



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT:

Cllrs. T. Gardiner (Chairman), J. Brooks, P. Dillon, S. Goodheart (from Min. 67) and P. Woodall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. S. Green (Project and Street Scene Support Officer)
Mrs. S. Holmes (Head of Street Scene & Leisure)

The Meeting opened at 6.30 p.m.

61. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed those present. Apologies had been received from Cllrs. D. Barnes who had work commitments, W. Toovey who was unwell and Mrs. J. Warr who was on annual leave. No other apologies had been received.

A minute silence was held in memory of those who died tragically in Paris following the terrorist attack

62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda

Members and Officers should declare an interest by stating:-

- a) The item they have an interest in
- b) Whether it is an Ordinary Interest and the nature of the interest
- c) Whether it is also a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

They then need to re-declare their interest and the nature of the interest at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

In accordance with good practice, individual forms were available to those Councillors present in order that they could personally record their interests - both Disclosable Pecuniary and Ordinary. These forms should be returned to the Committee Clerk at the end of the meeting to enable all declarations of interest to be accurately recorded in the Minutes. Members were reminded that it is their responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

Cllr. J. Brooks declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the Football Club as his company provide electronic signage support (Agenda item 10).

63. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2015

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th September 2015 were **APPROVED** by the Committee as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

64. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public in attendance and no written questions had been received.

65. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES WHICH ARE NOT SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS

65.1 14th September – Min. 56 Report on Arun Street Community Working Group Meeting regarding Public Space Protection Order and way forward.

The Project and Street Scene Support Officer had been asked to investigate whether there are “enforcers” policing other schemes who, could perhaps be accredited to enforce these Public Space Protection Orders. Research had been done and it appears that this is not the case.

66. WARD ALLOCATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS BUDGET INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF 2015/2016 BUDGET

Members were reminded that they still have Ward Allocation funds to spend on projects to benefit their wards. As there are only 2 remaining meetings scheduled before the end of the financial year any proposed project should be brought to the next meeting. Unspent funds will be returned to general reserves unless they are earmarked for a specific project before the end of the financial year.

67. BOGNOR IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY – CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th NOVEMBER 2015

The Committee **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the Resolutions, Recommendations and Reports in the Notes of the meeting held on 4th November 2015.

67.1 Members **RESOLVED to **APPROVE** the costs of £267.00 for the awards event from the Competition Expenses Budget and the costs of the Guides Competition of £106 - £100 from Earmarked Reserves and £6 from the Competition Expenses Budget.**

68. ALLOTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE – CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS IN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2015

This meeting was cancelled as it was not quorate. It has been re-scheduled for 17th November 2015. This was **NOTED**.

68.1 Members commented on the issue of non-attendance at meetings. It was noted that the Allotments Sub-Committee was made up of members of the Planning Committee plus 4 nominated representatives from allotment holders. A question was asked as to whether there should be substitutes or perhaps the membership should be from the E & L Committee. A Member expressed his wish to join the Allotment Sub-Committee and it was explained that this would need to be done at a Council meeting.

69. CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS UPDATE INCLUDING ANY FURTHER DETAIL ON ALDWICK ROAD

The report from the Project & Street Scene Support Officer was **NOTED**.

69.1 A meeting had been scheduled with the Contractor to discuss outstanding issues but unfortunately this had to be rescheduled. If Members have any queries that they wish to be raised with the Contractor, these should be forwarded to Officers. It was reported that the Icicle lights at the top end of town were still on, although it was understood that this issue had already been resolved by the Contractor.

69.2 It was noted that the Icicle lights greatly improved the atmosphere at that end of town, as the quality of lighting was poor. The issue of street lighting is dealt with by the Planning Committee and Members were asked to forward their concerns to the office for referral to that Committee.

70. UPDATE ON SPONSORSHIP ADVERTISING BOARD AT BOGNOR REGIS FOOTBALL CLUB

The report, showing the proposed designs for the new advertising boards was **NOTED**. As previously agreed, these designs will be considered at the next Events, Promotion & Publicity meeting for a decision.

71. TOWN CENTRE ISSUES INCLUDING PUBLIC REALM WORKS, BOGNOR REGIS TRADERS ASSOCIATION AND THE OLD QUARTER WORKING GROUP

The report from the Head of Street Scene & Leisure Services was **NOTED**.

71.1 Public Realm Works. Members commented on the loss of possible sponsorship opportunities when street furniture is removed. Concern was also expressed about the number of cars that still drive through the High Street, despite the restrictions. It was hoped that the surface to be used on the road would indicate that it was a shared surface.

