



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF BOGNOR REGIS HELD ON MONDAY 29TH MARCH 2010

PRESENT (BRTC)

Cllr E Anderson - Town Mayor (in the chair)
Cllr J Brooks
Cllr G Burt
Cllr A Cunard
Cllr Mrs S Daniells
Cllr P Dillon
Cllr D Eldridge
Cllr S Kerrigan
Cllr S McDougall
Cllr K Scutt
Cllr Mrs J Warr
Cllr P Wells

(Note: Cllrs Brooks, Mrs Daniells, Mrs Warr and Wells are also Arun District Councillors and Cllrs McDougall and Wells are also West Sussex County Councillors)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P Beckerson (BRTC Projects & Events Manager)
Mrs H Knight (Minutes Secretary)
One representative of the press
Ten members of the public

COPIES OF DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC

Notice and Agenda for the Meeting
Minutes of the Town Meeting of Electors held on 16th March 2009
Audited Accounts to 31st March 2009
Balances and Expenditure to 23rd March 2010
Proposed Expenditure for the year 2010/2011
Schedule of Councillors' Attendance at Meetings

The Meeting opened at 7.05pm

1. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON MONDAY 16^H MARCH 2009 AND ANY MATTERS ARISING**

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that Cllr Scutt had incorrectly been listed as a District Councillor in the Minutes, and apart from this point the Minutes of the Town Meeting of Electors held on Monday 29th March 2010 were agreed and signed by the Town Mayor as presiding Chairman.

2. **TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL**

The Town Mayor gave her report, highlighting some of the significant events of the past year, which included the opening of the new Oceans Hotel at Butlins, the Arun Angels initiative, the opening of the new Wilkinson store. The Town Council was hopeful of achieving the purchase of The Picturedrome Cinema and the museum project was also underway. Although there were still some empty shops in the town, it was encouraging to see some new retail units opening, although the wider picture of regeneration was temporarily slowed.

3. **TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2009**

The Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, Cllr A Cunard, reported on the Accounts of the Town Council to year ending 31st March 2009. These were duly noted and accepted.

4. **TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF THE BALANCES HELD BY THE COUNCIL AND DETAILS OF THE EXPENDITURE OF THE COUNCIL UP TO A DATE AS NEAR AS POSSIBLE TO 31ST MARCH 2010**

Details of the balances and expenditure to 23rd March 2010 were duly noted.

5. **TO RECEIVE THE OBSERVATIONS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ON THE PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2010/2011**

The Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee reported on the proposed expenditure for 2010/2011, which was duly noted.

6. **TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM THOSE APPOINTED TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

There were no reports.

7. **TO CONSIDER ANY OBSERVATIONS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS FOR THE AREA**

District and County Cllr P Wells reported, commenting that it was good to see an increased number of the electorate attending this meeting and he thanked Town Councillors for their work for the town during the year. He reported that the roads around Bognor Regis were still in a poor state but that a small amount of funding had been set aside by WSCC to carry out outstanding repairs. Details of how that would be spent were still awaited but it was hoped progress should be evident in the next few weeks. There had been concerns regarding the cutting of library opening hours but the County Council had listened to comments. Arun Visitor Information Centres were still under threat until a new provider could be sorted out. It was encouraging to

see the private sector investing in the Bognor Regis area, despite the slow progress of regeneration generally. There had been problems associated with street drinking, however a dedicated team was working behind the scenes to resolve issues.

County Cllr S McDougall reported on current cutbacks to youth services but advised that the Phoenix Youth Centre would now be a new resource for the new school. The new Southway Primary School would be up and running with a new headteacher from September. He also commented regarding possible improvements to the lighting sequence on the A259.

District Cllr J Brooks reported: Dangerous cycling had been an issue raised with the police due to public opinion. He advised members of the public to let Councillors know their concerns so that these could be raised and addressed, for example the CCTV 'Smile...' van had been covering The Esplanade in response to public request.

8. TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN BY FRIDAY 26TH MARCH 2010

None had been received.

9. TO DEAL WITH ANY OTHER QUESTIONS

There were no specific questions, however matters discussed between members of the public and Councillors included: Potholes being a serious danger to cyclists and compensation issues; the naming of the new secondary school and loss of the towns historical association with prominent founders/philanthropists; views on the recent Arun District Council car park survey and the possible sale of the Lyon Street car park; regeneration issues including future car parking and encouraging visitors to the town; disabled access to the beach; changes to the availability of NHS dentists locally and the effect on residents; information from a resident regarding a community arts programme.

In response to a query by a Councillor, the process of resolutions being made by the public was clarified: any resolutions passed by the electorate at this meeting could at their request be put to the Town Council for consideration as a future agenda item.

The Town Mayor thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm