

**MINUTES OF THE 117TH ORDINARY MEETING OF
PORTISHEAD AND NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
HEKLD AT THE FOLK HAL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD
ON WEDNESDAY 8TH JANUARY 2003**

PRESENT Councillor Pickering – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brown, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cruse, Mrs Haysom, J Johnston, M Johnston, Mrs Mason, Palmer, Pasley, Walters Whitfield

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES Councillors Daws, Terry

964 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Council.

965 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Bickley

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 967 – 2003/2004 Budget and Precept Requirement (ref. Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team)
Reason – Member of Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team

Councillor Mrs Haysom

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 967 – 2003/2004 Budget and Precept Requirement (ref. Beach Hill Allotments)
Reason – Beach Hill Allotment Holder

Councillor M Johnston

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/2694/F – 8 Fircliff Park
Reason – Applicant family member

Councillor J Johnston

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/2694/F – 8 Fircliff Park
Reason – Applicant family member

Councillor Pasley

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 967 – 2003/2004 Budget and Precept Requirement (ref. Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team)
Reason – Member of Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team
- Personal Interest in Minute No. 967 – 2003/2004 Budget and Precept Requirement (ref. North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau)
Reason – Director of North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau

966 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 116th Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 4th December 2002 be confirmed as correct.

967 2003/2004 BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT

The Chairman presented the report of the working party meeting held on 6th January 2003 which detailed a recommended budget and precept requirement for 2003/2004 of £180,625.

After a lengthy debate, and a number of amendments it was

RESOLVED that

- (a) The budget as detailed on the report attached to and forming part of these minutes be APPROVED.
- (b) A precept for 2003/2004 be issued in the sum of £180,125, giving a charge of approximately £26.03 per annum per Band D property.
- (c) £15,000 be transferred from the Major Community Projects Reserve to the North Weston Village Hall Replacement Fund.
- (c) North Somerset Council's request for an annual contribution of £2,000 towards the ongoing revenue costs of the proposed Community Database be refused.

968 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

The Clerk reported that the Freedom of Information Act 2000 gave the public a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities and set out exemptions from that right. The Act also required public authorities to publish a scheme ('Publication Scheme') setting out the classes of information held and the manner in which it intended to publish the information.

A suggested Publication Scheme, based on the Model Scheme for Local Councils, as drawn up by the Information Commissioner and the National Association of Local Councils, was circulated.

RESOLVED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council acknowledges the duty placed upon it by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to adopt and maintain a publication scheme and resolves to adopt the Model Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes Only).

The Portishead and North Weston Town Council Publication Scheme is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

969 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENTS

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation/Cash Statements for the months of November and December 2002 be APPROVED.

970 PLANNING COMMITTEE

As there had only been two plans to be referred to the Committee for decision, the Planning Committee scheduled for Saturday 4th January 2003 had been cancelled. Consequently, members now received a report from Councillor J Johnston, Chairman of the Committee. The report was considered in two sections –

(a) Planning Applications for Decision

02/P/2659/F Merlin Park Public Open Space, Portishead – Installation of skateboarding equipment and bow top entrance barriers.

Members noted that this was the Town Council's own application.

Recommend APPROVAL.

02/P/2741/F Site 2, Quays Avenue, Gordano Gate, Portishead – Erection of 2-storey office and workshop building with external car parking area.

Members considered that the Quays Avenue frontage was bland and monotonous.

Recommend APPROVAL, subject to the front elevation being of a higher quality and enhancement of the central fenestration.

(b) Delegated Applications as reported by the Planning Chairman

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations thereon be APPROVED.

The Planning Chairman's report is attached to, and forms part of, these minutes.

971 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Balmoral Regeneration Project – Letters of thanks for grant awarded received from Chairman of Waverley Steam Navigation and President of the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society.

NSC Senior Management Structure Review – Directorates of Marketing and Leisure and Planning and Environment to be merged into new Directorate of Development and Environment.

Memorial Seats – new seats installed at Lake Grounds, Picnic Grounds and High Street

The following items were circulated for information –

NSC Highways Services Newsletter – November 2002
NSC Freight Strategy

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

.....Chairman

5th February 2003