

**MINUTES** of the Special Meeting of **Bodmin Town Council** held on Wednesday 7 February 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, P Brown (arrived 6.53 p.m.), J P Cooper, P T Cooper, A J Coppin, L L Frost (arrived 6.40 p.m.), J Gammon, J R Gibbs, D A Henderson, A M Kerridge, K J Phillips, L F Sanders, P L G Skea and K W Stubbs.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr S Facer (Town Clerk), Mrs A Banks (Responsible Finance Officer) and Miss L Hancock (Executive Assistant).

### **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES**

The Mayor welcomed Stuart Sly from Charterwood to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Councillors L L Frost who would be arriving late.

#### **C/2018/029                   Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### **C/2018/030                   Public representation session**

An item of correspondence addressing some concerns relating to the development of Hillside Park had been received via e-mail from a member of the public and had been circulated to all Councillors in advance of the meeting as well as paper copies being made available during the meeting.

A member of the public addressed the Council in his capacity as the Co-Event Director of the Bodmin Junior Parkrun. He commented that since it began in September 2017, the Junior Parkrun has been well attended (at its peak there have been 75 children running plus their parents in attendance). He added that Parkrun is a fun, free, timed event which provides health, happiness and a good cause. £3k had been raised initially to enable the event to be established and he asked that the Council recognise the importance of this event and help support it into the future. He advised that the winter route is currently in use which is a dry, straight route utilising the Camel Trail rather than the summer route which is a circular route around Hillside Park.

The Mayor thanked the member of the public for all his work in organising and running the Bodmin Junior Parkrun.

A member of the public expressed their concerns regarding the possible loss of the landing area for the Air Ambulance if Hillside Park is partially developed as a Car Park area. He requested that the Council attempt to find an option whereby the Air Ambulance is still able to land safely as it represents a reliable and effective way of getting to hospital in the event of an emergency.

The Mayor thanked the member of public for their comments and advised that during the consultation process, she was not aware of any concerns being raised regarding this issue. However, the Air Ambulance would be contacted to check which sites in Bodmin they could use for landing in an emergency.

A member of the public commented that in the initial plans for the Jail development, there was a Cornish hedge included to separate the Car Park area

from the Trail. He considered it was dangerous as it would reduce the openness of the area, create a dark tunnel and encourage littering and the accumulation of drug paraphernalia as well as fear of crime issues. He urged the Council to ensure the area in question is kept as open as possible to reduce these anti-social issues.

Councillor J P Cooper responded and advised that he was aware that Cornwall Council would be carrying out works along the old section of Camel Trail due to similar issues together with embankment / hedge collapse and fly tipping.

The member of the public requested that the Council give best consideration and terms to the contract with the Jail in order to benefit the town. He advised that during his career he had worked on similar car park schemes and in his view, the fields behind the Jail could be developed but would require more effort than simply using Hillside Park .

Another member of the public enquired whether BTC had given any consideration to the viability of the projected 200,000 visitors to the town following the development of the Jail and the implications on the existing traffic system.

The Mayor responded and advised that the planning application submitted to Cornwall Council would have dealt with this issue.

Councillor J P Cooper commented that it had previously been stated that the Five Ways roundabout was proposed to be upgraded and altered as it was within the Bodmin Air Quality Management Area (A.Q.M.A). He considered the Traffic Management Plans are up for debate as some of the works had not been actioned.

A member of the public enquired whether there was any information available regarding the projected revenues to be received by BTC for the Hillside Park area from the Jail.

The Mayor responded and advised that this information would form part of the contractual discussions which would be taking place later in the Confidential Section of the meeting and therefore it was not possible to circulate this information at the current time due to ongoing negotiations.

Councillor P T Cooper asked the member of the public to reiterate the times during which Hillside Park was utilised by the Junior Parkrun each Sunday.

It was confirmed that it was used between 9.00 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. each Sunday to around 10.00 a.m. to 10.15 a.m.

The Mayor drew the Public Representation Session to a close and asked for a Proposer and a Seconder for Item 4:

*To consider passing the following Resolution in respect of the items listed below:-*

*'That the press and public be excluded from the Meeting in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of confidential and exempt information.'*

Councillor A J Coppin proposed that the Council moved into Committee, which was Seconded by Councillor L L Frost.

Councillors P T and J P Cooper requested that votes against be recorded.

Councillors J A Bassett and K J Phillips requested that their abstentions be recorded.

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