

**MINUTES OF THE 119<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY MEETING OF  
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD  
ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2003**

**PRESENT** Councillor Pickering – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brown, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cole, Mrs Cruse, Daws, J Johnston, M Johnston, Mrs Mason, Palmer, Terry, Walters, Whitfield

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

**APOLOGIES** Councillor Pasley

**983 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

Councillor Brown, speaking as a member of the public, drew members attention to the major pot-hole problem on some of the roads in the area and the inaction of North Somerset Council in dealing with the problem. As an example he cited the poor condition of one of the Town's main commuter routes – Combe Road, High Street, Clapton Lane, Naish Hill and Whitehouse Lane – and informed members that despite having driven the route with NSC Highways Officers some three weeks previously, no action had yet been taken to rectify the problem. Councillor Brown also informed members that in a survey of his constituents, the condition of the roads and pot-holes were given a higher priority than education.

Councillor Brown urged all councillors, both individually and collectively, to give this matter their urgent attention and a higher priority.

Councillor Mrs Cruse, spoke in support of Councillor Brown and also pointed out the problem of camber-pulls on Combe Road.

The Clerk was asked to raise these issues with North Somerset Council.

Mr David Downs addressed the Council in respect of his application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for clay pigeon shooting at Weston Lodge Farm, Valley Road, Portishead, which was being considered by the Council later in the meeting.

In particular Mr Downs wished to refute some of the claims made at the Planning Committee meeting on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March and referred members to his sworn affidavit which had been submitted in support of his application. Mr Downs acknowledged that shooting had intensified over the last four years, but the number of shots per day were nowhere near the 7,000 reported at the meeting. Mr Downs also confirmed that he had worked very closely with North Somerset Council's environmental health department to minimise any noise nuisance and he used a shot

cartridge which was the quietest available. He had also positioned shooting bays so as to minimise any noise drift.

Mr Downs stated that he was a member of the Blue Skies Rural Partnership and surveys had shown that 75% of visitors to his establishment stayed in local hotels and used local taxis, restaurants and shops, thus making a major contribution to the local tourism economy.

He asked the Council to support his application.

Standing Orders were resumed.

## **984 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Bickley

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/0259/F – 7 Slade Road  
Reason – Acquaintance of applicant
- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/0176/F – 15 Glenwood Rise  
Reason – Owner of neighbouring property

Councillor J H Clark

- Prejudicial Interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/0259/F – 7 Slade Road  
Reason – Personal friend of applicant. Councillor Clark left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Mrs Cruse

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 990 (RW494) – North Weston Allotment Committee  
Reason – Husband North Weston allotment holder

Councillor J Johnston

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 987 – Application for a grant from Portishead Jubilee Day Care Centre  
Reason – Treasurer of Day Care Centre

Councillor Palmer

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 990 (RW491) – Application for a grant from Portishead Youth Centre  
Reason – Member of Portishead Youth Centre Management Committee; family member involved in project.

Councillor Pickering

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 990 (RW491) – Application for a grant from Portishead Youth Centre  
Reason – Member of Portishead Youth Centre Management Committee

Councillor Terry

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 990 (RW494) – North Weston Allotment Committee  
Reason – Secretary of Portishead Allotment Committee

Councillor Walters

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 990 (RW494) – North Weston Allotment Committee  
Reason – North Weston Allotment holder
- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/0345/O – Land at Homefield, St Mary's Road  
Reason – Owner of property in The Paddock

## **985 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 118<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2003 be confirmed as correct.

## **986 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROVISION**

The Chairman introduced Ms Julie Doughty, Rural Transport Partnership Officer, to the meeting and invited her to outline to members the options available for the establishment of a new Dial-a-Ride/Community Transport Scheme in Portishead.

Ms Doughty confirmed that her research had shown that there was a very real need for a Community Transport Scheme in the area. The options available were –

Option 1 – A management group to be established. This group would purchase and manage their own vehicle and employ a driver and co-ordinator. They would be responsible for the insurance and maintenance of the vehicle as well as all other aspects of the project. The start-up costs would be in the region of £60K-£70K. The management group would be in total control of the scheme.

Option 2 – A management group to be established. A co-ordinator to be employed, but the service to be brokered from a third party ie existing community transport scheme. The vehicle could either be purchased by the management group or provided by the third party. The start-up costs would be the same as Option 1. The management group would still maintain control of the local scheme.

Option 3 – A third party be asked to extend their service into Portishead. There would be little local control over the service.

Ms Doughty also confirmed that 75% funding for Community Transport Schemes was available from the Countryside Agency. The remaining 25% funding could be met by cash and in-kind support.

