

MINUTES of the Meeting of **Bodmin Town Council** held on Thursday 18 January 2018 at 6.30 p.m. in the Shire House Suite, Shire House, Bodmin

PRESENT: The Mayor, Councillor S H Kinsman, presiding, together with Councillors E M Ahearn, J A Bassett, J P Cooper, P T Cooper, A J Coppin (arrived at 7.16 p.m. and from item C/2018/018), L L Frost, J Gammon, J R Gibbs, D A Henderson, A M Kerridge, K J Phillips, P L G Skea and K W Stubbs.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr S Facer (Town Clerk), Mrs A Banks (Responsible Finance Officer) and Mrs Beth Briggs (Senior Admin Assistant).

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES:

The Mayor had no announcements.

Apologies had been received from Councillors P Brown and L F Sanders.

C/2018/001 **Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared.

C/2018/002 **Public representation session**

There were four members of the public present.

A member of the public had a number of queries relating to the new road system around the town. Firstly, whether there was any update on the temporary yellow road signage denoting the start of the low speed environment. He commented that there are yellow signs near to Enterprise car hire, opposite the church on Priory Road, and outside Carnewater practice on Dennison Road, but that there is no sign approaching Mount Folly, only a 'new road layout ahead' sign which did not indicate the type of road/crossing. He stated that the Bodmin growth deal sign schedule made note of new signs that would demarcate the transition into the low speed environment and he wished to know if the Council had any update with regards to this permanent signage.

The Chairman commented that the Council are in regular contact with Cornwall Council and will raise this issue with them.

The member of the public's second query related to a programme of cleaning of the new crossing points in the low speed environment. The crossing points have tarnished with use, making it difficult for drivers to see them and he queried whether there were plans to clean the crossings regularly. In particular, the crossing at the bottom of Rhind Street had tarnished after around six months of use and that the crossings being clean and visible to demarcate that these were crossing points given pedestrian safety.

Councillor Frost, as a Cornwall Councillor, offered to follow up on this matter with the Growth Deal team.

The third query was why there was no formal crossing point at the bottoms of Castle Street and Pool Street where they each join Dennison Road. He referred to previously issued Cormac documentation stating that crossings would not be provided at these junctions due to the side streets in question being outside of the scheme, a point the safety auditors had disagreed with. He felt that the absence of crossing points could lead to safety issues, due to the fact there is no lowered curb at these junctions and provided an example of stopping to assist a member of the public who had fallen at the Castle Street junction on a dark

evening. He would therefore like to raise the question of why the audit had deemed Castle Street as outside the scope of the project.

The Chairman reiterated that the Council were in regular contact with Cornwall Council and would raise this matter with them.

Councillor Gibbs stated that he felt the low speed environment was not being used in the way it was intended and that motorists were using it in the same way as before the works commenced, the only difference now being the additional crossings having been put in. Councillor Gibbs did not consider that the scheme was worth the £7.5m that was spent on the project. Councillor Gibbs further noted that a cycle business in the town had recently closed and moved to St Austell as there had not been adequate business generated from cyclists in Bodmin. Councillor Kinsman responded to advise that she had heard, but not had confirmed, that the business had relocated as the owner lived in St. Austell, which was contrary to any other news around failure of the business or the scheme.

The final query from the member of the public was around the Hillside Park development and concerns over the loss of an air ambulance landing site at this location, as it had been used for that purpose four times over the past year, and asked for reassurance that there would still be suitable locations for landing in consideration of journey times to hospital by road. The Chairman noted that Fair Park has also been used, although she appreciated that this was a different area of the town. Councillor Kinsman also stated that the air ambulance service have been consulted previously, and did not raise any concerns about this landing site not being available. The Town Clerk advised that there had been previous correspondence with the air ambulance regarding formalising landing locations, but that this had not been progressed any further by them.

Mr Thorne updated on the successful sold-out St Petroc's Sessions event the previous Friday, which had brought 400 people into Bodmin for the evening. He informed that he was working with IntoBodmin to secure a lease on the former library building and given the community oriented nature of the services to be provided should this lease be secured, he asked for the Council's support and endorsement of any future grants applied for by IntoBodmin. The Chairman invited any such proposals to future meetings where they would certainly be considered. The Chairman congratulated Mr Thorne on the progress he has made on the project.

