

DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER OF DARTMOUTH GUILDHALL ON MONDAY 2nd JULY 2018

- PRESENT:** Cllrs: R Lyon (Mayor); F Pritchard-Tagg (Deputy Mayor)
Cllrs: M Baillie; R Cooke; T Fyson; T de Galleani; D Gent; B
Harriss; F Hawke; D Kelland; I Pritchard; S Smith.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Sergeant: R Lambden; Town Clerk: C Pritchard-Williams;
Administrator: Ruth Searle; County & District Cllr: J Hawkins;
District Cllrs: H Bastone & R Rose; Dartmouth Chronicle: Charley
Adams; Dartmouth Visitor Centre: Karen Perrow; 14 members
of the public

45. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced the standard emergency evacuation procedures. He requested that mobile phones and other devices be set on silent or turned off. Anyone intending to record any part of the meeting was asked to declare this.

46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr P Allen; G Coles; R Springett; S Thomson.

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr de Galleani declared an interest in the market square.

48. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE POLICE

Sgt Simons' was not able to attend the meeting, but his report was circulated to all Cllrs. (attached)
Cllr Gent spoke about the section on CCTV, and asked the Council to debate this issue before going ahead with it.
The Mayor asked for this to be moved to the next General Purposes committee.

49. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM AND PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jonathan Hawkins gave a verbal report which covered:

- There have been several meetings about the closure of the hospital and the future of the health and wellbeing centre. The MP Sarah Wollaston at the meeting in St Saviour's church said that she could not support her communities more and Cllr Hawkins was sad that she doesn't use her influence on Dartmouth's behalf.
- There is a meeting at County Hall 09/07/18 with Andrew Leadbetter who is a cabinet member for Adults services; several people from Dartmouth would attend to get reassurances from County that the issue of the hospital will be addressed.

- On Friday 06/07/2018 at the Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) for DCC a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) will be considered, and will go out to consultation, the areas being considered are in: Crowthers Hill; Bayards Cove; Broadstone & a loading bay at Coronation Park for the tea rooms there.
- Cllr Hawkins wanted to congratulate the new team at Dartmouth town Council for making Dartmouth look so much better.
- Cllr Hawkins also wanted to give thanks to Jo Tucker on all the effort she has done to have the outdoor swimming pool open this month.

Questions

Cllr de Galleani asked if Vicarage Hill and the end of North Ford Road could be added to the traffic orders, Cllr Hawkins said these were added to the scheme too late, and he suggested she email him again about these suggestions for next time.

Cllr Smith asked do you think that Riverview is dead in the water? Or could it still be an option temporarily? Cllr Hawkins said that he would hope that all options are still open: the existing hospital; Riverview or a new Well Being Centre. Riverview can only come back into place if the owner comes back with a realistic price.

Cllr Fyson asked about Crowthers Hill and what will be achieved with the TRO? Cllr Hawkins replied that he should go and look at the HATOCK Papers online (<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=168>)

Cllr Fyson also asked how DCC determine which pot holes are fixed. Cllr Hawkins answered that there was a pot hole policy, and if you go onto the website (<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>) you can clearly see the depth required and you can report it there.

The Mayor added that the emergency repairs that are being carried out as an interim are not good quality and this seemed like a waste of money, Cllr Hawkins said he agreed with this.

District Cllr Rosemary Rowe had already circulated her written report (attached)

Cllr Rowe also mentioned that there was another team who inspected the pot holes around 6 weeks after the pot hole has been fixed.

Questions

Cllr de Galleani said that when you ring up to explain your recycling bags have not been collected then they are obviously very busy because she was told she was 12 in the queue. Cllr Rowe replied that there is just a large volume of calls at the time.

Cllr Smith asked how many prosecutions there had been for fly-tipping, Cllr Rowe replied that she thought there were five in total.

Cllr Pritchard asked about the cost to residents to have a large piece of furniture removed, and wouldn't it be better if it was a cheaper service to encourage people to use this service rather than perhaps fly-tipping. Cllr Rowe said it cost £18 but residents can take bulky items to the Totnes recycling centre for free?

Cllr Hilary Bastone gave a verbal report which covered:

- Thanking the Town Council, Cllr Springett in particular for arranging the D Day memorial service and he would like to keep the memorial service going.

