

**MINUTES OF THE 146<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY MEETING OF  
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD  
ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2005**

**PRESENT** Councillor Mrs Lord

Councillor Mrs Bickley, Brown, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cruse,  
Gething, Miss Griffiths, Johnston, Mrs Mason, J McMurray, Rigby,  
Terry, Walters

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

**APOLOGIES** Councillors Fowles, A McMurray, Miers, Pasley

Before commencing the formal business of the meeting Councillor Mrs Lord informed members that Councillor Miers was now home from hospital following his recent surgery. The Clerk was asked to forward the Council's best wishes.

**1242 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Standing orders were suspended to allow Mrs Janet Black of 49 Woodhill Road to address the Council.

Mrs Black referred to a recent press article which reported the comments made by the Chairman to the Annual Meeting regarding the importance of integrating new residents into the established community. Mrs Black offered her full support to the Chairman but pointed out that whilst there had been positive effects of the new developments on parts of the Town, citing in particular the new marina, there had also been, in her opinion, a number of negative effects leading to over-urbanisation. She also pointed out that the new traffic light system at Cabstand was ugly and complicated and questioned whether Portishead really needed a Homebase, Argos and McDonalds.

Mrs Black acknowledged that the Town Council only had limited powers but reminded Councillors that they were elected to represent the wishes of the residents. She considered that the Council needed to communicate more with residents and also suggested that facilities for members of the public to speak to Councillors at meetings be improved. She also urged Councillors to press for the public inquiry into the proposed landmark building (site L, Harbour Road) to be held in Portishead.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Black for her comments.

Standing Orders were resumed.

**1243 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Terry

- Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 1249, item relating to North Somerset Rights of Way Improvement Plan, potential footpath between The Deans and Gordano School.  
Reason – Secretary of Portishead Allotment Association

**Declaration by members who serve on both the Town and District Council**

Councillors Brown, J H Clark, Gething, Johnston, Terry and Walters stated that any views they expressed on matters to also be considered at North Somerset Council would be provisional and based on the facts currently known. They would be exercising their rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

**1244 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 145<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2005 be confirmed as correct.

**1245 MOTION TO COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 9**

Councillor Mrs Lord proposed, Councillor Mrs Mason seconded, the following motion –

**Motion**

This Council resolves to set up a Working Group to review all the Council's current communications with residents and to make recommendations to improve these in relation to:

- (a) the number of residents who regularly receive these;
- (b) the opportunities for residents to respond to the Council.

These recommendations are to be presented to the Recreation and Works Committee no later than the October meeting in order that they can be included in budget considerations for 2006/2007, if relevant.

**Debate**

Members generally expressed their support for the motion but considered that the working party should also consider new ways of communicating with residents. It was also suggested that a few members of the public could be invited to join the working party at an appropriate time.

Upon being put to the vote the following amendment was carried –

**Amendment**

- (c) new ways of communicating with residents.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion, recorded above as motion and amendment, was carried. It was therefore

RESOLVED that –

This Council resolves to set up a Working Group to review all the Council's current communications with residents and to make recommendations to improve these in relation to:

- (a) the number of residents who regularly receive these;
- (b) the opportunities for residents to respond to the Council;
- (c) new ways of communicating with residents.

These recommendations are to be presented to the Recreation and Works Committee no later than the October meeting in order that they can be included in budget considerations for 2006/2007, if relevant.

It was further RESOLVED that the following members serve on the working party –

Councillor Mrs Lord  
Councillor J S Clark  
Councillor Fowles  
Councillor Mrs Mason  
Councillor Pasley

Members were asked to forward any ideas or suggestions they might have for improving communications to the Clerk.

**1246 MOTION TO COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 9**

Councillor Mrs Lord proposed, Councillor Miers seconded, the following motion –

**Motion**

This Council resolves to set up a Working Group to review the strategies, structure and administration of the Council to ensure that it is capable of dealing with the requirements of a rapidly increasing population.

Any recommendations which might have budget implications for 2006/2007 should be presented to the Recreation and Works Committee no later than the October meeting in order that they can be included in the budget discussions.

**Debate**

A lengthy debate ensued. Whilst members generally supported the motion, some members commented that any review must be carried out objectively. The Council needed to work together for the good of the town, be pro-active with a clear "Vision"

and must be ready to respond to the anticipated changes to local government. It was also suggested that it may be necessary to seek professional advice.

Upon being put to the vote the motion above was carried. It was therefore

RESOLVED that

This Council resolves to set up a Working Group to review the strategies, structure and administration of the Council to ensure that it is capable of dealing with the requirements of a rapidly increasing population.

Any recommendations which might have budget implications for 2006/2007 should be presented to the Recreation and Works Committee no later than the October meeting in order that they can be included in the budget discussions.

It was further RESOLVED that the following members serve on the working party –

Councillor Mrs Lord  
Councillor Miers  
Councillor Brown  
Councillor Gething  
Councillor J McMurray  
Councillor Walters

**1247 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2005**

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation/Cash Statement for the month of May 2005 be APPROVED.

**1248 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2005**

Members received the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005.

The report consisted of an Income and Expenditure Account compared with the Budget, a Balance Sheet setting out the financial position of the Council and a Supporting Statement detailing the Council's fixed assets. It was noted that at the year end the Council had a General Reserve (uncommitted sums) of £84,319.86.

RESOLVED that the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 be APPROVED.

The Financial Report is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

The Clerk was thanked for preparing the Financial Report.

**1249 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor Mrs Bickley, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations thereon be APPROVED, subject to the following –

**05/P/1089/F WYNDHAM WAY, PORTISHEAD**

Drive-thru restaurant, car parking, landscaping and ancillary works

Add to recommendation for APPROVAL – subject to the provision of safety measures for pedestrians.

**05/P/1158/F 17 ROATH ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Change of use from residential to a chiropractic clinic

Add to recommendation for APPROVAL – subject to hours being restricted to 8am to 8pm and the permission being personal to the applicant.

**05/P/1164 ‘REDCOT’, ST MARY’S ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Two storey front extension

Recommend REFUSAL.

**05/P/1191/ADV FORMER ST PETERS SCHOOL (ST PETERS LODGE), HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD**

Erection of one externally illuminated stackboard and 3 advert flagpoles and 2 national flags

Amend recommendation to read –

Recommend APPROVAL for one year only.

**NORTH SOMERSET RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Having declared a prejudicial interest in this matter Councillor Terry left the room for its consideration, took no part in the discussion and did not vote thereon.

The draft response was APPROVED, subject to the following amendments –

Provision in this area – Amend to read

Better maintenance of existing network is needed.

Potential new routes – add

- A link from the new developments into the Gordano Valley
- A link from the coastal footpath to the footpath at Pill (leading to Bower Ashton)

Notes: Amend note <sup>1</sup> to read – More information can be provided.

The report of the Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2005 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

**1250 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

Correspondence – Letter thanking the Council for grant awarded received from Gordano Valley Church (Cludo Club).

NSC Highways – Various temporary road/footpath closure orders.

Eastwood Management Plan – Confirmation that two dog bins will be installed in Eastwood and the suggested fence along Pier Road will be pursued with highways dept.

Licensing Act 2003 – New arrangements now in place.

ALCA – Training event for Councillors on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2005.

The following items were circulated for information –

NSC Vehicle Activated Signs – Newsletter

NSC ~~de~~matters – May 2005

SeaBritain Festival 2005 – Newsletter no. 6

NSC Highways Newsletter – April 2005

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm

..... Chairman

6<sup>th</sup> July 2005