



ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on 12 November 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, M Edmunds, N Pearson, P Yabsley, F Pearson, G Squires, R Courtinadge, G Fowler.

In attendance: Pastor Hills, Mr Roy Goodwin (Town Crier) & Mrs Bee Goodwin, the Proper Officer, the Programme Manager, and 2 members of the public.

Pastor Hills opened with Prayers.

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

4744. To receive apologies and reasons for absence;

Cllrs: P Crabb (other commitments), K Leck (other commitments), G Schofield (unwell), B Gear (unwell).

4745. 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).

4746. Notification of items for information to be raised at Chair's discretion.

See item 4767

The Mayor congratulated Cllr Dan Turton for being honoured with Devon's Volunteer of the Year 2018 for the Devon Community Honours with a ceremony event taking place from 3pm on 6th December 2018 at RHS Rosemoor.

4747. Presentation of Trophies and to receive an overview of his year as Town Crier – Mr Roy Goodwin

The Town Crier noted he and Bee had a fabulous year and enjoyed a wonderful summer. He said it was reminiscent of the sixties with lots of tourists visiting the town and it was lovely to see the Waverley at capacity on each visit. Roy presented his trophies from the year to the council and remarked it had been a very good year for Bee as well as himself winning an abundance of awards. The WWI weekend was fabulous with a phenomenal turnout of people which finished with a final cry for peace from Roy, an event that took place all around the world. Roy thanked Ilfracombe Town Council for their support.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor noted that the Council is grateful and so very proud of everything Roy and Bee do for the town, all members thanked Roy and Bee and gave three cheers.

Roy & Bee left the meeting at 19:12.

4748. Public participation – A period not exceeding 15 minutes to be allocated allowing members of the public to speak for up to 3 minutes.

Mr Bryant asked if more lighting could be repaired/installed outside the museum as it's very dark in that area. He also asked if the lights could be looked at in Jubilee Gardens as they cannot be seen from the path. Cllr V Gates will follow this up on behalf of Mr Bryant.

4749. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting – 8th October 2018.

Cllr V Gates proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record. Cllr P Yabsley seconded with an amendment to minute 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. 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.

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

4750. Minutes of Planning Committee meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 15th October 2018

Cllr G Squires proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record. Cllr R Courtnadge seconded and with all in favour they were noted.

4751. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 22nd October 2018

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

The following recommendation made at the meeting was not agreed;

- to offer the lantern café lease to the third applicant pending references and clarification of licensing covenant.

Members would like to see the proposal/lease for the café tenancy before agreeing, Cllr R Donovan will bring to the next meeting.

4752. Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 5th November 2018

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

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

- that the draft precept calculations include an allowance for a 1% increase in salaries plus on-costs
- to agree that the Community Connector role is to be made permanent, remaining part time.

4753. Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr M Edmonds noted that there had been a working group meeting prior to the last Planning Committee meeting. Cllr M Edmonds proposed to investigate and research a Neighbourhood Plan for this Council and asked for authority to invite West Down to join the Neighbourhood plan. Cllr N Pearson seconded and all members were in favour.

4754. CCTV – ICO Code of Practice amd to include a request for ITC to take on a monthly payment –

Cllr P Crabb

Cllr P Crabb's report had been previously circulated to all members. Cllr V Gates proposed to purchase an additional 2 CCTV cameras up to £500 and for this council to take over the monthly direct debit subscriptions amounting to £500 per annum, all as per the report. Cllr G Fowler seconded and all members were in favour.

4755. To consider 'Free parking for Christmas on 3 Saturdays in December' at Ropery Road car park, namely: 8th, 15th & 22nd December 2018

Cllr V Gates proposed to agree free parking at Ropery Road car park, Cllr N Pearson seconded and all members were in favour.

4756. Fore Street Lights – Report ITC 364

Cllr N Pearson proposed to include the Fore Street Lights under ITC's Public Liability insurance at no extra cost. Cllr G Fowler seconded and all members were in favour.

4757. Request for Bulbs – updated report ITC 358

Cllr P Yabsley proposed to agree that £964 is spent as per the recommendation in the report, Cllr G Squires seconded and all members were in favour.

4758. Request for ITC to contribute towards the cost of an intensive bird of prey flying program at Ilfracombe Harbour – Report ITC 361

Report ITC 361 had been previously circulated to all members. Members discussed the recommendations within the report. Cllr G Fowler proposed to agree to express an interest in the bird of prey flying program and contribute towards the cost, Cllr R Donovan seconded the proposal. With 4 members in favour of the proposal, 6 members against and 2 abstentions, the motion was not carried.