- The Transformation program has now been closed down
- At the overview & scrutiny meeting there was a lengthy debate about the homeless action plan for 2018-19, he confirmed they dealt with 377 homeless situations last year. (as per Cllr Rowe's report)
- Update on the Neighbourhood Planning and the support given to groups, there is now an officer who will extend support to neighbourhood planning groups.
- There was a review on carparking equipment and there is going to be some alterations there due to a lot of the equipment getting damaged throughout the year.
- Update on food safety audit action plan.
- There was a press release for the health and wellbeing centre at the top of the hill, an email about the 'Communities Together Fund', which replaces the tap fund.
- The leisure centre at the top of the hill had an open day on Saturday, he spent some time there with the manager and saw all the new equipment that has been installed.
- Cllr Bastone praised the outdoor pool for all the work that has taken place up there to get it up and running with a lot of financial support from local companies. He spoke with Fusion about them potentially taking on the management of the outdoor pool as well. Fusion apparently manage more outdoor pools than indoor pool and the outdoor pool would cost around £750,000 to rebuild from scratch.

Questions

Cllr Smith asked if there was a price put on affordable housing at the meeting on the 14th June.

Cllr Bastone spoke about the Community Land Trust, (<http://www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk/>) which allows people to group together and build their own houses. In Dartington people are working towards building their own houses with the support of SHDC.

Cllr Smith asked if SHDC were making any effort at all with social housing providers to provide social housing. Cllr Baston replied that over the last 3 years SHDC have helped 348 social houses to be built with rents at 80% of the local rental market price. They expect to build another 100 houses in the South Hams in the next 12 months.

Cllr Cooke said that he had received a string of emails complaining about the terrible state of litter on the embankment, mainly from the Rockfish business involving large cardboard boxes, the correspondence noted that Rockfish sponsored some of these bins, but they seem to be inadequate for the purpose, can SHDC do anything about this? Cllr Hawkins said to please send any complaints straight on to him so that he can action this and do something about it.

Cllr Lyon, thought that some of the bins that Rockfish had sponsored had disappeared.

Cllr Lyon thought there was also some repairs to a the bin flaps which would stop the seagulls getting into the bins.

Cllr Gent said to Cllr Smith that Dartmouth United Charities have been talking about building more social housing.

50. QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public asked if Cllr Cooke's comments about her that were sent to the editor of the Dartmouth Chronicle, were his views or the views of the Council. The Mayor replied that this was the view of Cllr Cooke, and that the Council were very pleased with what Community Chest are doing for the town and we wish you well.

The editor of the Dartmouth Chronicle spoke about two newspaper articles with regards to Flat 6A and Community Chest and an email received from Cllr Cooke with reference to the two newspaper articles. The editor also spoke about correspondence between the Clerk and himself on similar issues.

The editor asked if he should take the Clerks view or a Councillors view as the truth?

The Mayor said that Cllrs have several hats on; sometimes they speak on behalf of themselves; other times they speak from on behalf of their businesses and other times they speak as a Cllr and they do this on a voluntary basis, and really do try their best.

The Mayor added that the Clerks' statement would be the official view of the Council.

A member of the public asked if the Council had any plans to get rid of the alga at the back of the Butterwalk and to then repaint it?

The Mayor said that this could go onto the Corporate Property committee agenda

A member of the public spoke about how Royal Avenue Gardens was a disgrace, it was seriously lacking in flowers as well as all the repairs that needed doing.

The Mayor said that it still belonged to SHDC and this question should be directed at the three District Councillors sitting in this room. The Mayor added that once DTC took them on then there would be a big difference.

A member of the public asked if Cllr de Galleani was aware that Dartmouth Community Chest gave out over £3,000 in fuel poverty last year.

51. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 4th JUNE 2018

Members reviewed the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 4th June 2018.

Proposed: Cllr Gent

Seconded: Cllr de Galleani

Resolved: That the Report and Recommendations of the meeting of the Town Council held on 4th June 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

All Councillors were in favour.

12 members of the public left the room.

52. TO RECEIVE SUCH CORRESPONDENCE AS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN MAYOR

The Clerk read out correspondence about:

- Tougher Penalties for Irresponsible Dog Owners
- RNLI Summer Fete
- Crew Clothing Polo Bar – A discussion ensued, and it was decided to notify SHDC and pass this item to the next Planning Committee meeting.
- Food Festival TTRO request

53. BYE-LAWS

Cllr Gent spoke about the draft he had circulated previously.

