

**MINUTES OF THE 164TH ORDINARY MEETING OF
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD
ON WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2006**

PRESENT Councillor Miers – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cruse, Fowles,
Gething, Miss Griffiths, Howells, Johnston, A McMurray*, J
McMurray, Mrs Mason, Pasley, Terry, Walters

*left the meeting at 7.55pm prior to consideration of Minute No. 1404

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council
Mr Richard Penska – NSC Liaison Officer

APOLOGIES Councillor Mrs Lord
Sgt Terry Scoble – Portishead Police

Before commencing the formal business of the meeting the Chairman extended the Council's condolences to Councillor Mrs Cruse and Mr Cruse on their recent bereavement.

In reply Councillor Mrs Cruse thanked the Council for their kind words and flowers.

1400 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing Orders were suspended to allow members of the public to address the Council.

District Councillor Jolley welcomed the intention to invest in facilities at the Lake Grounds, referring in particular to North Somerset Council's proposal to enlarge the children's play area and the Tourism Group's project to install a Bandstand. However, he reminded members that any facilities must be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act. He also urged members to put community needs above political division.

In reply, Councillor Gething confirmed that the ramps, paths and equipment to be provided as part of the project to enlarge the children's play area would all be DDA compliant.

Miss Georgina Way, a resident of 146 Badger Rise, introduced herself as one of the candidates to be considered for co-option onto the Council later in the meeting.

Standing Orders were resumed.

1401 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Mason

- Personal interest in Planning Application No. 06/P/2548/F 11 Monmouth Close, Portishead – Retrospective application for the extension windows to have higher heads at 2.1m from floor level and ridge approx 0.3m higher for this disabled extension.
Reason – property visible from home address

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

Councillors 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 known. They would be exercising their rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

1402 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 163rd Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 8th November 2006 be confirmed as correct subject to the following –

Page 799 Minute No. 1392 4th paragraph, 1st line – remove “Council”

Page 802 Minute No. 1397 RW703 Lake Grounds Play Area 3rd bullet point – Amend “The” to read “Any”.

1403 CASUAL VACANCY – COAST WARD

In accordance with the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986 –

Councillor Miers proposed, Councillor Mrs Cruse seconded, the motion that Georgina Way be co-opted onto the Town Council to fill the casual vacancy in Coast Ward.

Councillor Mrs Bickley proposed, Councillor Mrs Mason seconded, the motion that Rod Hoare be co-opted onto the Town Council to fill the casual vacancy in Coast Ward.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 6.1 voting was by signed ballot. After the voting slips were duly counted and verified by the Clerk and Mr Penska the voting was recorded as 8 votes for each candidate.

It was therefore RESOLVED upon the casting vote of the Chairman that

Georgina Way be co-opted onto the Town Council to fill the casual vacancy in Coast Ward.

Councillor A McMurray left the meeting.

1404 MOTION TO COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 9

Councillor Pasley proposed, Councillor Walters seconded, the following motion –

Motion

1. To set up a Town Council working party to progress this initiative (the availability and possible acquisition of the Kodak building as an amenity for young people) in conjunction with the Tourist Group, the local Police and any other interested parties.
2. That in June 2007 a Steering Group is set up under the auspices of the Town Council to consider the future amenity needs of the wider population of Portishead.

Debate

A lengthy debate ensued. Councillor Pasley reminded members that at their last meeting the Chairman of Portishead Tourism Group had suggested that the former Kodak building on Old Mill Road could be used to accommodate such facilities as a skateboard park, climbing wall, youth café, and drop-in centre, all facilities much needed for the young people of the town. Councillor Pasley acknowledged that there were many practical considerations to take into account but considered that the idea should be investigated. Whilst there was general agreement that there was a need to provide additional facilities in the town councillors commented that –

- The Town Council did not have the resources to support a project of this type.
- Partners/sponsorship should be sought to assist with the project.
- A project of this size would be better suited to a commercial enterprise.
- The Town Council should concentrate on projects that they could achieve and not be distracted by projects they could not achieve.
- The Town Council must have “vision”.

Upon being put to the vote the **Motion** recorded above was carried.

It was therefore RESOLVED

1. To set up a Town Council working party to progress this initiative (the availability and possible acquisition of the Kodak building as an amenity for young people) in conjunction with the Tourist Group, the local Police and any other interested parties.
2. That in June 2007 a Steering Group is set up under the auspices of the Town Council to consider the future amenity needs of the wider population of Portishead.

1405 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2006

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation/Cash Statement for the month of November 2006 be APPROVED.

1406 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Bickley presented the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 29th November 2006.

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

06/P/2631/F THE ASHLANDS

Erection of 60 ‘extracare’ flats and 8 ‘extracare’ bungalows with ancillary areas and 27 parking spaces.

Add to recommendation

- Would wish to see cycle parking provided for staff.

The report of the Committee meeting held on 29th November 2006 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

1407 RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Cruse presented the report of the Recreation & Works Committee meeting held on 22nd November 2006.

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

RW706 TRINITY VA PRIMARY SCHOOL – COMMUNITY FACILITY

Amend recommendation to read –

RESOLVED that

1. The Town Council notes the revised plans and figures and will consider their response when further information on the development options for various levels of funding and details of other potential sources of financial support come forward.
2. A special meeting of the Chairman’s Working Group, to which all members of the Council are invited, be held to consider this information as soon as possible

RW710 SKATEBOARD WORKING PARTY

Amend recommendation to read –

RESOLVED that

1. The Skateboard Working Party be dissolved and in its place the “Portishead Skatepark Project” be established.
2. The Town Council is encouraged by this venture and makes a grant of £200 for initial expenses.

The report of the Committee meeting held on 22nd November 2006 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

1408 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Grants – Letters thanking the Council for grants awarded received from Home-Start North Somerset, Woodspring Association for Blind, DIAL, St Peter & St Pauls Church, Gordano Valley Giants Junior FC, MS Therapy Centre, Portishead in Bloom and Redcliffe Bay Guides.

Streets & Open Spaces Surgery – To commence in New Year.

Bristol International Airport – Master Plan now published.

The following items were circulated for information –

Portishead Children’s Centre Partnership Group – 25.10.2006 & 23.11.2006

Portishead LAT – 19.10.2006

Portishead Tourism Group 14.9.2006 & 16.10.2006

CCTV Log – August & September 2006

NSC Streetscene Newsletter – October 2006

Meeting with Gordano School Council – 15.11.2006

Public Art Steering Group – 19.9.2006

Staffing Committee 14.11.2006 (cllrs only)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

..... Chairman

17th January 2007