

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

8<sup>th</sup> October 2019

PRESENT Councillors: M.Parker (Chairman)  
A.Biggs  
Mrs.L.Clark  
Mrs.T.Coombs  
Mrs.L.Dedden  
S.Flower  
Mrs.S.Grove  
Mrs.P.Morrow  
Ms.J.Russell  
P.Smith

Apologies were given by Cllrs: P.Mann & M.Thorpe

Also in attendance: Mrs.V.J.Bright, Town Clerk & Mrs.J.Sebire, Assistant Town Clerk.

Public: Rev. Canon Rowlands

142/19 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations.

Councillor Mrs.T.Coombs declared an interest on Agenda Item 7 as she is an ex-officio on the Coach in the Community Trust. She spoke but then left the room for the discussion and the voting.

143/19 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Dorset Council** sent an email that a request has been received from two residents regarding the lack of access for mobility scooters when trying to navigate around pedestrian barriers on a linked footpath from Whitebeam Way through to Pine Walk. The suggestion is that these barriers are removed, and the Town Council are asked for their agreement. The Clerk is to investigate potential dangers from removal of barriers as well as looking into more modern motorbike inhibitors then report back.
- b) **Dorset Council** sent an email that the Dorset Councils draft Council Plan was approved on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. The plan sets out the Council's proposed priorities for the next four years. Feedback and views from Town and Parish Council are sought on the draft plan throughout October, November and December. Councillor Flower will deliver a talk on the plan and the Clerk was asked to invite Councillors from West Moors and St. Leonards & St. Ives to attend.
- c) **Rural Services Network** sent an email regarding establishing a group of Rural/Market Towns to present the arguments as seen by Town Countryside Areas to Government. The email was forwarded to all members. The Clerk was asked to contact DAPTC to seek information on the Rural Services Network and then would report back to the Committee.
- d) **External Audit** The Town Council have now received the notice of conclusion, Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 from PKF Littlejohn LLP. No issues were raised. This was noted.
- e) **Min. 139/19 (d) refers.** **Dorset Council** sent an email regarding the Town Councils suggestion that extra bays are allocated for parking in the Potters Wheel Car Park. Dorset Council felt that extra bays could cause a problem with circulation and also pedestrians accessing the Library gate. The suggestion was that yellow lines

could be put in place. Extra signage has been requested. It was suggested that the above information is fed back to residents via the LAG.

144/19 Monthly Budgets.

The monthly budget reports for September 2019 were circulated and no issues were raised.

145/19 Disabled Gate Verwood Recreation Ground.

Information was given on a new disabled gate for the Recreation Ground which would have a meshed version. The Clerk was asked to obtain current maximum dimensions of mobility scooters & ensure that the pavement width is adequate for the swing of the gate. It was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that subject to confirmation of details that the meshed gate be installed.

146/19 Dorset National Park.

Minute 112/19 refers. Information was given on the consultation and who to respond to. After discussion it was agreed that the clerk carry out the previous recommendation and send the letters to the relevant persons.

147/19 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members.

The inspections of the Cemetery and Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces had been carried out. The Clerk would arrange for any necessary work to be carried out.

148/19 Other Reports and Matters for future agendas.

a) Information was given that a resident had approached a Dorset Councillor regarding a barrier which their mobility scooter could not pass through at the alleyway of Manor Road near Church Road. A request was made for a future agenda item to review all alleyway barriers surrounding Verwood and discuss different designs for barriers.

b) Information was given on a fund-raising Sports Day on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for the Mayors Charity. The Mayor asked members for their opinion on using the Town Council Logo on the medals. Members stated that they had no objections.

149/19 Confidential.

A report had been circulated to all members on the Coach in the Community by Rev. Canon Andrew Rowlands, Chairman of the Coach in the Community. Discussion took place on finance and staffing.

It was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that the Committee look into the details of supporting the Project with serious intent of preserving the service provided by the Coach in the Community to Verwood and Wimborne.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.26p.m.

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Chairman