

# The ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

to be held at

the Portland Community Venue

on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
at 7.00 pm

## AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for Absence
- 2) Minutes of the last Annual Town Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (attached)
- 3) Matters Arising
- 4) Report by the Chairman on behalf of the Council
- 5) Report by the Town Mayor (attached)
- 6) Financial Report for 2018/19
- 7) Report by the Town Crier
- 8) Electors' Items
- 9) Date of Next Annual Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

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Town Clerk

## **PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018 AT PETER TRIM HALL, ST. GEORGES CENTRE, REFORNE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ray Nowak (Chairman), Charlie Flack (Town Mayor), Jo Atwell, Jim Draper, Chris Gover, Sandra Reynolds, David Thurston, Sandy West and Rod Wild

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ian Looker (Town Clerk), Councillors Katharine Garcia and Kate Wheller (both Dorset County Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Kerry Baker and Paul Kimber (both Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and Portland Community Partnership), together with six members of the public.

#### **18/1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Sue Cocking, Lucy Grieve and Sue Lees.

#### **18/2 – MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

The minutes having already been formally agreed, they were noted.

#### **18/3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

##### **Minute 17/3 – Mayors' Plaque**

Cllr. Nowak drew the meeting's attention to the fact that the plaque was now in position where the meeting was being held.

#### **18/4 – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, 2017/18**

Cllr. Nowak gave a verbal report. He began by mentioning the six plots of land on the Island that the Borough Council intended to dispose of. The Borough had made concessions in response to requests from the Town Council.

A petition against the closure of the Island's last bank had failed, but the action had revealed that very few of the Islanders' accounts were registered against the branch itself. This was a pointer perhaps for other places in the country who might face similar circumstances in the future.

Also in the face of many protests the Search & Rescue service had been withdrawn from the Island. However a large crowd gathered for the civic and community events organised by the Council to commemorate its leaving.

Cllr. Nowak commented on the Council's plans for a community hub and noted that August 2017 marked the first time the possibility was raised of using Brackenbury School as a community facility.

The Council had held a summer fete for the first time besides Portland Sparkle, both of which had been successful and would be repeated.

Cllr. Nowak referred briefly to the health problems in 2017 experienced by Cllr. Thurston the Town Mayor, the Town Crier and himself. Cllr. Flack had been elected to complete the mayoral term.

Currently discussions were taking place with the Borough about the transfer of assets to the Town, including the Olympic area at New Ground.

Finally, Cllr. Nowak was pleased to announce that the County Council had agreed earlier in the day to accept the Town's bid for the BEACH, the community hub at Brackenbury. As a result, the Council would now be applying for both a low-cost loan and a grant to help reduce the burden on the precept.

### **18/5 – TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT, 2017/18**

Cllr. Flack itemised some memorable events of the mayoral year:-

- D-Day anniversary commemoration service
- Visits to HMS Duncan
- The opening of the Memory Stones
- Passchendaele 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary service
- Civic events attended around Dorset and Somerset
- Merchant Navy Day service
- 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SS Avalanche
- TS Penn annual parade
- HMS Illustrious memorial service
- Annual Portland photography competition
- Armistice commemoration and Remembrance Sunday services
- Seventeen carol services at Christmas!
- Angling Club annual dinner
- Local Sea Cadets presentations and Girl Guides' Thinking Day
- The Ceremony of the Keys at Easton Methodist Church in March
- Tour of the Atlantic Academy

Cllr. Flack closed by giving notice that the Borough Council elections due this year had been postponed until 2019.

### **18/6 – FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2017/18**

The Clerk explained that the accounts presented were not complete to 31<sup>st</sup> March as they had been drafted a few days prior and one or two small additional payments were expected before the end of the year. There were no questions on the report from those present.

### **18/7 – TOWN CRIER'S REPORT, 2017/18**

The Town Crier was not present.

### **18/8 – ELECTORS' ITEMS**

Paul Snow offered the Council his congratulations on the acceptance of its bid for the BEACH. He also recorded his pleasure that at the Finance Committee that morning he had been promised the Council would hold a public meeting concerning the BEACH and the application for loan funding, the event to be

widely publicised. Cllr. Draper provided more detail and said the meeting would be arranged to take place shortly.

