PRESENT

Councillor Johnston – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brown*, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cruse, Daws, Gething, Mrs Lord, Mrs Mason, J McMurray, Miers, Pasley, Rigby, Terry, Walters

*Councillor Brown left the meeting at 9.30pm, shortly before the end of Minute No.1054

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES

Councillors Miss Griffiths, A McMurray

1046 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Gordon Randall, Chairman of Portishead in Bloom Committee, informed members that the Town had beaten off strong competition from Truro, Falmouth, Penzance, and Newquay to come 2nd in its class in the 2003 Britain in Bloom Competition, just behind the winning town of Barnstaple. In addition to the silver gilt award, the Town had also been awarded the City of Bath Cup for the outstanding landscaping at the Port Marine development. Mr Randall paid tribute to the tremendous support the Committee received from the community, praising in particular the high standard of many of the private gardens in the Town. He also thanked the Town Council and North Somerset Council for their support. Mr Randall then presented Richard Keogh of Crest Strategic Projects with the City of Bath Cup which Mr Keogh confirmed would be displayed in the Marketing Suite at Port Marine.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked the Portishead in Bloom Committee for their efforts and congratulated them on their success.

Mr John Mills, the applicant for planning application no. 03/P/1622/F – Erection of a two storey dwelling house at 3 Beach Road West – reiterated the comments he made to the Planning Committee on 1st October and confirmed that the amendment now before the Council addressed some of the concerns raised by members at their 9th July meeting. He hoped the Council would now be able to support the application.

Mr David Hounsell, a resident of Caswell Lane, Clapton in Gordano, asked the Council for support for his suggestion that a public footpath be constructed between Clapton in Gordano and Portishead. Written details of Mr Hounsell’s suggested scheme were circulated. The Chairman confirmed that the matter would be referred to a future meeting of the Recreation and Works Committee and advised Mr Hounsell to also seek the support of District Councillors Terry and Ashton.
Mr Chris Radmore, representing Portishead Railway Action Group, spoke against planning application no. 03/P/2146/F – Construction of a cycle and pedestrian path under the M5 motorway. PRAG considered that this development could be detrimental to the development of the passenger rail link from Portishead to Bristol and urged the Council to uphold the recommendation of the planning committee and refuse the application.

Standing Orders were resumed.

**1047 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Councillor Brown**
- Personal interest in Minute No. 1050 - North Somerset Council Standards Committee – Election of second town/parish council representative
  Reason – Vice-Chairman of Committee

**Councillor Mrs Cruse**
- Personal interest in Minute No. 1055 (RW526) – Redevelopment of Youth Centre
  Reason – Member of Youth Centre Management Committee

**Councillor Gething**
- Personal interest in Minute No. 1055 (RW527) – Boundary Fencing, Station Road Play Area
  Reason – Member of Yansec Board

**Councillor Johnston**
- Personal interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/2287/RG3
  Steps at Portishead Seafront – Proposed replacement of existing steps with new galvanised steel steps.
  Reason – Member of Gordano Society
- Personal interest in Minute No. 1055 (RW526) – Redevelopment of Youth Centre
  Reason – Member of Youth Centre Management Committee

**Councillor Mrs Lord**
- Personal interest in Minute No. 1055 (RW525) – Lake Grounds
  Reason – Member of Licensing Committee

**Councillor Mrs Mason**
- Personal interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/2151/F
  28 Halliwell Road, Redcliffe Bay – Demolition of existing timber framed chalet and provision of two dormer bungalows with basement garages
  Reason – Acquaintance of neighbours of applicant

**Councillor J McMurray**
- Personal interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/2151/F
  28 Halliwell Road, Redcliffe Bay – Demolition of existing timber framed chalet and provision of two dormer bungalows with basement garages.
  Reason – Relatives are neighbours of applicant
• Personal interest in Minute No. 1055 (RW524) – Portishead Quays Public Art 
  Reason – Member of Portishead Quays Public Art Steering Group

Councillor Walters
• Personal interest in Planning Application No. 03/P/2398/0 
  Homefield, St Mary’s Road, Portishead – 5 no. two storey houses and garages with 
  access from The Paddock 
  Reason – Owner of property in The Paddock

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

Councillors Daws, Brown, J H Clark, Gething, 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.

1048 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 125th Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North 
Weston Town Council held on 3rd September 2003 be confirmed as correct.

1049 PORTISHEAD LIFEBOAT TRUST

Members received a comprehensive presentation on the operation of the Portishead 
Lifeboat from Mr Colin Wilson, Chairman of Portishead Lifeboat Trust.

Mr Wilson outlined the background of the Trust, from its establishment in 1995 to the 
present day, and gave details of some of the many incidents it had been involved with. 
Mr Wilson also explained the operational aspects of running the lifeboat and described 
how the Trust worked closely with other emergency services – Police, Fire, 
Ambulance, Coastguard, RAF (air sea rescue). Mr Wilson stressed that, whilst all 
those involved with the operation of the lifeboat were volunteers, £25,000 per year 
was currently required to run the service. This covered such things as insurance, fuel, 
pagers, maintenance, equipment and training and was raised through donations, 
corporate sponsorship, local authority grants, fund-raising events and bequests. The 
Trust were extremely grateful for the support given to them by the local community 
and for the “in-kind” assistance they received from a number of sources – Police, 
Ambulance, RNLI, accountant, solicitor and medical practitioners.

Mr Wilson concluded his presentation by outlining the Trust’s plans for the future, 
which included relocating to purpose built premises near Portishead Pier and possible 
adoption by the RNLI.

