

DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER OF DARTMOUTH GUILDHALL ON MONDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Baillie; N Bodinnar; T de Galleani; A Edsall;
G Webb (Mayor) L Williams (Chair) Cllr D Shepherd

IN ATTENDANCE: Administrator: Ruth Searle; Finance Officer: Alison McGrigor; Cllr R Rendle; Dartmouth Chronicle: Emily Baker; one member of the public

PART 1 - Open to the Public

32. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs S Hibbard (Deputy Mayor); R Lyon (Vice Chair).

33. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr de Galleani declared a pecuniary interest in item 4 & 12 (the Market)

Cllr Williams stated that item 8 – Cemetery would be moved and discussed after item 4 - The Market

34. TOILETS

- **To discuss the idea of taking over Manor Gardens Toilets**

Cllr Edsall & Cllr Williams have written a letter via the office, to SHDC and The Chronicle to voice concerns about the closure of the toilets and the withdrawal of offer to hand over to DTC. The Chair asked for this to be looked at again. Cathy Aubertin replied to say that Cllr May from SHDC would reply. Cllr Williams stated that this would be looked at again.

- **To discuss proposed charging at Castle Estate Toilets**

No update as will be taken on by new Properties Manager

Cllr T. de Galleani left the room

35. MARKET

- **To discuss existing signage**

Cllr Williams had spoken to Richard Gage, Specialist (Heritage –Development Management) for SHDC about updating the signage by the side doors on Market Street. Richard Gage suggested that a like for like replacement of the existing signage by the front entrance, would not necessarily have to go through the process of approval. Cllr Williams also spoke to Richard Gage about moving / replacing signage in Royal Avenue Gardens and the Boat Float, and the possibly of a flag outside the market. Cllr Williams said that there would be further discussion with Richard Gage about this. Cllr Shepherd asked for more welcoming signage on the entrances to the market.

ACTION: The Chair to follow up with Richard Gage and the Market working group

- **To discuss the Market working group**

Cllr Williams had spoken to five shop tenants who were not aware there is a market working group and she suggested that the Market Working group meet when the traders are there too. This meeting would need to be led by the Cllrs and not the tenants. Cllr Shepherd suggested that the Market Facebook page, be run by the tenants and traders. The chair said that she had already contacted the originator of the Facebook page and he has advised that he is happy to hand the page over. Cllr Edsall also volunteered his help in meeting with the market working group offering his support.

ACTION: Market Working group meeting to be arranged.

- **To discuss smoking in the market**

Cllr Williams gave an update; the Properties Administrator had been to all market tenants and traders requesting wishes for smoking or non smoking. With the tenants: 4 were against the smoking in the market and 10 wanted the market to be smoking. With the traders: 8 were against the smoking in the market and 2 abstained. Cllr Williams allowed a member of the public to ask a question, he asked if this could be discussed by Full Council, and pointed out that some Cllrs had been seen smoking in the market and that this was going against the Council's current policy. Cllr Edsall asked for this to be minuted *"the previous council has put us in a very difficult position by making a decision, which affects the tenants of this council but appears to make an effort to improve public health. The difficulty we now have is that we have tenants who feel that they have not been consulted and their livelihoods are being affected. But as a council we have a choice we either reverse the ban which in my opinion might never have been set and nobody would ever been stuck in this mess and assist our tenants which we have a duty to do but in doing so we fly in the face of any kind public health remit, we are effectively going backwards and not forwards so it is an impossible decision to make, as there are people on both sides of the argument who feel passionate about it. I feel rather annoyed we are in this situation that back in November when this decision should never have been made."*

Cllr Baillie said do we know what the legal position is? Also, what about the wider public, they may not want smoking in the market. Cllr Webb agreed that Cllr Baillie has a very valid point. Cllr Williams suggested to carry out a week's survey/questionnaire, and the results to be returned to the office.

Proposed: Cllr Baillie

Seconded: Cllr Edsall

Resolved: To recommend to Full Council that Cllr Williams and Cllr Shepherd carry out a survey and allow the results to be posted in a sealed box and returned back to the office.

All committee members in attendance were in favour

- **To discuss traders parking permits**

Cllr Shepherd voiced concern that traders are parking on market days when not having a stall, she also asked who checked if the permits were current ones as it had been noted that some are parking there when they not actually trading on a market day. Cllr Bodinnar asked if the permits have a date on them, so the traffic warden knows which ones are current. It was confirmed that there are different colours each year and a date is on each permit.

Action: It was suggested to put to the working group to look at a solution, ask the market supervisor to inform the traffic warden of this year's colour.

- **To discuss reinstating rubbish bin in the market**

Cllr Williams said that traders had asked for a rubbish bin to be put in the market. A quote had been received, unfortunately it was for a commercial wheelie bin. Cllr Williams confirmed it was for the traders and public, and it was to be a normal waste bin. Cllr Williams suggested a simple solution, to put it in market supervisor job description to empty every day. Cllr Shepherd suggested putting this to the working group to look at.