Mr Thorne then queried the email address provided on the Building Better Bodmin website, as he felt that any correspondence being sent to this email address was going into a black hole as it was not being acknowledged. Councillor Frost commented that any correspondence sent to Cornwall Council should receive a response within 10 days, and as a Cornwall Councillor he would follow up on this matter and request the email address is taken down from the website if no longer being monitored.

There being no further items for discussion from the public, the Mayor closed the Public Representation session but invited members of the public to remain for the duration of the public meeting.

C/2018/003

To consider and, if approved, adopt the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16 November 2017.

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16 November 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillor J P Cooper abstained from the vote to approve these Minutes as he was not in attendance at the Council meeting on 16 November 2017.

Matters Arising:

Page 9 – Item C/2017/218 – Lower Midway Road – the Town Clerk confirmed that the land transfer had now been completed.

C/2018/004

To consider and, if approved, adopt the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 6 December and 20 December 2017, 3 January and 17 January 2018.

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6 December 2017.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6 December 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillors J A Bassett and P T Cooper abstained from voting on these items.

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 20 December 2017.

Matters Arising:

Page3/4 – Item P/2017/308 – E-mail from Jamie Grant, Planner – Wainhomes requesting an informal meeting to discuss Bodmin Site Allocations DPD – BDUE2 – the Town Clerk advised that Matthew Brown, Strategic Planning Group Leader, Cornwall Council, will be attending the Planning meeting on 7 February to discuss matters relating to BDUE2 and a potential joint position as outlined in this minute.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 20 December 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3 January 2018.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3 January 2018 were approved and passed for signing.

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 17 January 2018.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 17 January 2018 were approved and passed for signing.

C/2018/005

Correspondence

- a) **Letter from Master M Symons and response from Town Clerk** – The Chairman reported that Master Symons was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting due to a conflict with his GCSE options meeting. He had however expressed an interest in attending a future meeting and had requested a copy of the minutes when they become available. The Chairman confirmed that the Town Clerk had replied to M Symons' letter with an in-depth response, which had been copied to all Members and which provided lots of information regarding the issues which had been raised.

The Chairman wished to express her thanks to Master Symons for taking the time to write such a well written letter and raise these important issues.

It was suggested that Master Symons be put in touch with IntoBodmin regarding the work they do in the community. The Town Clerk confirmed he would write to Master Symons including contact details for IntoBodmin.

b) Any other important item of correspondence which the Mayor considers appropriate – there were no items for consideration.

C/2018/006

To consider and, if approved, adopt the Minutes of the Properties Committee meeting held on 30 November 2017.

The minutes of the Properties Committee meeting held on 30 November 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillors J A Bassett, P T Cooper and K J Phillips abstained from voting on this matter.

C/2018/007

To consider and, if approved, adopt the Minutes of the Promotions Committee meeting held on 7 December 2017.

The minutes of the Promotions Committee meeting held on 7 December 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillor J A Bassett abstained from voting on this matter.

C/2018/008

To consider and, if approved, adopt the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on 7 December 2017.

The minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on 7 December 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillors J A Bassett and P T Cooper abstained from voting on this item.

Matters Arising:

Page 4 – Item POL/2017/036 – CALC Member/Officer Protocol

The Town Clerk advised that once these minutes are ratified, the CALC Member/Officer protocol will be adopted by Council.

This was noted by Members.

C/2018/009

To consider and, if approved, adopt the minutes of the Finance, Staffing and Performance Management Committee meetings held on 14 December 2017 and 4 January 2018.

Minutes of the Finance, Staffing and Performance Management Committee meeting held on 14 December 2017.

The minutes of the Finance, Staffing and Performance Management Committee meeting held on 14 December 2017 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillor J A Bassett abstained from voting on this item.

Minutes of the Finance, Staffing and Performance Management Committee

meeting held on 4 January 2018.

The minutes of the Finance, Staffing and Performance Management Committee meeting held on 4 January 2018 were approved and passed for signing.

Councillors E M Ahearn, J A Bassett and J P Cooper and abstained from voting on this item.

C/2018/010

Better Bodmin Ltd. Minutes of AGM held on 7 November 2017.

A copy of the minutes of the AGM was circulated with the agenda and was noted.

C/2018/011

Bodmin Place Shaping Forum

The Chairman reported that it was necessary to appoint a Councillor to this forum. The Town Clerk reported that the next meeting of the Forum is to take place on Thursday 1 March 2018 at 5pm in Room 5 at Chy Trevail, Cornwall Council offices. Sarah Sims (Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council) had confirmed that a representative for Bodmin Town Council would attend all forum meetings, with the first meeting to agree the overarching purpose and aims of the group going forward. Further meetings would then be agreed and diarised at this first meeting.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that Councillor A M Kerridge be appointed as the Town Council's representative. The voting pattern was 5 votes for Councillor A M Kerridge, 4 votes for Councillor J P Cooper.

Councillors J A Bassett and K W Stubbs abstained from voting on this item.

C/2018/012

Electoral Review of Cornwall.

The Chairman reported that this item had previously been discussed at the Full Council meeting on Thursday 16 November 2017 (item C/2017/215) and that comments, in draft form, had been received from Councillor L L Frost.

Councillor Frost reported that he had attended the recent Cornwall Council Electoral Review panel. At this panel, it had been formally agreed that rough divisions for the Bodmin network area would involve a rural division encompassing Withiel, Lanivet, Helland, Blisland, Cardinham and parts of the outlying areas of the town i.e. a merged division of Bodmin St Petroc's and Lanhydrock parish and an urban division of the remaining parts of Bodmin.

The most recent proposal keeps most of the rural parishes together and doesn't see them get engulfed by the larger urban areas of the town.

Lanhydrock was the strongest choice as the parish to merge because of its long historical ties with Bodmin and the connections Bodmin had with the Robartes family. The largest housing estate in Lanhydrock is also very close to Bodmin, with the bulk of the population working in Bodmin.

The Town Clerk enquired as to whether the Councillors would like to make a corporate response to the proposal based on Councillor Frost's comments. Councillor Frost felt that the response should be that the Council is happy with the doughnut proposal although he recognised that whilst this might be appropriate for Bodmin, it would not be received so favourably by the Boundary Commission. Councillor Gibbs said that he was not happy with the principle of

this proposal, based on the idea that Bodmin would potentially be losing one of their Cornwall Councillors for the Bodmin Network Area. Councillor A M Kerridge pointed out that all possibilities will have their up and down sides and she felt that this proposal would be as good as it gets for Bodmin in consideration of the wider context of Cornwall Council and whilst it was too early at the moment, the Council would need to consider future changes of Wards given the cascade nature to town ward boundaries that would follow.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk liaises with Councillors Frost to formulate an appropriate consultation response based on the comments regarding the urban / rural doughnut proposal as set out above, before the consultation deadline of 19 February.

Councillor J R Gibbs voted against this decision and requested that his vote be recorded.

C/2018/013

To authorise disposal of Parks Department Vehicle (Iveco Truck)

A report from the POSM circulated with the agenda which recommended the sale of this vehicle due to the need for substantial and uneconomical repairs.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the truck should be disposed of through auction if it does not have a current and valid MOT.

C/2018/014

Bodmin Museum consideration of list of items for disposal

The Town Clerk apologised for the lateness of the circulation of this list and highlighted the tight deadline in order to dispose of these items as the Regimental Museum is rationalising the space it can offer. The Chairman enquired as to whether it could be assumed that these items have no historic value. The Town Clerk confirmed that the museum are happy to dispose of these items as they are not of historical significance and that they would be offered to other museums in the first instance, in line with the Museums acquisitions policy, before being disposed of through sale / auction.

Councillor P T Cooper enquired as to whether there was an opportunity to give Bodmin and the museum some publicity and recommended contacting the television programme Salvage Hunters to see if there might be interest in featuring these items.

It was **AGREED** that permission be given to the museum to dispose of the items as detailed, but with the recommendation that they also consider contacting Salvage Hunters.

C/2018/015

External Audit update

The Town Clerk reported that there was no update on this item.

C/2018/016

To consider and, if appropriate, pass for payment the Schedule of Accounts for January 2018.

The Schedule of Accounts for January 2018 was approved and passed for signing from cheque numbers 124134 to 124137 in the sum of £51,850.67.

C/2018/018

Questions to the Mayor

Review of Healthcare services - Councillor J P Cooper stated that he had recently attended the Bodmin Community Network Panel Meeting (10 January

2018), attended by Karen Kay (Urgent and Emergency Care Executive Lead for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly) and Tracey Lee (Interim Programme Director, Shaping our Future) where the 'Shaping Our Future' review of healthcare services was outlined.

The Chairman declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item as she is employed by the NHS and left the meeting and the discussion and any voting thereon. Councillor J Gammon assumed the Chair as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor J P Cooper outlined his concern regarding the review of healthcare provision in Cornwall, and the potential risk of closure to Bodmin hospital which would mean, following the previous closure of the Treatment Centre, that there would be no healthcare provision in Bodmin. The closure of the Treatment Centre has resulted in Bodmin residents having to travel to Truro and the closure of the hospital would be further detrimental to the health of residents.

Councillor J P Cooper requested that the Town Clerk write to the Minister of Health outlining the importance of retaining healthcare services in Bodmin. Councillor L L Frost added that the transport links in Bodmin should be highlighted and that the town is geographically central for provision to surrounding areas. He further added that he felt Bodmin should be considered for a treatment centre to be reopened. Councillor J P Cooper added that there should be a consideration of the peaks of demand on services during the summer months.

Councillor J Gammon commented that she sits on the Cornwall Council Health and Wellbeing Board and that the information she had received at their last meeting was that no decisions had yet been made on the number or location of services to be provided.

Councillor J A Bassett raised the concern over the proposed removal of cancer treatment from Treliske Hospital, meaning that Cornish residents would instead have to travel to Derriford hospital in Plymouth to receive care and treatment.

Councillor L L Frost highlighted the consultation by NHS England on radiotherapy provision and that there is a survey, which is open until 24 January, allowing people to comment on service provision. The Sunrise Centre, located at Treliske hospital, which currently provides oncology services including radiotherapy, is potentially at risk under this consultation. He urged as many people as possible to visit their website and complete this survey, and ask their friends to do the same. The survey has a closing date of 24 January.

It was suggested adding information and a link to the survey to the Town Council website and Facebook page encouraging people to fill in the survey before the 24 January deadline.

Councillor A J Coppin arrived at 7.16 p.m.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would write to the Minister for Health, copying Scott Mann MP, raising urgent concerns over healthcare provision in Bodmin and to incorporate in the response issues such as Bodmin's geographical location, transport links, growth pattern as outlined in the Local Plan and its role as a centre for health to neighbouring communities.

Councillor A J Coppin abstained from voting having arrived late into the discussion.

Parks Department risk management working party:

Councillor J P Cooper highlighted the need to move forward with this working party. The Town Clerk stated that the Executive Support Officer had been responsible for progressing this working party but had since left the Council's employment. Dates for a meeting for this working party would be agreed at the next Properties Committee meeting to be held on 25 January 2018.

Due to the confidential nature of the next business it was **RESOLVED** to go into Committee. Please see separate page.

MINUTES of the Meeting of **Bodmin Town Council** held on Thursday 18 January 2018 –
Continuation Sheet

C/2018/029

Following consideration of the Confidential Minutes of the FS&PM (Budget) Meeting held on 4 January 2018 and the budget for 2018/19 to formally agree:

- a) **Total expenditure to cover operation costs – recommendation to Council £1,525,905.00**
- b) **Transfers to Reserves of £28,234.70; and**
- c) **The Precept for the coming financial year – including (i) to note that the Council Tax Support Grant is £80,988.76 which represents a reduction of £11,619.86 (12.55%) on 2017/18; (ii) to endorse the recommendation to Council that the Precept for 2018/19 be £1,283,850.00 representing an increase of 2.37% on a Band D property per annum (13.3 pence per week).**

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to formally adopt the Budget for 2018/19 as set out.

There being no further items for consideration, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.