In answering questions from Councillors Mr Wilson confirmed that all the lifeboat 
rescue services in the area worked closely together and the Trust also received support 
from the Bristol Port Company.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked Mr Wilson for his very interesting 
presentation.
1050 NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ELECTION OF SECOND TOWN/PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Further to Minute No. 1026 members were informed that North Somerset Council were now inviting nominations for a second Town/Parish Council representative on the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED that Councillor James McMurray be nominated as second Town/Parish Council representative on the North Somerset Council Standards Committee.

1051 GORDANO VALLEY ROUND TABLE – PORTISHEAD CARNIVAL

Members received a letter from the Chairman of Gordano Valley Round Table, Mr Paul Madge, confirming that the Round Table had reluctantly decided to withdraw from organising the annual Portishead Carnival due to their falling membership. In his letter Mr Madge acknowledged that this year's Carnival had been a tremendous success but pointed out that this was mainly due to the additional help the Round Table had received from the wider community. Mr Madge confirmed that there were several members of the community who would be interested in assisting with the organisation of future Carnivals and asked the Town Council to call a public meeting with a view to establishing a separate Portishead Carnival Committee.

During the ensuing discussion members expressed their general support for the continuation of the Carnival and

RESOLVED that the Chairman call a public meeting (provisional date 4th November 2003) with a view to establishing a separate Portishead Carnival Committee.

A budget of £100 was agreed for advertising costs.

1052 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2003

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

1053 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT – PARISH TRANSPORT GRANT

Further to Minute No. 995, Councillor Terry now reported that the Countryside Agency were again inviting applications for funding towards community transport schemes. Parish Transport Grants of up to £10,000 per town or parish were available and it had been suggested by Ms Julie Doughty, North Somerset Rural Transport Partnership Officer, that the Town Council lead a bid, in conjunction with two neighbouring parishes, for up to £30,000. This would enable Nailsea Community Transport to carry out a one-year pilot project to evaluate the level of local demand for a Portishead based community transport scheme. Members noted that the closing date for applications was 31st October 2003.

Members fully supported the suggestion that a grant application be submitted and
RESOLVED that

1. Portishead and North Weston Town Council approve the submission of a Parish Transport Grant Application to the Countryside Agency for a pilot project in the Portished Area in association with Nailsea & District Community Transport.

2. Portishead and North Weston Town Council support the pilot project with a one-off contribution of £1,000.

1054 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Bickley, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 1st October 2003.

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

03/P/2039/RM ASHLANDS, PORTISHEAD (CHARLES CHURCH)

Add 3rd comment –

• We note that the alleyways have been removed for no apparent reason.

Recommend APPROVAL

03/P/2259/ADV WILSON CONNELLY SALES AREA, CHARLCOMBE BAY CARAVAN PARK, DOWN ROAD, PORTISHEAD

Amend first condition to read

• Illuminations to be switched off at 6pm to avoid nuisance to neighbours and because of the sites rural location;

PLANNING ADMINISTRATION

In view of the confidential nature of certain aspects of this matter this item was deferred until the end of the meeting and dealt with in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The report of the Committee meeting held on 1st October 2003 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

1055 RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Cruse, Chairman of the Recreation and Works Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 24th September 2003.
RESOLVED that the report and recommendations thereon be APPROVED, subject to
the following –

**RW524 PORTISHEAD QUAYS – PUBLIC ART**

Councillor J McMurray to represent the Council at the 6th November 2003 Parish Voice forum.

**RW525 LAKE GROUNDS**

Councillor Pasley informed members of his deep concern about the number of incidents of public disorder in and around the Lake Grounds area, citing in particular a very serious incident which had taken place the previous Friday. He considered that the majority of these incidents were drink related and urged the Council to consider applying for a bye-law prohibiting the drinking of alcohol at the Lake Grounds.

RESOLVED that, in the first instance, the Chairman and Clerk organise an urgent meeting with Avon and Somerset Constabulary Inspector Patrick McGowan and Chief Superintendent Tracy Hayler.

**RW527 BOUNDARY FENCING – PLAY AREA, STATION ROAD**

Having received clarification on certain aspects of the proposal from Councillors Johnston and Clark it was

RESOLVED to contribute £500 towards the project.

The report of the Committee meeting held on 24th September 2003 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

**1056 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

Royal British Legion Annual Remembrance Service – Sunday 9th November 2003
North Weston Village Hall Management Committee – Would wish the replacement hall to be built on the existing site.
Grants Working Party – to meet during October.
Portishead Youth Centre – No longer pursuing proposal to build a new Youth Centre at the Marina.

The following items were circulated for information –

Portishead Tourism Group – 2.9.03
NSC Highways Services – August 2003
Portishead Community Safety LAT – 15.7.03
Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee – 4.8.03
North Weston Allotment Committee – 26.6.03
RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that certain aspects of its consideration would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

This item was deferred from consideration earlier in the meeting (Minute No. 1054 refers).

Further to Minute No. 1036 members now considered whether the Planning Committee should continue to meet on Wednesday evenings or revert to Saturday mornings. On a point of clarification it was confirmed that the Assistant Clerk would attend Wednesday evening meetings subject to amendment to her contract of employment, but not Saturday meetings.

Councillor Mrs Bickley, the Chairman of the Planning Committee, also reminded members that as she would be absent for the November and December Committee meetings a temporary Chairman would be required.

After a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED, on the casting vote of the Chairman, that

1. The Planning Committee meetings revert to Saturday mornings with effect from the December meeting.

2. As Councillor Mrs Bickley will be absent for the November and December Committee meetings Councillor Rigby be appointed Chairman of the Planning Committee for November and Councillors Mrs Lord and Johnston be jointly responsible for planning applications received during November and the December meeting.

3. Members continue to receive a weekly list of planning applications received.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm