



## ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on 8 July 2019

This meeting was held in the Ilfracombe Centre, High Street, Ilfracombe and started at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs: V Gates (Mayor), K Leck (Deputy Mayor), S Trebble, G Fowler, D Turton, G Coulter, G Schofield, P Coates, J Williams, T Elliott, F Pearson, N Pearson, L Aston, R Donovan, S Wilson, P Yabsley, B Gear, P Crabb (arr. 7.15).

**In attendance:** Pastor Hills, the Proper Officer, 2 members of staff a representative from the Fire Service & 14 members of the public.

Pastor Hills opened with Prayers.

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

**4935. To receive apologies and reasons for absence;** None.

**4936. 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 10/12/18).

**4937. Notification of items for information to be raised at Chair's discretion;** See item 4958

**4938. 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 public raised concerns with dim lighting along the seafront and also irrelevant lighting in Jubilee Gardens, Cllr V Gates will feed this back to NDC's Parks department.

A member of the Fire Brigade Union gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the local fire service and asked members to visit the website and vote on the proposals during the consultation period.

A member of the public raised concerns of a dramatically reduced Fire Service if current proposals are agreed.

A member of the public noted that NDC are holding a meeting to discuss the Fire Service proposals and that it should be a public meeting.

**4939. To receive a report from the Fire Representative.**

A letter of proposed changes to Service Delivery within Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service had been previously circulated to all members. Mr Mark Creek, Crew Manager, Ilfracombe Fire Service read a statement from Mr Dave Butterton outlining what the proposed changes to the Fire Service could mean for the local area.

Members felt that a consultation session should be held in Ilfracombe and should be at a time to allow workers to attend.

Cllr V Gates will contact DSFRS with members' concerns and request that a consultation is held in Ilfracombe, she also recommended that members attend the Woolacombe and/or Barnstaple consultations.

**4940. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

Cllr V Gates proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record, Cllr L Aston seconded and with all in favour they were adopted. Members who were not present at the meeting abstained from voting. There were no matters arising.

**4941. Minutes of Planning Committee meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

Cllr G Fowler presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

**4942. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Meeting (to note & approve recommendations) – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

Cllr R Donovan presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

**The following recommendations made at the meeting were agreed;** (proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr P Crabb)

- to pursue the arrangement with NDC for the management of Ropery Road car park keeping hours/rates in line with NDC car parks in Ilfracombe.
- to have both coin machines at Ropery Road car park serviced and received a report of all faults.

- to replace worn out batteries for the emergency lighting at the Ilfracombe Centre at a cost of £691
- to purchase 3 CCTV operating signs.

**4943. Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019**

Cllr K Leck presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

Cllr K Leck noted that there had been no staff sick leave taken in June and reiterated that Members' direct tasking of officers is not helpful.

**4944. To consider nominations received for Freeman or Freewoman.**

Cllr N Pearson proposed to nominate former Councillor Mike Edmunds, having recently retired after 40 years' service at the Council, to receive the title of Freeman, this was seconded by Cllr T Elliott and members were in unanimous agreement. The agreed process will be followed and a presentation will take place at the first appropriate meeting.

**4945. Request for electricity works needed in High Street/War Memorial – Report ITC 392, Cllr S Trebble**

Cllr S Trebble read out the report which had been circulated to all members. Cllr P Crabb proposed to spend up to £3k from reserves for electrical works to the War Memorial and up to £3.4k from the Town Assets budget for electrical works to the High Street festoon lighting. Cllr G Coulter seconded and all members were in favour.

**4946. Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr P Yabsley noted a meeting with the NDC Policy Planning Officer will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm, a report will be brought to the next Full Council meeting.

**4947. Strategic Plan.**

Nothing to report this evening.

**4948. To agree a working party for Climate Change**

As referred from the Staffing Committee, a working group for Climate Change was agreed as the following; Cllrs: N Pearson, T Elliott, S Wilson, K Leck and P Crabb. They will arrange a meeting to take a report to Full Council.

**4949. Ropery Road car park – management contract renewal/termination**

Cllr P Crabb proposed to delegate authority to Officers to terminate the current management agreement for Ropery Road car park, Cllr B Gear seconded and all members were in favour.

**4950. Full proposal for ITC to take on the operation of the Dotto Train – Cllr R Donovan**

Report ITC 391 had been circulated to all members. Cllr R Donovan noted that he is looking into alternative insurance after advice from the Proper Officer that the current insurance would not cover a 3<sup>rd</sup> party operating the Dotto Train.

