



ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on 8 October 2018

This meeting was held in the Ilfracombe Centre, High Street, Ilfracombe and started at 7pm

Present: Cllrs: V Gates (Mayor), L Aston, R Donovan, J Donovan, D Turton, P Crabb, M Edmunds, N Pearson, P Yabsley, F Pearson, G Squires, B Gear, R Courtnadge, K Leck, G Fowler

In attendance: Pastor Hills, Cllr J Campbell, the Proper Officer, the Programme Manager, 3 BBC crew members and 15 members of the public.

Pastor Hills opened with Prayers.

The Mayor welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and began proceedings.

4725. To receive apologies and reasons for absence;

Cllrs: S Trebble (work commitments), G Schofield (other Commitments), G Coulter (holiday).

4726. To receive declarations of interest and consider members' submitted dispensation requests.

Declarations of interest noted: A record book was made available and members were reminded of the requirement to note their declarations of interest as required under the code of conduct (revised 1/7/12).

None noted

4727. Notification of items for information to be raised at Chair's discretion.

See item 4743

4728. Public participation – A period not exceeding 15 minutes to be allocated allowing members of the public to speak for up to 3 minutes.

A member of the community asked if something could be done about shoplifting on the High Street as business owners feel threatened in their own shops. It was asked if a public meeting could be organised.

A member of the community who works in a shop on the High Street asked if something could be done as they feel unsafe walking home in the evening after reportedly being accosted at a cash point and followed home.

A member of the community noted that incidents are being reported to police, however, customers are afraid to go in the shops.

A member of the public asked if CCTV cameras could be reinstated on the High Street and felt more presence from the PCSOs would benefit and reduce the amount of shoplifting.

All the above comments were noted by the Council.

4729. Proposal that ITC request that action be taken by the appropriate bodies to address the problems of increased theft and anti-social behaviour in the town (report ITC 353 refers) – Cllr Netti Pearson

Cllr N Pearson presented her report which had been previously circulated and noted the 2 proposals. Cllr N Pearson gave a summary of actions from the Ilfracombe Traders meeting and reminded everyone that all incidents must be report to the police on 101.

Cllr P Crabb noted the content of the report, however, he also noted positive things have happened and good things are being done such as new HMO legislation being introduced.

Cllr P Yabsley suggested exploring temporary restrictions on certain areas of the town, however, Cllr B Gear noted this would make it a problem elsewhere.

Cllr M Edmonds noted that he sits on the Homelessness committee for North Devon Council and that a lot is being done to make things better including a new legislation regarding licence fees for smaller HMOs. A new project is underway in Barnstaple looking at making accommodation available for homeless people. He noted North Devon Council's concern and said they are specifically looking at Ilfracombe.

Cllr F Pearson asked if this council could write to North Devon Council to ask for a timeline of what is happening and a schedule or deadline of when it might have a result.

Cllr M Edmunds replied that licencing in flats will take longer as it has to be adopted at Full Council, he will push to get a timescale.

Cllr R Donovan noted that some problems lie with the landlords. He also noted that a recent planning application had been refused at Town and District level, it was however overturned on appeal to the planning inspectorate, improvements are in place though with the new licence fee legislation.

Cllr G Squires agreed with all that had been said and asked members to remember that there are some individuals that have fallen through the net and there is a need to help these individuals get the help they need.

Cllr N Pearson proposed that this council write to the local MP and MPs of all parties concerned with policing and mental health, pointing out that the resourcing crisis in key public services is creating public order problems and that we need action from Parliament to address underlying issues.

Cllr G Fowler proposed to add an amendment to include Safer Devon Partnership. Cllr Mrs J Donovan seconded the proposal with the amendment and all members were in favour.

Cllr N Pearson proposed that this council write to North Devon Council asking what progress they are making to reduce the number of people being sent from other towns to hostel accommodation in Ilfracombe, what resources they are committing to help those who are already here, and what impact they are having on unlicensed HMOs.

Members instead suggested asking One Ilfracombe to convene a joint meeting as soon as possible with the different agencies involved.

Cllr N Pearson withdrew her proposal.

Cllr V Gates proposed that One Ilfracombe convene a joint ITC/One Ilfracombe meeting where the public and all relevant agencies can attend to share the various initiatives that are underway to tackle problems. Cllr B Gear seconded and all members were in favour.

12 members of the public left the meeting after this item.

4730. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting – 10th September 2018.

Cllr V Gates proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record. Cllr N Pearson seconded with an amendment to minute 4716 – *Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 3rd September 2018.*

Cllr N Pearson *presented* the minutes which were noted.

The following recommendations made at the meeting were agreed and adopted by all members:

- *To employ a permanent part-time customer service advisor (2.5 days per week).*

4731. Minutes of Planning Committee meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 17th September 2018

Cllr G Fowler proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record. Cllr P Yabsley seconded and with all in favour they were noted.

Cllr G Fowler noted the Neighbourhood Planning item at the meeting which is discussed further under minute number 4734.

4732. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 24th September 2018

Cllr R Donovan proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record. Cllr B Gear seconded and with all in favour they were noted.

Cllr P Crabb showed images from the CCTV camera that had been installed on the High Steet along with a CCTV initiative which was noted.

Cllr N Pearson asked for an update on the skate park lights as she'd been asked by members of the Youth Council.

4733. Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 1st October 2018

Cllr N Pearson presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

4734. Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr M Edmunds noted that there had been some information on neighbourhood planning given at the last Planning Committee meeting by North Devon Council's Planning Delivery Team Leader. Cllr Edmunds summarised relevant points of information and noted that if this councils agrees to adopt a Neighbourhood plan, other neighbouring parishes could also be brought in to work together. Help and support would also be available from North Devon Council. Cllr M Edmunds proposed to form a working party to obtain costs, time and benefits in writing a neighbourhood plan, Cllr P Yabsley seconded and all members were in favour. A working party was formed consisting of Cllrs: M Edmunds, P Yabsley, P Crabb, N Pearson, K Leck and L Aston.

4735. Request for additional budget for WWI celebrations (report ITC 352 refers) – Cllr Steve Trebble

Report ITC 352 has been previously circulated to all members. The report was a request for additional funding for WWI celebrations.

Cllr B gear proposed that this council offers a budget of up to £2,000 for the WWI celebrations. Cllr G Fowler seconded and all members were in favour.

4736. Proposal for ITC to negotiate to acquire ownership of the street lights in Fore Street (report ITC 354 refers) – Cllr F Pearson

Cllr F Pearson presented report ITC 354 which had been previously circulated. He noted there had been some confusion about the ownership of the lights on Fore Street.

Cllr F Pearson proposed that the Asset Manager meet with Events 4 Ilfracombe and take a report to the F&GP Committee detailing all costs that would be incurred if ITC acquired ownership of the Fore Street lights. Cllr G Fowler seconded and all members were in favour.

4737. Report from the Programme Manager (to include One Ilfracombe Update).

The Programme Manager tabled the update report ITC 356 this evening which was noted. To summarise the main points;

- The funding bid which was submitted to the Building Connections fund (Big Lottery) building on the Community Connector role and social isolation within our community is now being assessed.
- Team meeting with Inspector Paul Searle and Sergeant Joey Lester next week to finalise the proposal of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership.
- Working with Combe Coastal Practice on a life chances bid to extend the work of the Community Connector.
- The Holsworthy diabetes event is taking place on Tuesday 9th October. The final event in Bideford takes place on 13th November.
- The Town Team radios have been reallocated and are being used daily. A refresher get together for the Town Team is schedule for late November.
- A defibrillator training event was held on Tuesday 25th September with 13 local people attending the free course.

The Programme Manager had previously circulated report ITC 355, the report was noted.

4738. Reports from County/District Councillors (written reports requested).

Cllr P Crabb tabled his Council report which was noted. Cllr Crabb will endeavour to answer any questions about the recent discussions held with the CCG and Health Scrutiny working panel.

Cllr M Edmunds noted there is a District Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday which will decide the outcome of the recent planning application for the former Lee Bay Hotel.

Cllr M Edmunds also noted that he had attended an event in Taunton and the CEO of Devon County Council had given a presentation on upgrading the standard of wages in the South West. Cllr G Fowler noted that the LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) is an organisation this council needs to take on board. Cllr V Gates noted that she had attended a DALC AGM and the Chairman said he would be happy to present to this council. Cllr Gates will write to him to invite him.

Cllr G Fowler noted that representatives from the Ilfracombe Regeneration Board had visited Watchet harbour to view the marina and see if any problems arose after development.

Cllr Fowler noted that the Watersports Development Officer had resigned and that North Devon Council had recruited a replacement. He also noted that the start of development had been delayed a few months due to issues with a contractor.

4739. Reports from Community Engagement, Working Groups and Councillor Champions (written reports requested).

Cllr N Pearson noted that Youth Council hope to present their work at the next Full Council meeting in November.

Cllr B Gear noted that Ilfracombe won Gold for Ilfracombe in Bloom as well as winning the Preece Cup. Members asked if the Community Engagement team could organise a small reception to recognise their excellent efforts and achievements.

4740. Health and Safety.

The Proper Officer noted that the intruder alarm for the Centre had failed last week and that a replacement unit had been ordered.

4741. Correspondence/Licenses/Notices –

- NDC response (Cove car park) – Cllr Richard Courtnadge asked if the District Councillors could write to North Devon Council to object to the repairs that had been carried out in Cove car park.
- An email had been received from the Highway Neighbourhood Officer at Devon County Council regarding relaying a section of pavement on Northfield Road with tarmac. Members were in support of this.

4742. Finance

a) To adopt the Statement of accounts as at 30 September 2018 – The tabled statement of accounts was proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr P Crabb and agreed by all.

b) To pass invoices for payment as at 30 September 2018

All invoices as tabled were proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr D Turton and agreed for payment by all.

Invoices for the Vision Community Centre were proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr K Leck and agreed for payment by all.

4743. Chairs Discretion

- Cllr M Edmunds notice that there had been an enforcement order put in place for removal within 28 days of a tipi tent erected on the land opposite Westminster Villas, New Barnstaple Road.
- Cllr M Edmunds asked if a letter could be sent to the Welsh Assembly in support of testing being carried out on mud being removed from the construction site of Hinkley Point C before it's disposed off the coast of Cardiff, the Proper Officer will write a letter.
- Cllr V Gates noted the recent hawk demonstrations on the harbour to try and eliminate seagulls, the Ilfracombe Harbour Master is pursuing this.
- Cllr V Gates noted the WWI celebrations on Saturday 10th November starting from midday and including the creation of live standing letters to spell out 'Peace'.
- Cllr V Gates noted that a tall ship called Zong will be visiting Ilfracombe 24-26 June 2019, this has been coordinated by the Harbour Master.

The meeting finished at 21.05



9th October 2018

Miss Rachel Collins
Proper Officer