71.2 Old Quarter Working Group. Comment was made about the bunting that has been put up in this area, which has improved the atmosphere. The original proposals considered by the Working Group had included artisan shops but this has not happened and more general retail/service units had opened. A Member expressed his disappointment that it had not been possible to find another tenant to run the art gallery and the keys had been handed back to the District Council. Would it be possible to use grant funding to subsidise shop rents, to encourage artisan type retail?

72. TO RATIFY THE RESPONSE TO THE WSCC CONSULTATION – ENABLING CLOSER WORKING BETWEEN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

Under normal circumstances this consultation, which was quite a long document, would have been considered by the Committee. However, due to the short timescale involved this was not possible. Therefore the Chairman and Mayor (in the absence of the Vice-Chairman) had compiled the responses, which had been emailed to Members for comment and then submitted. As Members had had an opportunity to comment on the responses, these were **RATIFIED**.

73. TO CONSIDER FUTURE STORAGE OF THE BATHING MACHINE – E & L MIN. 121 24TH MARCH 2014 REFERS

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Bathing Machine would be stored at the Town Force unit for a further 12 months, subject to the owners paying for the cost of insurance cover. It was noted that the Museum are currently completing a bid for possible funding and, if successful, this would allow the building work necessary to house the Bathing Machine to take place.

74. CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2016/2017 INCLUDING ALLOCATIONS FOR: IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY AND THE ALLOTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Draft budget proposals for 2016/2017 were considered by Members. The following comments were made:

- Weather reading: Has an automated unit been considered? There are issues around this proposal. It was **AGREED** that this should be reviewed in 6 months' time, as an agenda item
- Floral Displays: Would it be possible to encourage residents to do more, perhaps via In Bloom? Is it more cost effective to plant straight into the ground, rather than in containers of any kind (planters, boats). It was pointed out that most of these are sponsored
- Christmas activities: It was explained that there are two budgets for Christmas activities – capital expenditure (hire of lights) and revenue.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the Draft Budget to the Policy & Resources Committee.

The following points were also made:

- The uplighters in front of Mountbatten Court need to be looked at
- Storage space for Billy Bulb needs to be found
- The possibility of solar lighting on the Welcome to Bognor Regis signs needs to be considered
- The Town Council needs to do more for the businesses who offer sponsorship – perhaps a special event. It was noted that they are invited to the Civic events.

75. UPDATE ON JETSKI RAMP

The report prepared by the Project & Street Scene Support Officer was **NOTED**. Members would like a more detailed breakdown of the figures supplied regarding the average spend to the economy and were keen to

know the charges for the launching fees. There was a short discussion over future funding and a request that this should be an Agenda Item for discussion prior to the next season.

76. REPORT ON EMAIL FROM ARUN REGARDING CLOSURE OF THE ESPLANADE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The report prepared by the Project & Street Scene Support Officer was **NOTED**. Members exchanged views on how toilets could be better managed and were keen to discuss this with Arun District Council. Reference was made to the previous decision by ADC not to have a meeting until they had completed their review of the toilets and prepared a report that is due in early 2016. Members asked Officers to monitor this to ensure the meeting took place.

77. REPORT ON MEETING REGARDING A NEW CREATIVE & DIGITAL HUB IN BOGNOR REGIS

The report prepared by the Project & Street Scene Support Officer was **NOTED**. It was confirmed that further information on this project was expected and this will be reported to the next meeting.

78. REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP OF LOCALITY AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Following a recent Community Rights Working Group meeting it was suggested that the Town Council should join Locality. Members **NOTED** this decision and confirmed that they would be happy for Officers to only pass on information relevant to the Town Council for consideration, due to the large number of emails received.

79. TO CONSIDER THE CONDITION OF THE PLAQUE BY THE OLBY CLOCK, AS REQUESTED BY THE HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP MEETING ON THE 27TH OCTOBER 2015

At a recent Heritage Partnership Meeting attention was drawn to the poor condition of the plaque that is located by the Olby Clock and it was requested that this is looked into by the Town Council. Members **AGREED** that Officers would investigate and report back to the Committee at the next meeting when a decision will be made as how to proceed.

80. REPORTS:

- I. TO NOTE FINANCIAL REPORTS, PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED**
- II. ANY FURTHER REPORTS**

The Committee **NOTED** the Financial Reports which had been previously circulated. There were no further reports.

81. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee **NOTED** receipt of the correspondence list, previously circulated, including the following additional correspondence received:

Email regarding Community Resilience Planning meeting at Aldingbourne
Notification from ADC that Beach on the Beach has been closed for the winter

A letter from Aldwick Parish Council advising that they are not able to provide funding for the Christmas lights in Aldwick Road
4 additional busking applications had been received, making a total of 28

The Meeting closed at 8.13 p.m.