Cllr G Coulter arrived at the meeting at 20:20.

4759. Resilience post-Brexit: with talk of stock-piling foods and medicines should we be taking this into consideration in the town's resilience plans? – Cllr Netti Pearson

Members agreed that no action is required at present, however, the Resilience Group will be asked to keep ITC informed.

4760. To agree to allocate Community Engagement time to support a project run by Ilfracombe Art Trail. – Cllr Netti Pearson

Report ITC 362 had been previously circulated to all members. Cllr N Pearson proposed to agree to support the People of Ilfracombe project with officer time in a supporting role twice a year (8 to 12 days per year) as per the recommendation within the report, Cllr L Aston seconded and all members were in favour.

4761. Report from the Programme Manager (to include One Ilfracombe Update).

The Programme Manager tabled the update report ITC 365 this evening which was noted. To summarise the main points;

- A public meeting held on Thursday 8th November had around 60 attendees and had a mixture of positive and negative feedback. – members asked for letters of thanks to go to the agencies involved. Cllr P Yabsley also asked if a display could be shown in reception showing what projects are being working on and completed.
- The structure of the Living Well meetings has changed, members were reminded that anyone wishing to attend is welcome to do so.
- A joint One Ilfracombe and Combe Coastal bid is currently with DCC for funding to extend the Community Connector role and fund an additional role – a detailed report will be brought to the next meeting.
- A presentation evening for Out of the Blue is being held on Thursday 6th December, 5.30pm at the Lantern – all are welcome to attend.

4762. Reports from County/District Councillors (written reports requested).

Cllr M Edmunds noted:

- that NDC had received £285k grant funding for the rough sleeper project and that the Freedom Centre in Barnstaple is open for 6 months of the year. 36 people have used the centre over a period of time and there are approximately 10 sleepers a night. 6 people have had accommodation found for them since October. There are currently 3 properties being used as temporary accommodation with a further 2 properties becoming available soon and negotiations are underway for a further 2 properties in Barnstaple.
- £209k grant funding for 2019/20 for NDC to look at mental health issues.
- He attended the Parish Forum last week and noted that DCC have proposed to increase the council tax by 3.99%.
- that the Landmark/Queen's theatres contract has now been awarded to a national production company.

Cllr G Fowler noted:

- that there will be some repairs being carried out to the entrance to the pier which will see renewed ticket offices.
- Additional funding will be sought for the Watersports Centre and that the preferred contractor remains in place

Cllr R Donovan noted:

- Since new licensing regime started in October, NDC have had no applications
- NDC's funding bid for seafront amphitheatre is at the 2nd stage of assessment

4763. Reports from Community Engagement, Working Groups and Councillor Champions (written reports requested).

Cllr N Pearson noted that it's Parliament week this week and that the Youth Council hope to present their work at the next Full Council meeting in December. There are elections for a new Youth Council being held on Wednesday and on Friday the candidates will be meeting Peter Heaton-Jones MP.

Cllr G Fowler thanked Barbara Clark and Marnie Quy for all the events they have put together throughout the year.

Cllr D Turton left the meeting at 21:05

4764. Health and Safety.

Nothing to report this evening

4765. Correspondence/Licenses/Notices –

- Premises licence application for Taste Bakery, Ilfracombe – noted.
- SWW email to Cllr F Pearson – a letter will be drafted and sent to SWW/Environment Agency.
- NDC Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places consultation 1st November-3rd December – ward members reminded they can make individual representations.
- Response from NDC regarding Rupertswood Terrace – Cllr N Pearson asked if her response could be agreed and sent.
- Response from Peter Heaton-Jones MP regarding anti-social behaviour and shoplifting – noted.

4766. Finance

a) To adopt the Statement of accounts as at 31 October 2018 – The tabled statement of accounts was proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr V Gates and agreed by all.

b) To pass invoices for payment as at 31 October 2018

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

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

4767. Chairs Discretion – To consider Town Councillors involvement at Light of the Lights

- Report ITC 363 had been previously circulated to all members – the Asset Manager will contact members who would like to volunteer at the event with more information.
- Cllr N Pearson asked what had happened to the 'Battles Over' beacon.
- Cllr R Courtnadge noted that The Original Military Wives, Chivenor are performing at the Holy Trinity Church, Ilfracombe on Friday 7th December at 7.30pm, tickets are £12.50 and refreshments will be available.



Miss Rachel Collins
Proper Officer

The meeting finished at 21.05

9th October 2018