Action: This is to go to the working group to be discussed.

Cllr T. de Galleani re-entered the meeting

36. CEMETERY

- **To discuss purchasing Cemetery Lodge**

Cllr Edsall asked if we had any further information about the change or cancel of covenant on the chapel lodge. As it can only be sold as a chapel of rest, there is no commercial value. Cllr Rendle explained that the covenant was put on to keep the respect for the surrounding cemetery.

The Chair proposed that we inform the Co-Op that we are possibly interested in the purchase of the building on further investigation and are waiting on confirmation from our solicitor about the legal status of the covenant.

Proposed: Cllr Edsall

Seconded : Cllr Williams

Resolution: To recommend to Full Council that the Clerk writes a letter to the Co-Op about a possible interest in purchasing the building, and to ask the Council Solicitor about the covenant on the building.

All committee members in attendance were in favour

Cllr A Edsall left the meeting at 6.50

37. CASTLE ESTATE

- **To discuss re-introducing parking charges at the car park at Castle Estate**

The Clerk had provided one quote, but it was discussed that two further quotes would be needed.

There was concern that during the winter months people would park on the road, so the income would be limited to the summer months.

It was suggested to ask SHDC for a FOI on how much the revenue was for the last couple of years.

Proposed: Cllr L Williams

Seconded: Cllr M Baillie

Resolution: To recommend to Full Council that the Clerk writes to SHDC for a FOI on the revenue from the Car Park all in favour

All committee members in attendance were in favour

38. IVY LANE

- **To update on the Ivy Lane refurbishment**

The Chair confirmed that the refurbishment is nearly finished and it's just the flooring in the toilet and hallway that will be done next week. The Properties administrator is getting a quote for the main hall floor which will be done in a phase 2 once the hall has re-opened on the 3rd October.

Marketing of the building needs to be discussed at a later stage.

Cllr Shepherd asked if community groups could use Ivy Lane free of charge, to help with their costs. Cllr de Galleani asked if Ivy Lane could be looked at for holding dance/exercise classes there.

39. CCTV

- The Clerk had an email from the Company "Full Stop" stating that they are still waiting on Devon County Council about the electrical supply. Cllr Baillie asked about CCTV cameras for Townstal, and it was suggested that we ask SHDC if CCTV can be added to Townstal.

Proposed: Cllr L Williams

Seconded: Cllr D Shepherd

Resolution: To recommend to Full Council that the Chair & Cllr Shepherd draft a letter to go to SHDC about CCTV for Townstal via the Clerk.

All committee members in attendance were in favour

40. CORONATION PARK

- **To receive an update on the toilets**

The maintenance staff had drawn up a list of work that needed to be done. Cllr Webb suggested that quotes were needed for vandal free toilets, also look at all options for the toilet maintenance. Look at costs for the steel gates as per RAG Toilets

Action: The new Properties Manager will action this.

- **To consider the request from the RNLI for a permanent building on Coronation Park.** This is now on hold at requested by the RNLI.

41. OTHER ISSUES

- **Dog Bins**

The Properties Administrator had asked SHDC for a list of all the dog bins in Dartmouth and the office is currently still waiting to receive this information. Cllr de Galleani stated that SHDC have said they will not provide any more dog poo bins, it can be placed in the ordinary bins which are now dual bins.

Action: chase up list from SHDC, The Chair will go around town and count up the dog poo bins.

- **Composting Ideas**

The Chair asked for a suggestion of where to place composite bins for the public to use as now no compost skips provided within town. As per the scheme currently running in Ashprington, which is managed by the residents. Cllr Williams asked if it was possible to have community skips once a month? The Depot at BRNC was ruled out due to safety of access, security & would require a waste management licence. Cllr Williams also suggested possibly at park and ride. DTC would then have to get permission from SHDC.

Action: The Chair said she would enquire from Ashprington how they went about it.

The member of the public left the room

- **Blocked Drains**

The chair stated there are numerous blocked street drains around town and how do we go about reporting them? Can this be put to the office? The Finance Officer explained that blocked drains are dealt with by Devon County Council. It is best for individuals to report directly. The easiest way is via DTC website, on the "Report it page" where there is a direct link to Devon County Council's website to report blocked drains.

<http://www.dartmouthtowncouncil.gov.uk/report-it>

Action: The Chair will report them

42. TO ACCEPT ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- There were no items put forward

Cllr de Galleani left the room

43. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Proposed: Cllr Williams

Seconded: Cllr Baillie

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.

Cllr Rendle remained

PART 2 – Confidential

44. TO DISCUSS THE LENGTH OF THE SITTING OUT LICENSE FOR THE MARKET CAFÉ & DART TO MOUTH DELI

- The Chair said it had been previously discussed but needed to be looked at. The administrator explained that as it had been voted on in July 2019, and ratified at Full Council in September 2019, so could not be discussed for a further six months (i.e. March 2020) as per our Standing orders.

The meeting closed at 19.35