

DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING OF DARTMOUTH TOWN
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2020 at 6PM

PRESENT: 6 Cllrs were present: N Bodinnar; A Edsall; S Hibbert (Deputy Mayor); D Shepherd; G Webb (Mayor); G Yardy

IN ATTENDANCE: Administrator: R Searle; Town Clerk: C Pritchard-Williams
Cllr C Campos; Chairman of Kingswear Parish Council: Lynne Maurer; Representative from the Kingswear Neighbourhood Plan Group: Eileen Parkes; 1 representative from the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan Group: Robert Brooks and one member of the public

At the beginning of the meeting, the Chairman read out the notification of the audible recording of meetings.

To remind both Councillors and the public that this meeting is being audibly recorded and will be uploaded to our YouTube channel for public viewing.

Members of the public participating in the meeting (eg: asking questions) should be aware that they will be recorded or reported on. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of this sound recording.

The chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the council.

PART 1 - Open to the Public

26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies had been received

27 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received at this point

28 PRESENTATION FROM KINGSWEAR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP

Eileen Parkes, Chairman of the Kingswear Neighbourhood Plan Group, came to speak about the journey they had taken in Kingswear to create their Neighbourhood Plan.

She gave the Committee and members of the public, the opportunity to ask questions and provided copies of the Kingswear Neighbourhood Plan Timeline, Questionnaire and other helpful documents.

Cllr Edsall thanked Eileen for giving her presentation and said that it was very helpful as the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan was only in the very early stages and introduced her to Robert Brooke the Chairman.

Appendix A

Eileen Parks, Lynne Maurer and Robert Brooks left the meeting at 18.26

29 TO UPDATE THE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW FOCUS, AND FINDINGS TO DATE, OF THE COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Cllr Campos gave an update from the last Communications and Engagement Working Group meeting.

The minutes from the last meeting are attached as Appendix B

Members discussed the issues within the minutes.

30 TO CONSIDER THE NEW PLAN FOR THE DARTMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE

Cllr Campos gave an update on the changes that the Properties Administrator had made to the existing website to make it more streamlined and said that she had no problem in recommending them.

Cllr Webb said he'd like to give a vote of thanks to the Properties Administrator for all the work she had put in.

Proposal: Cllr Bodinnar

Seconded: Cllr Yardy

Resolved: That the Committee recommend to Full Council that the changes to the website are implemented.

All Cllrs in favour

31 TO CONSIDER THE EFFECT ON THE DARTMOUTH PARK AND RIDE USAGE FOLLOWING THE BUILDING OF THE HEALTH & WELL BEING CENTRE

Cllr Edsall said that he had asked for this item to be put on the agenda following the presentation at the January Full Council meeting and the ensuing questions. He now felt however that as the Neighbourhood Plan would be dealing with the issues and solutions concerning parking in Dartmouth, he felt that if the Town Council began to look at this, it would only be a duplication. He therefore suggested that the committee deferred any further discussion on this subject until the Neighbourhood Working Group come up with some solutions.

There then followed a discussion about the growing future need for electrical charging hubs in the town in order to cope with the increasing number of electric cars.

32 TO CONSIDER THE UP AND COMING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

The Administrator said she had sent out an email a few weeks ago to ask what Council wanted to do to acknowledge the anniversary of VE Day.

Cllr Webb said he was happy to lead with this and Cllr Hibbert said she had ideas to help with this.

33 TO CONSIDER ASKING SHDC TO PROVIDE BIKE RACKS IN THE CARPARKS

A member of the public spoke about this and said he had actually asked for the bike racks to be placed in the Royal Avenue Gardens and had researched costs.

It was suggested that costings be investigated and a plan as to where they could be sited and then brought back to Parks and Open Spaces Committee in March. The member of the public was asked to send all the information to the office. Royal Avenue Gardens, Market Carpark and Coronation Park were suggested as potential sites and near to the Castle Tea Rooms.

It was also suggested that SHDC be approached and asked if they would consider placing some racks in areas in Townstal for example at the Leisure Centre and Old Mill Lane.

Cllr Shepherd advised if the placing of the racks could be tied into the citing of the CCTV cameras.

Member of the public left the meeting at 19.00

It was agreed that the CCTV map would be circulated to members by the Clerk and that the Properties Manager would be asked to locate suitable places.

Cllr Shepherd asked if was possible to get local businesses to sponsor the racks

In order to promote the Council, Cllr Edsall suggested that there could be a notice saying, *“this initiative is brought to you by Dartmouth Town Council and sponsored by*”.

Cllr Bodinnar agreed to take this item forward to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

34 TO CONSIDER PURCHASING VIDEO EQUIPMENT TO RECORD AND LIVE STREAM COUNCIL MEETINGS.

There was a general discussion about filming the meetings and Cllr Webb said that he would donate an old Go Pro camera to trial.

35 TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S RESPONSE TO A RECENT COMPLAINT ABOUT THE LIGHTING ON SOUTH EMBANKMENT (AE)

There was a general discussion about the complaint concerning the lighting on the South Embankment. It was suggested that Devon County Lighting be contacted to ask if they would readjust the timer. It was also thought to be good idea to find out if it was possible to have a member of staff trained to access the timer and change it as necessary throughout the year.

It was agreed to investigate training up members of staff to be able to access the lighting column and alter the timer when necessary.

36 TO CONSIDER FINDING NEW AND EFFECTIVE WAYS TO APPLY FOR VALUABLE GRANT MONIES AVAILABLE TO THE TOWN IN ORDER TO FUND WORTHWHILE PROJECTS, AND AGREE A WAY FORWARD

Cllr Edsall said that a group had been formed to try and apply for grants for the Town and needed 3-5 people with experience of applying for grants to get on board. He would be seeking the Committee’s support in allowing him to create an article with the Chronicle to advertise this and to let the town know what the Council was trying to achieve.

There was a discussion about bringing bid writers in who could train up Cllrs to be able to do this more effectively.

It was agreed that setting up a Working Group should be looked in to, with terms of reference and be brought back to the next Full Council or General Purposes Committee. Cllrs Edsall, Bodinnar, Shepherd and Yardy agreed to sit on the group.

37 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

None

PART 2 - Confidential

None

Meeting finished at 19.27