

Minutes of a meeting of the **Purbeck District Council** held in the Council Chamber, Westport House, Wareham on Tuesday 11 April 2017 at 7.00pm.

Present:-

Councillor Bill Trite (Chairman)
Councillor Wendy Meaden (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Malcolm Barnes, Cherry Brooks, Graham Brown, David Budd, Nigel Dragon, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Caroline Finch, Hilary Goodinge, Mike Lovell, Gloria Marsh, Laura Miller, Tim Morris, Bill Pipe, Barry Quinn, Gary Suttle, Mark Unsworth, Peter Wharf, Mike Wiggins and Mike Whitwam.

Officers in attendance for all or part of the meeting: David Fairbairn, Solicitor to the Council; Sue Joyce, General Manager – Resources; Rebecca Kirk, General Manager – Public Health and Housing; Anna Lee, Planning Policy Manager; Claire Lodge, Communications Officer; Steve Mackenzie, Chief Executive; Kirsty Riglar, Democratic and Electoral Services Manager and Steve Tapscott, Senior Planning Policy Officer.

- (Notes: (1) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17A.3, the decisions set out in these minutes will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication date. Publication date: 24 April 2017
- (2) These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Council.)

204.16/17 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Claire Pipe, Carol Tilling and Peter Webb.

205.16/17 Urgent items

The Chairman reported that there were no urgent items.

206.16/17 Public participation time

Ms Josephine Parish of Corfe Castle addressed the Council in relation to the Housing White Paper and the Council's draft response to the current consultation. With regard to the standardised methodology for assessing housing needs, she considered that this needed to be rural proofed and data would need to be supplied by the Government at the rural community level. She considered that it was critical that the National Planning Policy Framework be amended to allow local planning authorities to set their own thresholds for genuinely affordable housing for rural communities and to exclude starter homes from rural exception sites. She also highlighted a need for clarity as to whether the requirement for 10% affordable home ownership would apply to rural exception sites, including those of less than 10 units. Additionally, she considered that the dominant need in rural areas was for genuinely affordable rented housing and therefore any thresholds set by local authorities for rural communities was not restricted to affordable home ownership.

Mr Peter Bowyer of Studland asked a number of questions relating to the Local Plan Review. He asked what would happen in respect of uncontrolled development if no new Local Plan was in place by 1 January 2018; when would a public consultation be held on the preferred options arising from the current review; when would a list of questions asked before, during and after the recent question and answer session, together with the answers, be published; and who would create the agenda items for the meetings of the local forums and when.

In response, the Planning Policy Manager explained that a paper had been presented to a previous meeting of the Council setting out the likely risks associated with the 'pause' of the review of the Local Plan. In terms of consultation, she explained that the local forums were being designed to provide a form of consultation and that it was anticipated that the pre-submission draft of the Local Plan would be published in early 2018. She confirmed that a summary of the questions asked and responses given at the question and answer session had been published on dorsetforyou.gov.uk. In relation to the local forums, she explained that the draft terms of reference stated that the agenda for each forum would be set with the Chairman of that forum. The Council was also seeking to appoint some external facilitators to assist with this.

Mr Nigel Hill of Moreton asked whether any scenario evaluations had been undertaken whilst the updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment or standardised approach to assessing housing need was awaited, taking into account the range of likely housing targets and their site allocations, and the result of any comparison of scenarios. The Planning Policy Manager confirmed that no assessment of scenarios had been undertaken to date. She considered that this was likely to be discussed with the communities involved through the local forums.

207.16/17 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 March 2017 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

208.16/17 **Declarations of Interest by Members**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

209.16/17 **Chairman's announcements**

The Chairman reported that the Vice-Chairman had attended the following event:-

- Lyme Regis Civic Day

The Chief Executive reminded Members that it was necessary for them to complete a related party disclosure to ensure that the information was included in the Council's financial statements and requested that these be completed immediately after the meeting.

210.16/17 **Audit and Governance Committee – 28 February 2017**

Further to minute 47.16/17, the General Manager – Public Health and Housing informed Members that a specification relating to the sale of Council advertising space had been written and it was proposed to go out to tender for this in the next few days.

Further to minute 53.16/17, the General Manager – Public Health and Housing reported that new pay and display ticket machines had been installed at Norden car

park. Due to technical problems, the card payment facility was not currently operational but it was anticipated that this would be resolved before the Easter weekend. She added that match funding had been successfully secured from the Coastal Communities Fund for the resurfacing of the car park and other associated works, such as the refurbishment of the public toilets. A specification would now be prepared to be put out to tender for this work. Members welcomed the update.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting be received and the resolutions noted and the following recommendation approved:-

Minute 53.16/17 - Capital budget update as at 31 January 2017

Council be recommended to approve a supplementary estimate of £2,925 to finance the over spend on the ICT systems – Back-up, Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery project.

211.16/17 Purbeck Local Plan Review Advisory Group – 16 March 2017

In response to a Member's question about the intention to undertake a public consultation on preferred options ahead of the publication of the pre-submission draft of the Purbeck Local Plan, the Chairman of the Advisory Group explained that this would be a decision to be made by the full Council. The Leader of the Council reiterated his previous statement that the need for further public consultation would be considered.

