



ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on 10 February 2020

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

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

In attendance: Pastor Hills, Police Inspector Paul Searle, PC Matt Reed, the Proper Officer, the Programme Manager and one member of public.

Pastor Hills opened with Prayers.

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

5086. To receive apologies and reasons for absence; Cllrs: S Trebble (work commitments), G Fowler (holiday).

5087. 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).

5088. Notification of items for information to be raised at Chair's discretion; See minute 5108

5089. 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 who had recently attended the Seafront Masterplan consultation noted his disappointment that members of NDC staff that were present could not answer questions on what was being proposed. Cllr V Gates will follow up with members of the NDC working group.

5090. To receive a report from the Police representative.

Police Inspector Paul Searle gave a detailed report on the current work of the Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Team, he also reported that 2019 had seen a reduction in most crimes compared to 2018.

The Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Police Newsletter for February had been circulated to all members.

5091. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting – 13th January 2020.

Cllr V Gates proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record, Cllr R Donovan 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.

5092. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting – 13th January 2020.

Cllr R Donovan proposed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and correct record, Cllr N Pearson 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.

5093. Minutes of Planning Committee meeting – 20th January 2020 (to note & approve recommendations)

Cllr P Yabsley presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

5094. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Meeting – 27th January 2020 (to note & approve recommendations)

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

The following recommendations made at the meeting were agreed; (all proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr G Coulter and agreed by all)

- to purchase the required signs for Cheyne Beach car park at a cost of up to £200
- to purchase a further 10 seagull signs at a cost of £15 + VAT per sign

Cllr R Donovan noted that the deadline for identifying drains has now passed, those members who have yet to submit their area are asked to do so as soon as possible with the aim to have a schedule of clearing drawn up by the end of February.

5095. Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting – 3rd February 2020 (to note and approve recommendations)

Cllr B Gear presented the minutes of the meeting which were noted.

The following recommendations made at the meeting were agreed;

- to adopt the Anti-Bullying & Harassment Policy and Procedure, the Press & Media Policy and the Safeguarding Policy. (proposed by Cllr P Crabb, seconded by Cllr K Leck, agreed by all)
- to agree to the Devon Carers Sitting Service pilot project and to the addition of 'agreed overtime' for a fixed period of 12 months for the Community Engagement Coordinator. (proposed by Cllr L Aston, seconded by Cllr S Wilson, agreed by all, 1 abstention)
- to agree to amend the current job description along with a temporary increase to full time hours for the Cleaner. (proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr P Crabb, agreed by all)

It was noted that adverts for recruitment for the operation of the Dotto Train had been published.

5096. To agree a proposed site for planting the Landmark Tree.

All members were in favour of planting the tree at Cow Green.

Cllrs: T Elliott, N Pearson, F Pearson declared a personal interest.

5097. To discuss suitable locations for harbour finials

Members discussed possible locations for the relocation of the harbour finials and asked the Proper Officer to contact the senior planning team for confirmation that there is 18 months to decide.

5098. Proposal to agree a contribution to the Harbour Bird of Prey package – Cllr B Gear.

Following a discussion at the last F&GP Committee meeting, Cllr P Crabb proposed to contribute up to 30% of the cost of one year of the package as circulated to all members, Cllr P Coates seconded and with all members in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions, the motion was carried. It is suggested the Harbour Forum collect relevant data if they intend to make a request for a contribution for a second year.

5099. Watersports Centre Project Proposal

Cllr P Crabb updated members on the Watersports proposal meeting last week in which there were two options for the location of the development. Members discussed a third option to present to North Devon Council and Cllr P Crabb proposed to spend up to £1,000 from the regeneration budget for an architect to provide sketch drawings to enable ITC to make a proposal to NDC. Cllr P Yabsley seconded and all members were in favour with 1 abstention.

5100. Neighbourhood Plan

The Programme Manager has arranged a number of meetings with other Town and Parish councils to go through the process on how a Neighbourhood plan should be developed. Feedback from other towns has demonstrated that if the consultation isn't correctly completed it will have a long term detrimental effect on the whole process. Many towns and parishes in Devon (and wider) have fallen foul to a lack of pre-planning and understanding of their local plan. This has meant many have had to redo their consultation and has put the process back by up to a year in some cases. A way forward with a consultation plan will be presented at the next full council.

5101. To note the proper Officer's Report

The report was noted.

5102. Report from the Programme Manager (to include One Ilfracombe Update).

Report ITC 426 had been circulated to all members and was noted.

5103. Reports from County/District Councillors (written reports requested).

Cllr N Pearson had submitted her District report which had been circulated to all members and was noted this evening.

Cllr P Crabb had tabled his County report which was noted this evening.

5104. Reports from Working Groups and Councillor Champions (written reports requested).

Cllr T Elliott had submitted a housing champion report which was circulated to all members and was noted this evening.

Cllr N Pearson noted the Youth Council has started its second term and members will be involved with Climate Change action week in March.

On behalf of the Marketing Group, Cllr P Coates provided an update on the TIC noting a challenging year financially. The next marketing meeting is due on 26th February with talks on tourism and social media planned.

Cllr R Donovan noted that Whitbread has purchased the former Colossus site and a planning application for its development is expected within the coming weeks.

5105. Health and Safety.

A health and safety report was circulated to all members and was noted this evening.

5106. Correspondence/Licenses/Notices

- Madrigal Brewery response to representation against premises licence application – Cllr R Donovan proposed to withdraw concerns from F&GP Committee members on the condition the closing time is amended to 20:00hrs, Cllr P Yabsley seconded and all members were in favour.
- Invitation from Ilfracombe / Ifs French Twinning Association for the new Mayor and Consort to attend a formal dinner dance on Saturday 23rd May 2020 – noted.
- Request from Ilfracombe / Ifs French Twinning Association for ITC to host a civic reception at the Ilfracombe Centre on Saturday 23rd May 2020 and provide a welcome speech – noted.
- Funding request received from Ilfracombe Junior School to support costs for installing netting to deter seagulls from nesting on the building – Cllr B Gear will consider incorporation into the Bird of Prey package.

5107. Finance

a) To adopt the Statement of accounts as at 31 January 2020 – The tabled statement of accounts was proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr F Pearson and agreed by all.

b) To pass invoices for payment as at 31 January 2020

All invoices tabled were proposed by Cllr R Donovan, seconded by Cllr G Schofield and agreed for payment by all. *Cllrs: T Elliott, N Pearson & F Pearson declared a pecuniary interest in this item.*

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

5108. Chairs Discretion

Cllr R Donovan noted that NDC no longer allow Rotary Club members to park in the Pier car park when working at St Nicholas' Chapel, he will draft a letter and submit to the Mayor for signing before sending to NDC, Cllr N Pearson will also contact the Chief Executive of NDC.

Cllr K Leck thanked all members for their well wishes whilst he's been absent from Council and Committee meetings.

Cllr V Gates asked members not to block email all staff as it is causing a disturbance and deemed as being negative and criticising.

Cllr T Elliott noted that Ilfracombe Library, along with other Devon libraries, is run by the Charity Libraries Unlimited and relies on fundraising. Ilfracombe Library's AGM is being held on 23rd March, 1pm, all members are welcome to attend.

The meeting finished at 21:10



Miss Rachel Collins
Proper Officer

11th February 2020