

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

22nd October 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs.P.Morrow (Mayor)
Councillors Mrs.S.Bhose
A.Biggs
Mrs.L.Clark
Mrs.T.B.Coombs
S.Flower
M.Hudson
M.Parker
Ms.J.Russell
Ms.B.Salmon
P.Smith
M.Thorpe

Apologies from Cllrs: Mrs.L.Dedden, S.Gibson, Mrs.S.Grove, P.J.Mann & Miss K.Stephens.
In attendance:- Mrs.V.J.Bright, Town Clerk & Assistant Town Clerk, Mrs.J.Sebire
Public: 0

150/19 Declaration of Interests.

Councillor Mrs.T.Coombs declared an interest in F& G P recommendation 149/19 as she is an ex-officio on the Coach in the Community Trust. She spoke at the meeting but then left the room for the discussion and the voting.

151/19 Minutes of the Meeting held 24th September 2019 as circulated, were confirmed and signed.

152/19 Policing.

No Report.

153/19 Clerk's Report.

- a) **Residents' enquiries and complaints** were copied to all members and were noted.
- b) **Minute 134/19 (c)** It was suggested that the Town Council apply for Tree Preservation Orders to be put on the trees along Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Dorset Council who stated that there was no merit at this time as the trees were under good management and the land owner appears to be managing the trees. Discussion took place and the Dorset Councillors offered to come back to the Town Council with the Dorset Councils policy on putting Tree Preservation Orders on Trees.
- c) **Dorset Council** sent an email with information regarding a Town and Parish Council Climate Emergency Advice Seminar. The seminar will be held on Tuesday 19th November at 6pm to 9.15pm at South Walks House in Dorchester. Councillor Miss B.Salmon would attend on behalf of the Town Council and the Clerk would forward the details of the event.

154/19 The Reports of the Plans Consultative Committee meeting held 2nd October 2019 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

155/19 The Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held 8th October 2019 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

156/19 Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils Motions for the AGM.

Information was circulated to all members and the nine motions were considered and RESOLVED as follows:

1. **Sherborne Town Council** propose that DAPTC lobby the government to provide financial support for renewable energy and energy conservation projects that have environmental benefits, so all natural and built environments and all new buildings in Dorset be sustainably carbon neutral by 2025.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support that the government provide financial support but to amend that with the aim of aspiration that all new buildings in Dorset be sustainably carbon neutral by 2025.
2. **Langton Matravers Parish Council** proposes that
 - a) That DAPTC urge NALC to lobby the Government to make Town and Parish Councils statutory consultees for all planning applications within their council areas thereby ensuring T & PC's comments are given greater weight.
 - b) that DAPTC lobby Dorset Council to ensure that T & PCs are given 28 days to respond to planning applications.**RESOLVED** that Verwood Town Council support both motions.
3. **Chideock Parish Council** proposes that DAPTC through NALC lobbies central government and Local Authorities to ensure the provision of an effective and economic transport system as an essential component of supporting the economy and the wellbeing of all family members regardless of age, gender or disability.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support this motion.
4. **Hazelbury Bryan Parish Council** proposes that NALC vigorously lobby central government to amend paragraph 14(a) of the National Planning Policy Framework (FEB 2019) to allow Neighbourhood Plans to be considered valid with full planning weight for a 5-year period rather than the current 2year period.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support the motion.
5. **Blandford Forum Town Council** proposes that DAPTC lobbies local authorities to remove the charges and restrictions imposed on Town & Parish Councils for disposal of waste at household recycling centres.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support the motion.
6. **West Lulworth Parish Council** proposes that a motion to require future housing to be built for the needs of the local people rather than a presumption in favour of any development. Building homes for need not greed. Future development proposals should have to show that there is a requirement for the proposed housing.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council do not support the motion.
7. **Beaminster Town Council** proposes that in view of the lack of infrastructure versus the number of houses proposed to be built within the County of Dorset,

Beaminster Town Council would ask NALC to lobby Government to justify the numbers planned within rural areas and, most importantly, within AONB's.

RESOLVED Verwood Town Council would support an amendment that states that NALC be asked to lobby Dorset Council to influence the new Dorset Plan.

8. **Langton Matravers Parish Council** proposes that DAPTC lobby Dorset Council to amend its Planning Policy (in accordance with Revised NPPF Feb 2019 Clause 175) to the effect that in all construction developments, the felling of any mature Native British Species (NBS) tree will only be allowed as a last resort, and then only if it is replaced (at the developer's expense) with a minimum of three NBS tree saplings, container grown from a credited source, and be no less than 3.5m tall. Should the construction site in question be unable to accommodate such a number, a suitable alternative site will be identified within the Parish where the development is taking place.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council do not support the motion.
9. **Weymouth Town Council** proposes that DAPTC will lobby Central Government, and ask NALC to lobby, for a change in the law to allow a carer's allowance to be paid to Parish and Town Councillors in England.
RESOLVED that Verwood Town Council support the motion.

157/19 Doorstep Green.

Minutes 123/19 & 132/19 refer. Discussion took place and it was RESOLVED that the original quotation and plan from Kompan be accepted.

158/19 Report from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor sent a written report on various functions and events she had attended which included: a fund raising event for McMillan; Blandford Civic event; presentation of badges to Trinity 1st School Council; AGM of the CAB; the AGM of the Dorset Youth Association; AGM of the Twinning Association; a concert by Verwood Concert Brass.

The Deputy Mayor sent a written report which was circulated to all members on Christchurch Civic Day which he attended.

159/19 Report of Representatives on Other Bodies

a) **DAPTC Eastern Area.** A written report was circulated to all members on the last meeting where matters discussed included: the Chief Executives report; a brief report from the Executive Committee; members items.

b) **DAPTC Seminar** on 10th October a verbal report was given on: that the slides are available to all members; recommended that other councillors attend next year as very informative.

c) **Heathland & Heritage Trust** a verbal report was given regarding the AGM where matters discussed included: election of officers. Information on the coffee shop.

d) **Verwood Memorial Hall Trust** a verbal report was given on the last meeting where matters discussed included: information on the usage; structural changes; that the trust are looking for a volunteer secretary.

160/19 Internet Councillor.

Information was given on the Web Site.

161/19 Press & P.R.Councillor

No report.

162/19 Reports of the Dorset Council Councillors.

Councillor Mrs.T.Coombs, Councillor S.Flower & Councillor S.Gibson. A written report was circulated to all members which included information on: decisions made at the Full Council which included, the adoption of the Youth Justice Plan, provision of additional support through an extension to the Council Tax Relief Scheme to carers; that the leader has written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to press for fairer funding for Dorset; a number of cross party Executive Advisory Panels have been established.

163/19 Accounts.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the accounts for October 2019 £59,536.86 were approved for payment.

164/19 Items of report and matters for future agendas.

- a) Information was given that the Department for Transport stated that zebra crossings are permissible but that local authorities are free to make their own decision about the streets under their care. A request was made that Dorset Council should reconsider their policy on zebra crossings.
- b) Information was given that the Doctors Surgery in Three Legged Cross is closing at the end of this year. This is a result of their lease ending and not being able to agree a purchase price with the landlord. The Clerk was asked to write to the Clinical Commissioning Group stating the Town Councils concern regarding the loss of this facility.
- c) Information was given on a bollard which had sharp pieces of wire attached at the car park on Ringwood Road. The land owners were being sought to inform them that action needs to take place.
- d) Information was given on the Youth Centre Working Party and a request was made for an agenda item at the next F & G P Committee meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34p.m.

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Mayor