In response to a question about the chairing and agenda management of the planned local forums, it was explained that the forums would be chaired either by a Member of the Council or an independent facilitator. At its meeting in February, the Council had agreed that the chairman for each forum would be confirmed by the Chairman of the Advisory Group, the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group. In terms of the agendas for meetings of the forums, the Leader of the Council considered that these would need to be inclusive, allowing for participants to have input, but there was also a need for meetings to be focussed and manageable in order to be effective.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting be received and the resolutions noted.

212.16/17 Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee – 23 March 2017

In presenting the minutes, particular attention was drawn to the predicted underspend of £2.656M in the Waste Partnership's 2016/17 revenue budget.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting be received and the resolutions noted.

213.16/17 Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Scrutiny Group – 10 February 2017

Resolved that minutes of the above meeting be noted.

214.16/17 Dorset Community Safety Partnership – 16 February 2017

Resolved that minutes of the above meeting be noted.

215.16/17 Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board – 1 March 2017

It was noted that Cllr Bill Pipe had been present at this meeting but was not listed amongst the attendees in the minutes.

Resolved that minutes of the above meeting be noted.

216.16/17 **Appointment to the Joint Working Group for Crossways and Moreton**

The Leader of the Council presented a report regarding the Council's representation on the Joint Working Group for Crossways and Moreton. The main purpose of this Working Group was to provide a forum for joint working, liaison and information sharing between local authorities and parish councils with an interest in cross-boundary planning issues in the Crossways / Moreton area; it would not have any decision-making powers. Whilst the Working Group had already met informally on three occasions, agreement of the terms of reference and formal appointment of the Council's representation on the Group were sought. The Leader proposed that two of the Councillors representing the Wool ward – Councillors Brooks and Miller – be appointed to the Working Group.

Resolved that:

- (1) the terms of reference for the Joint Working Group for Crossways and Moreton, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed; and
- (2) Councillors Cherry Brooks and Laura Miller be appointed as the Council's representatives on the Joint Working Group.

217.16/17 **Response to consultation on proposals in the Housing White Paper**

The Housing Portfolio Holder presented a report seeking approval to submit a response to the Government's consultation on proposals set out in the Housing White Paper. She reminded Members that this was published in February 2017 and set out a broad range of reforms that the Government planned to introduce to help reform the housing market and increase the supply of new homes. The Government was currently consulting on changes to planning policy and legislation in relation to planning for housing, sustainable development and the environment. Many of the proposals could have implications for Purbeck and the draft response to the consultation raised some concerns about the potential for unintended consequences on the delivery of affordable housing in the district. The Portfolio Holder drew attention to the content of the draft response and proposed that this be submitted as the Council's corporate response.

Members noted that a number of relevant points relating to the Housing White Paper had been raised by members of the public during Public Participation Time and considered that the draft response should be reviewed to ensure that these issues were covered. It was also considered that there was a need to ensure that the need for infrastructure to support new housing was also reflected in the Council's response.

One Member proposed that the draft response to question 10(a) be amended by the deletion of the second sentence of the first paragraph and the second paragraph in its entirety. It was considered that this sharpened the response. This was duly seconded and, upon being put to the vote, carried.

In response to a Member's question about making the Council's final response available to parish and town councils, the Chief Executive agreed that this should be circulated to all Members for them to share with their local councils.

Resolved that:

- (1) the response to the Housing White Paper, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be submitted, subject to the agreed amendment to the response to question 10(a); and
- (2) agreement of the final version of the response be delegated to the General Manager - Planning and Community Services, in consultation with the Economy and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder, the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of the Purbeck Local Plan Review Advisory Group.

218.16/17 **Waste plan consultation: site options in Blandford and Purbeck**

The Deputy Leader presented a report seeking approval to submit the Council's response to the consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck. He explained that Bournemouth Borough Council, Dorset County Council and the Borough of Poole were currently producing an updated Waste Plan. As a statutory consultee, the Council had submitted comments on previous consultations in October 2015 and July 2016. Through the 2016 consultation, additional sites at Blandford and at Binnegar Environmental Park in Purbeck were put forward for consideration. These sites formed the focus on this current, site specific consultation. There were four potential facilities for the site at Binnegar; officers had not identified any major issues with a potential new residual waste facility at the site but recommended that the Council submitted minor comments. In particular, the Deputy Leader drew attention to the fact that none of the options would exceed the extant permissions for the site relating to tonnage and heavy goods vehicle movements. He also drew attention to the comments relating to the potential impact upon residents at Binnegar Farm and the Buddens Scout Centre included in the proposed response.

One Member considered that the Draft Waste Plan should include a longer term strategic plan to address the likely housing growth and that this should be mentioned in the Council's response. The General Manager – Public Health and Housing explained that the updated Dorset Waste Strategy for 2008 - 2033 had been considered at the recent meeting of the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee and covered this particular issue.

Resolved that the comments set out in Appendix 1 to the report be submitted as the Council's formal response to the consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck.

219.16/17 **Community governance review – Arne Parish Council**

The Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee presented a report regarding the outcome of a community governance review carried out in response to an application from Arne Parish Council to increase its membership from 7 to 8. He explained that the Committee had agreed terms of reference for the review and, following a period of initial consultation, had approved draft proposals for the increase in membership. A further consultation had been carried out on the draft proposals. No representations had been received. The Committee therefore recommended that Council approve the increase in membership of Arne Parish Council and the making of

the necessary order under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to bring this into effect.

Resolved that:

- (1) the membership of the Arne Parish Council be increased from 7 to 8; and
- (2) the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to make the necessary order under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

The meeting ended at 7:53pm.

Chairman