He said that there would now be a consultation with members of the public and then a new draft would be brought back to the September Full Council meeting.

54. TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS OF THE UNDER MENTIONED COMMITTEES:

- **Finance Committee – 12th June 2018**

Members reviewed the minutes.

Proposed: Cllr Pritchard-Tagg

Seconded: Cllr Gent

Resolved: That the Report and Recommendations of a meeting of the Finance Committee held on 12th June 2018 be approved.

All Cllrs in favour

- **Parks & Open Spaces Committee – 19th June 2018**

Members reviewed the minutes.

Cllr Cooke explained that this was the first meeting of this committee and the Groundsman had presented his strategy document for the future which was a work in progress.

Cllr Cooke also spoke about the current staffing level and recruitment issues.

Cllr Cooke also mentioned that the Groundsman would like DTC to enter Britain in Bloom for next year.

Cllr Fyson mentioned the creation of a management committee and that it should be Cllrs and not members of the public. Cllr Cooke clarified it would be staff and Cllrs making day to day decisions and reporting back to this committee.

Cllr Rowe left the room

Cllr Hawke said that this should be looked at by the Personnel Committee, but also the management committee should be the Cllrs and not staff due to the current workload that the staff currently have.

Proposed: Cllr Gent

Seconded: Cllr de Galleani

Resolved: That the Report and Recommendations of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on 19th June 2018 be approved.

All Cllrs in favour

- **Planning Committee – 27th June 2018**

Members reviewed the minutes.

Proposed: Cllr Gent

Seconded: Cllr Fyson

Resolved: That the Report and Recommendations of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on 27th June 2018 be approved.

All Cllrs in favour

55. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM AND PUT QUESTIONS TO REPRESENTATIVES ON PUBLIC BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Cllr Gent attended a number of meetings:

- Last Tuesday there was a Patients Participation Group meeting where there was a discussion about the current hospital situation and an up and coming meeting with Liz Davenport. The current number of days waiting for appointments is 5.
- Regatta - on Wednesday there will be the annual mtg for the volunteers which will take place at the Flavel. There is a Regatta fundraiser on Saturday in the Old Market called the Wild West. There will definitely not be an airshow this year during Regatta.
- Youth Club – having said the attendance was growing last month he had to report that the numbers were dropping due to the lovely weather, so last week the youth workers shut Ivy Lane and went out to do some outreach work to talk to the kids in Royal Avenue Gardens.
- Chamber of Trade – the first meeting for 14 months is taking place next week.

Cllr Pritchard said that as far as she was aware this council had never minuted a policy on any action to be taken to the Patients Participation Group, this council should form a policy on what questions should be asked to them.

Cllr Gent will come up with a policy on this and bring it back to Full council

56. CLERK'S REPORT OF FINANCIAL MATTERS FOR APRIL & MAY 2018

The Mayor spoke about the Annual Governance and Accountability Return form that was in the Cllrs green folders, the Mayor said that he would sign this form.

All Cllrs in favour

The Clerk had circulated copies of the financial matters for April & May 2018

Proposed: Cllr Cooke

Seconded: Cllr Gent

Resolved: That the Clerk's report of financial matters for April & May 2018 under Standing Order No. 56 (b) be approved.

57. TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF DEEDS OF GRANT EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL FOR GRAVE NO:

There were none

- 58. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS ASKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO 29**
Cllr Pritchard asked about circulating the papers before the meeting so that Cllrs could digest the papers. The Mayor responded that we would see what could be done.
The Mayor spoke about the current precept and staffing levels of all the local Councils and that a document would be circulated.
- 59. ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**
There were none
- 60. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**
Proposed: Cllr Gent
Seconded: Cllr Hawke
Resolved: That in view of the confidential nature of business about to be transacted, it was in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw.
- 61. FLAT 6A**
The Mayor explained that this was on here for the Council to decide what should happen to Flat 6a.
There was a lengthy discussion about it and arguments for offering the flat to the museum took place as well as arguments to offer it on to the open market.
Several Councillors thought that due to the impending transfer of assets, the Council had a duty to utilise any properties they owned and rent it on the open market.
Proposed: Cllr Hawke
Seconded: Cllr Gent
Resolved: That flat 6a is renovated and continued to be used for housing to the highest bidder.
6 Cllrs were for this proposal
5 Cllrs were against the proposal
- 62. HENLEY TRUST / MUSEUM**
It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.
- 63. EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR UNIT 3 & UNIT 5**
A discussion took place about this item
Proposed: Cllr Gent
Seconded: Cllr Hawke
Resolved: To offer the units to no 1 & no 3 from the expressions of interest list.
There was one abstention
- 64. QUOTES FOR CATERING AT THE WEARA LUNCH**
A discussion took place about this item
Proposed: Cllr Gent
Seconded: Cllr Cooke

Resolved: That the Council accept quote C.