**Cllr R Donovan proposed that this Council secures the future of the Dotto Train by signing the agreement with North Devon Council and enters into an agreement with Filer's Travel to operate the train until September 2019.**

Cllr P Crabb noted the importance of running the Dotto Train linking the Seafront to the High Street.

Cllr T Elliott had concerns about implications for the Council to consider.

Cllr N Pearson was concerned that there was no business plan or agreement of staffing, no risk assessments or an updated finance report with cost implications. She also noted that the financial report that had been circulated does not make sense and it is members' responsibility to make sure everything is in order.

Cllr V Gates noted that this interim measure would avoid the train being sold and that the Council would have suitable time to have everything in place for 2020.

Cllr F Pearson requested to see facts and figures.

Cllr S Wilson asked if the public had been consulted on what they wanted from the Dotto Train operation.

Cllr N Pearson noted that traders would like to see circulation from the Seafront to the High Street at a recent meeting.

Cllr D Turton said it is ITC's duty to get the Dotto Train up and running.

Cllr P Coates said that the Dotto Train is fun and something different for the tourists.

Cllr F Pearson requested a named vote.

**Cllr P Crabb seconded Cllr R Donovan's proposal and the voting is recorded as follows;**

For the proposal – Cllrs; R Donovan, P Crabb, B Gear, P Yabsley, G Coulter, S Trebble, K Leck, J Williams, P Coates, V Gates, G Schofield, D Turton, G Fowler (13)

Against the proposal – Cllrs; S Wilson, T Elliott, N Pearson, F Pearson (4)

Abstention – Cllr L Aston declared an interest.

**With 13 members in favour of the proposal, 4 members against and 1 abstention, the motion was carried.**

Cllr N Pearson made a point of order that the Council cannot delegate to a working group the production of an agreement between ITC and Filers as per the recommendation in the report.

Cllr V Gates asked for clarification from the Proper Officer to be brought back to Council.

**4951. Report from the Programme Manager (to include One Ilfracombe Update).**

Report ITC 393 had been circulated to all members and the Project Coordinator highlighted that a number of mental health training courses are being arranged with North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust and that the latest Out of the Blue Cadet course had been completed. The report was noted.

**4952. Social Prescribing Presentation**

The OND Partnership Development Manager noted that

- £50k funding had been received on 1<sup>st</sup> April for preventative work which has enabled the role of Community Development Officer. The funding has also allowed the Community Connector to move into the GP surgery which has seen an increase in referrals.
- They have been chosen by the Clinical Chair of NHS England to be a test bed site for social prescribing.

Cllr V Gates passed on her thanks and congratulations to the team.

**4953. Reports from County/District Councillors (written reports requested).**

Cllr N Pearson had previously circulated her District report which was noted.

Cllr P Crabb tabled his County report which was noted.

Cllr S Trebble left the meeting at 20.40

**4954. Reports from Working Groups and Councillor Champions (written reports requested).**

Cllr N Pearson noted that due to a number of meetings not happening, the Youth Council is quite disjointed.

They will be looking at politics next term and North Devon Council are running Local Democracy Week.

Cllr P Coates has taken over as Chair of the Marketing Group and they are working with the Royal British Legion to help organise road closures for the Remembrance Parade in November.

Cllr G Coulter left the room at 20.45

**4955. Health and Safety.**

The Proper Officer noted that a monthly health and safety report will be provided by the Operations supervisor now she has the capacity to do so.

**4956. Correspondence/Licenses/Notices –**

Letter received and circulated to all members from DSFRS outlining proposed changes to the Fire Service – see minute 4939.

**4957. Finance**

**a) To adopt the Statement of accounts as at 30 June 2019** – The tabled statement of accounts was proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr B Gear and agreed by all.

Cllr G Coulter returned to the meeting

**b) To pass invoices for payment as at 30 June 2019**

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

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

**4958. Chairs Discretion**

Cllr R Donovan noted that the Vision Centre AGM is on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 7.30pm.

Cllr S Wilson noted that she'd received concerns about the amount of green algae on the boating lake at Bicclescombe Park. Cllr G Fowler will follow up with North Devon Council.

The meeting finished at 20.55

9<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Miss Rachel Collins  
Proper Officer

