correct record, and are accepted.

- 23/085      **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** The minutes of the following meetings (copies previously circulated) were noted:
- i.    Planning & Infrastructure Committee - 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023
  - ii.   Parks Committee - 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023
  - iii.  Watermark Committee - 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023
  - iv.   Planning & Infrastructure Committee - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023
  - v.    Policy & Resources Committee - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- 23/086      **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:** The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor for the period 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (previously circulated) were noted.
- 23/087      **EXTERNAL AUDIT 2022/2023:** A copy of the External Auditor's Certificate and completed Annual Return for year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 was previously circulated to members. The External Auditor advises that there are no minor issues identified or scope for improvements required. A copy of the audited accounts has been published on the council's website and Town Hall noticeboard.
- It was **RESOLVED** to note the result of the External Audit report for financial year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, and that the required public notices were issued.
- 23/088      **COMMUNITY AWARDS:** The report (copy previously circulated) was considered. Members commented that presenting the awards at the Annual Town Meeting worked well.
- It was **RESOLVED** to launch the appeal for nominations for Citizen of the Year following the same format as previously.
- 23/089      **D-DAY 80 - 6<sup>TH</sup> June 2024:** The report (copy previously circulated) was considered. Members discussed the options and agreed that they would like bunting in Fore Street rather than a beacon, as had been proposed. The Watermark are keen to put on a 1940's themed event and it was suggested that the Watermark café be renamed The Bedford Café for the event in memory of the Bedford Boys who were stationed in the area of MacAndrews Field during WW2.
- It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the cost of bunting for Fore Street and to encourage The Watermark to hold an event on 6<sup>th</sup> June.
- A request was made for a future agenda to include consideration of a new event, to celebrate summer.
- 23/090      **SOUTH HAMS COMMUNITY ACTION - REQUEST FOR FUNDING - COMMUNITY CONNECTOR:** The request for funding (copy previously circulated) was considered.

The plan is to replace the Community Connector with 3 different roles. This is based on where the need is in Ivybridge. In the past the Town Council has previously provided funding from the Community Support budget. South Hams Community Action will be seeking funding from elsewhere in addition to their request from Ivybridge Town Council. Members were all in favour of this.

It was **RESOLVED** to support and provide the £2,000 of funding which was requested.

23/091 **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC PLAN UPDATE:** The report (copy previously circulated) was considered. Members were encouraged to look at the map and complete the survey.

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

23/092 **REFERRING TO CHAIRMAN/CHAIRPERSON:** The use of Chairperson was suggested to bring consistency across the committees. It was then suggested that Chair would be more appropriate. The majority were in favour of the use of Chair although this was to be used going forward when policies are amended.

It was **RESOLVED** to use Chair for the person chairing the meeting, and should be reflected in council's documentation.

23/093 **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:** The recommendations from the Policy and Resources Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (copies previously circulated) were considered.

- 1) Minute PR23/034, that:
  - (a) Grants are considered twice yearly – April and October.
  - (b) Grant budget lines identifying individual organisations, Youth People Projects and Grants General are combined. Separate budget for Community Support is to remain.
  - (c) Grant applications for Young People Projects are to be considered throughout the year, rather than twice yearly.
  - (d) The draft Grants Policy and Grant Feedback Form are adopted. The existing Grant Application Form will continue to be used.
  
- 2) Minute PR23/035, that:

The following grants are awarded

  - (a) £1,113.94 to Citizens Advice for purchase of replacement IT equipment
  - (b) £900 to Ivybridge Caring for venue hire
  - (c) £515 to Royal British Legion for hire of sound system and pipe bands for Remembrance Sunday
  - (d) £1,500 to Ring and Ride for transport costs

(e) £200 to English Lessons for Ukrainian Refugees for English language text books

- 3) Minute PR23/036, that:  
The draft Training and Development Policy (as amended) is adopted.
- 4) Minute PR23/037, that:  
The draft New Councillor Mentoring Policy (as amended) is adopted.
- 5) Minute PR23/038, that:  
The draft New Councillor Induction Pack (as amended) is adopted.

Cllrs Khong, A Rea and L Rea left the meeting, whilst discussions and voting on item PR23/035 took place.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations from minutes PR23/034, PR23/035, PR23/036, PR23/037 and PR23/038 are approved.

23/094

**UPDATES AND INFORMATION:** Updates on Councillor, Officer and Community activity (copy previously circulated) were considered, which included an update on the GWR Stakeholder Meeting, Christmas Festival and Youth Meeting. Cllr A Rea provided an update on the community fridge which will be in a wooden cabinet outside St Johns Church Hall. It was noted that the Food Hub on a Tuesday is already proving to be very successful.

The Mayor advised that he had heard a lot of positive reviews about the Christmas Festival. He went on to thank the staff and volunteers for their hard work and noted that this event could not run without the help of the volunteers.

The meeting closed at 8.17pm.

Signed: ..... Date: 22 January 2024