Cllr de Galleani thanked the members of staff who did the catering in previous years and commented on what a good job they had done.

65. QUOTES FOR TOILET MAINTENANCE

There was a discussion about turnstiles being installed into the toilets, so the Council could make some revenue from them.

It was explained that the Town Groundsman has asked SHDC to quote to continue to clean the toilets in the town, for an interim period once we have taken them on, until we are in a position to go out to tender from other companies who can offer this facility.

Proposal: Cllr Hawke

Seconded: Cllr Gent

Resolution: To take SHDC up on this offer until the 31st March and during this time we seek other quotes.

Nine Cllr in favour of this proposal

One Cllr against

One Cllr abstention

66. PURCHASE OF STORAGE/OFFICE FACILITY FOR LAND AT BOTTOM OF COLLEGE WAY

There was a discussion about purchasing two storage facilities for the land at the bottom of college way.

Proposal – Cllr Cooke

Seconded – Cllr Kelland

All Cllrs were in agreement

The meeting finished 21.20

ACTION

Cllr Gent will come up with a policy on actions to be taken to the Patients Participation Group and bring it back to Full council.

The Clerk to add to look at the algae on the wall at the back of the museum to Corporate Property Committee agenda

The Clerk to add CCTV discussion to the General Purposes committee agenda.

APPENDIX A

Police report to Town Council - 01/06/2018 to 02/07/2018

Theft – Shoplifting

Two males whose images have been captured are stealing from M&S, Boots and the CO-OP. Their images have been circulated on social media and pro-active police patrols are taking place to identify and arrest the males.

Burglary: Stoke Fleming

Residential property entered whilst people on holiday. Jewellery stolen

Burglary/Theft:

Ferry Office – Lower ferry.

Person has entered the cash office and gained access to the safe stealing the weekend's takings.

Images of a male and female who police wish to speak to in connection with theft have been circulated in the media. Ongoing investigation

Drink Drive

Male arrested having been seen to driving whilst under the influence of alcohol in Castle Road, Kingswear.

TOWN CCTV

Plans have started with Cllr Springett to install CCTV within the town. Local businesses are keen to be part of the plan and liaison is taking place with those interested to support the scheme.

Sgt Iain Simons

APPENDIX B

South Hams District Council report for June 2018 from Rosemary Rowe.

During the month of June I have not had many meetings to attend at Follaton House, they have been mainly workshop type meetings. There have been several meetings concerning the Health and Well being proposals for Dartmouth and the surrounding area .An Announcement was made by Cllr Tucker at the last meeting on Friday 22nd June .So we hope for a way forward now.

There was an Open day at The Dartmouth Pool last Saturday where everything was free from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

So in order to give you some more information about the work of our Council I took a look at The Councils` Face book page where there is a lot of information about what is going on or has taken place. I would recommend that when you have a bit of spare time or simply an interest go on the page and take a look at what is happening. Some of the more interesting topics included;

Affordable Housing with Cllr.Bastone

This week is National Democracy Week.

Health Matters. Smoking in pregnancy.

Homelessness. 334 households were saved from being made homeless by the District Council in the past year.

Non Collection of Waste in certain areas. Due in some cases to the shortage of drivers or Lorries breaking down and sometimes at breaking point with the amount of waste on board when the weight limit is reached. The lorry has to go back to the waste disposal depot to empty and then runs out of time.

Warnings about beach safety.

Food hygiene inspections. 630 were carried out in the last year, so you can now check out the rating of your favourite Eating place.

Fly tipping. 850 of these were cleared and collected by S.H.D.C. In the last year. Please make sure that you use a licensed waste carrier to remove anything that you wish to dispose of.S.H.D.C. Will collect bulky items for just £18.00 per item.

You can find out more about what your Council does for you in The Annual Report which I spoke to you about last month.

Finally enjoy the Summer Events coming up in your area and hopefully we will have some decent weather albeit not quite so hot.

Best wishes,

Rosemary.