In answering questions from Councillors, Ms Doughty confirmed that whilst the recent Community Transport Exhibition in Portishead had been very well supported with many visitors, including the Primary Care Trust, pledging their support for the resurrection of a local Community Transport Scheme, it would be necessary to hold a further public meeting in order to consult with the wider community. Ms Doughty also confirmed that she had been instrumental in establishing similar Community Transport Schemes in other areas of North Somerset and Banes.

Councillor J Johnston reminded members that a Community Transport Scheme was essential to the operation of the Jubilee Day Care Centre.

RESOLVED that, in the first instance, a small working party be established as a matter of urgency to

- Investigate the details and evaluate the options available for the establishment of a new Community Transport Scheme.
- Liaise with other groups, including the PCT.
- Set up a public meeting

Councillors Terry, Mrs Mason and Whitfield agreed to form the core membership of the working party and were asked to report back to the 9<sup>th</sup> April meeting of the Town Council.

**987 JUBILEE DAY CARE CENTRE – APPLICATION FOR A GRANT**

Members received an application for a grant towards increased transport costs from the Jubilee Day Care Centre. It was noted that since the Portishead Community Vehicle Trust had folded the Day Care Centre were having to use the services of Nailsea Community Transport and this had resulted in the higher transport costs.

After receiving clarification on the accounts and operational requirements from Councillor J Johnston and the Clerk it was

RESOLVED to award the Jubilee Day Care Centre a grant of £1,000 towards their increased transport costs, to be reviewed again in September 2003.

**988 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT**

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation/Cash Statement for the month of February 2003 be APPROVED.

**989 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor J Johnston, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2003.

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

**03/P/0061/RG3 ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, BRISTOL ROAD,  
PORTISHEAD**

Additional information showing fencing and planting.

Recommend APPROVAL, subject to the railings fronting the school being 1.2m high, not 1.8m as proposed.

It was further noted that responsibility for the upkeep and control of hedges and trees would be the responsibility of the trustees of the school.

**03/P/0194/F                    2 NORE ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Erection of a new 3-bed dwelling in the garden of the existing property.

Add to recommendation for REFUSAL –

North Somerset Council are asked to note the existence of a large oak tree in the garden of this property which is protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

**03/P/0199/F                    HARBOUR ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Infrastructure road, connecting the Vale Development with Harbour Road

Add to recommendation for APPROVAL –

The Town Council ask that the existing Harbour Road be kept clean during these works as mud on the road has already caused problems for traders and businesses in this area.

**03/P/0256/F                    107 NORE ROAD/109 NORE ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Demolition of two existing dwellings and erection of 14 no. apartments and under-croft car park.

Members noted that this application had been withdrawn.

**03/P0458/F                    16 NICHOLS ROAD, PORTISHEAD**

Demolition of retirement home and erection of two 4-bedroomed houses and garages

Amend Committee recommendation for approval to REFUSAL.

**PUBLIC INQUIRY – SHIPWAY FARM, PORTBURY**

Add to recommendation –

The Town Council to be represented at the Public Inquiry by an appropriate member of the Town Council.

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS – LAND AT WESTON LODGE FARM, VALLEY ROAD, PORTISHEAD – CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING**

Amend Committee recommendation as follows –

The Town Council are aware that clay pigeon shooting has taken place on this land for many years.

Delete *subject to:- 28 days.....register be kept.*

The report of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2003 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

**990 RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE**

As Councillor Mrs Cruse, the Chairman of the Recreation and Works Committee, had been absent from the Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2003, the report of the meeting was presented by Councillor M Johnston, who had chaired the meeting.

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations thereon be APPROVED.

The report of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2003 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

**991 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

Provision of new Grit Bin in Raleigh Rise – As NSC have confirmed that it is still their policy to provide grit in grit bins, not in bags, an order has been placed for the new bin in Raleigh Rise.

National Spring Clean Campaign 2003 – Taking place during April and May 2003  
Avon Pension Fund –Employers advised to make allowance for substantial increases in contribution rates due to falling equity markets.

Nore Road/Pembroke Road Bus Shelter – Removed following damage by delivery van on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2003. Van owners have accepted responsibility and a replacement shelter ordered.

The following matters were circulated for information –

- NSC Highways Services Newsletter – January 2003
- Port Marine Public Art Management Group – Nov & Dec 2002, Jan 2003
- Town Forum – 12.2.02
- North Weston Allotment Committee – 28.1.03
- Development of Portishead Youth Centre
- Library Working Party – 26.2.03

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm

..... Chairman

9<sup>th</sup> April 2003