Cllr. West asked what was the current situation on the Comer Homes site. Among the detail Cllr. Nowak gave in his reply was that there would be about four hundred units of accommodation, none of it in the “affordable” category unfortunately. When completed the scheme would provide £1m of infrastructure funding. The constructive disposal of that sum would be pursued by the Town Council.

Andy Matthews said there was the possibility that “growth town” funding might be revived and he stressed the Community Partnership was keen to work with the Town Council in developing services on the Island.

Mrs Snow drew attention to the single road that served as the Island’s link to the mainland. Recently it had been badly affected by road works. She wondered what the Council could do to achieve better transport links.

**18/9 – DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

This had yet to be determined.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

Signed ..... Dated .....  
(Chairman)

Annual Town Meeting  
Mayor's Report 2018/19

May

- 05th Official opening Portland Marina Dry stack
- 06th Wimborne Civic Service
- 15th Mayor making ceremony held at WPNSA
- 17th Weymouth Mayor Making
- 20th Louviers Twinning meeting - Weymouth
- 21st Sherborne Mayor Making
- 31st Official opening Castle Court memorial Garden

June

- 06th D-Day Service Victoria Gardens
- 06th D-day Museum unveiling of Mulberry Statues
- 09th East Dorset Civic Day
- 16th HMS Sidon Memorial service
- 16th Party in the Park Victoria Gardens
- 23rd Unveiling plaque Weymouth war memorial
- 24th Armed Forces/Veterans Service - Weymouth
- 30th Chickerell Civic Day

July

- 01st Swanage Civic service
- 02nd Samaritans AGM
- 03rd Weymouth & Portland Scouts AGM
- 04th WPBC Civic day
- 07th Portland Hospital demonstration
- 08th St George's Church service
- 17th Atlantic Academy view Artwork
- 21st Wimborne Civic Day
- 28th PTC Summer Fete

## August

- 02nd Dedication ceremony RFA Tiderace
- 05th Open Southwell Street Fayre
- 05th Attend St George's Church Fayre
- 17th Attended funeral Mayor of Ferndown
- 19th Nothe Fort ragged Victorians event.
- 21st Invited to view Portland Outdoor Centre
- 31st Easton Methodist church - new circuit gathering

## September

- 03rd Merchant Navy Service - St George's Church
- 04th West Dorset District Council Civic Day
- 07th B-Side launch event
- 15th Portland Town Council Civic Day
- 16th Avalanche memorial service - St Andrew's
- 21st Freedom of Sherborne - Rifles service
- 22nd Official opening Athay Gallery Osprey Quay
- 28th Dorchester Civic Day
- 29th Eden Portland presentation

## October

- 10th Lyme Regis Civic Day
- 14th IOPHT Photographic competition prize presentation
- 15th Pennsylvania Castle - Marie Stopes play
- 19th Opening of Citizens Advice Bureau Portland Centre
- 21st HMS Illustrious memorial service
- 21st Trafalgar night dinner -The George
- 28th Dorset Legal Services service Dorchester

## November

- 02nd Dorset Submariners association Annual Dinner
- 03rd Open Muntsys Christmas Fayre
- 10th RBL Festival of Remembrance Drill Hall
- 11th Annual Remembrance Service Cenotaph
- 11th American War Memorial Service Victoria Gardens
- 11th Beacon Lighting and Battles Over Service
- 13th Yeovil Civic Day
- 16th Opening of extension to D-Day Museum
- 19th Weymouth Civic Society Awards Evening - Nothe Fort
- 20th Present Civic Society award to Portland Outdoor Centre
- 24th Open Christmas Fayre - All Saints Church Easton
- 30th W&P Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner WPNSA

## December

- 02nd Verwood Christmas Reception
- 03rd St George's Church Carols
- 04th Ferndown Carols
- 07th Blandford Carols
- 09th Civic Carol Service Easton Methodist Church
- 12th Weymouth carols
- 14th Portland Sparkle

## January 19

- 06th Served Lunch Easton Methodist Church
- 10th Official opening Atlantic Academy Library
- 15th Holtzwickede Twinning Dinner

## February 19

- 16th Hands around the Hospital
- 21st WPBC Full Council
- 24th Girl Guiding Thinking Day - Weymouth Pavilion

March 19

04th Official opening White Stones Studio/Eco Hubs

05th Annual Pancake Race All Saints Easton

14th Gillingham Civic Day

15th Portland Museum AGM