

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

Council Offices
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12th September 2019

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of **PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL**, to be held in the **PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE** on **WEDNESDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 2019**, commencing at **7.00 pm** when the business set out below will be transacted.

Please inform the Clerk if you are unable to attend.

It should be noted that it is the Council's intention that all meetings of the Council and its Committees be recorded aurally.

Yours faithfully

Karon McFarlane
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Welcome
2. Prayers
3. Presentation by Inspector Gosling – Dorset Police
4. Presentation by Barbara Davis - THRIVE
5. Apologies for Absence
6. Declarations of Interest
7. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24th July 2019
8. Co-optioin of Councillor for Portland Town Council
9. Minute Update and Matters Arising from the Minutes
10. Democratic Public Half Hour Open Forum
11. Chairman's Update
12. Town Mayor's Announcements
13. Receive written reports from Dorset Councillors
14. Financial Matters
15. Formation of Management and Forward Planning Working Group
16. Expiry of lease on Gardeners Van
17. Purchase and Installation of a Defibrillator for Portland Community Venue
18. Provision of a Grant to Thrive
19. Proposed Letter to the Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP (Committee on Climate Change)
20. Proposed Letter to the Dorset Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group
21. Expiry of Lease on Cheyne Weares Car Park
22. Closure of Bus Stop in Fortuneswell
23. Extended Opening Times of Accessible Toilets
24. Portland Windmills
25. Addition of Permanent Gardener Post
26. Appointment of Community Safety Officer
27. Exclusion of Press & Public (discretionary)
“That pursuant to the provisions of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for Agenda Item(s) *** by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.”
There is no exempt business for this meeting

28. Date of Next Meeting

The Committee's next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16th October 2019, at Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Close, Portland at 7.00 pm.

Agenda

- 1. Chairman's Welcome**
- 2. Prayers**

To be taken by the Mayor's Chaplain – Mrs Paula Brown
- 3. Presentation by Inspector Gosling representative of Dorset Police**
- 4. Presentation by Barbara Davis - THRIVE**
- 5. Apologies for Absence**

To approve apologies of absence.
- 6. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations from Councillors or Officers of personal or prejudicial interests regarding matters to be considered at this meeting, together with a statement on the nature of those interests.
- 7. Co-Option of Councillor to Portland Town Council**

To receive presentations from applicants to fill the vacancy in the Tophill East Ward.
- 8. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24th July 2019**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24th July as a true and accurate record of the meeting – Copy attached.
- 9. Minute Update and Matters Arising from the Minutes**

To receive any updates or matters arising from the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 24th July 2019.
- 10. Democratic Public Half Hour Open Forum**

To receive questions from Members of the Public.
- 11. Chairman's Update**

To receive updates from the Chairman.
- 12. Town Mayor's Announcements**

To receive an update from the Mayor of events attended in August 2019.
- 13. Receive Written Reports from Dorset Councillors**

For the Chairman to advise the Councillors of any written reports received from Dorset Councillors.

 - a. See written reports received from Cllr Kimber (Annex A and A1 to this agenda).
- 14. Financial Matters**
 - a. To receive a request for the authorisation of payments in September 2019 (Annex B to this Agenda - to follow).
 - b. Approve the request from Osprey Leisure Centre for a CIL donation.
- 15. Formation of Management and Forward Planning Working Group**

The Chairman will present the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Management and Forward Planning Working Group (Annex C to this agenda).
- 16. Expiry of Lease of Gardeners Vehicle**

Cllr Roper will present options for the continued provision of a motor vehicle for the Gardeners (Annex D to this agenda - to follow).

17. Purchase and Installation of Defibrillator for Portland

Cllr Thurston will seek approval to commit £600.00 to purchase and install a defibrillator at Portland Community Venue.

18. Presentation of a Grant to Thrive

Cllr Cocking will seek approval to make a grant donation of up to £600.00 to Thrive. Thrive is a children's support group which, through arts and play based activities seeks to support children who are, for various reasons not in mainstream education. (See Annex E to this Agenda).

19. Proposed Letter to the Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP (Committee on Climate Change)

Cllr Lewis will seek the Council's approval to write to the Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP (Annex F to this Agenda).

20. Proposed Letter to the Dorset Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group

Cllr Lewis will seek the Council's approval to write to all members of the Dorset Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group (Annex G to this Agenda).

21. Expiry of Lease at Cheyne Weares Car Park

Cllr Draper will advise that the current lease of Cheyne Weares Car Park has expired and will seek the Council's views on how to proceed.

22. Closure of the Fortuneswell Bus Stop

The Chairman will advise the meeting that at a recent Planning and Highway's meeting a resident of Underhill had proposed that the Bus Stop in Fortuneswell (in front of the launderette) be closed. The Chairman will seek the views of the Council on how this recommendation should proceed.

23. Extended Opening Times of Accessible Toilets

Cllr Kimber and Cllr Atkins (Brief Holders for Public Toilets) will seek approval from the Council to extend the opening times of the accessible toilets (Annex H to Agenda).

24. Portland Windmills

Cllr Kimber will seek the Council's support for Angela Watson's project to stop entry to the Windmills (Annex I to this Agenda).

25. Addition of Permanent Gardener Post

The Chairman will seek the Council's agreement to ratify the decision made at the recent Policy and Resource Committee Meeting to convert the current seasonal gardeners post to a permanent post.

26. Appointment of Community Safety Officer

The Chairman will seek nominations for the appointment of a Community Safety Officer.

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 24th JULY 2019 AT PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE

PRESENT:

Councillors: Charlie Flack (Chairman), Jim Draper, Rob Hughes, Dave Thurston, Sue Cocking, Sandy West, Berny Parkes, Carralyn Parkes, Paul Kimber, Pete Roper, Sarah Harpley and Cathy Atkins.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) and 6 members of the public.

3916. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and advised that there was no planned fire alarm testing and indicated to those present the various fire exits.

3917. Prayers

The Mayor's Chaplain Mrs Paula Brown led the meeting in prayer.

3918. Presentation by Rachelle Smith secretary of the South West Dorset Multicultural Network.

Mrs Smith delivered a presentation highlighting the work being undertaken by the Multicultural Network and the difficulties being faced by Syrian refugees on Portland. She explained that there were two main issues that the refugees faced in relocating, that being the lack of affordable housing and the language barrier. This, she explained was exacerbated by unfamiliarity with the culture and poor transport links. She concluded her presentation by stating that there were two main ways in which people could help, a) by being prepared to rent out any spare properties for an affordable rent, and b) by becoming a volunteer to help with hospital visits and shopping etc. She especially asked that if anybody who could speak Arabic or knew of any Arabic speakers and who would be prepared to help out to please contact her.

The Chairman thanked her for her very informative presentation.

3919. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. Lewis.

3920. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

3921. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26th June 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

3922. Minute Update and Matters Arising

- a. Item 3911 – Cllr. Parkes advised the meeting that the donation of the display case, and contents by Portland Museum would be on a long-term loan arrangement rather than permanent transfer.

3923. Democratic Public Half Hour Open Forum

- a. Mr Tony Walter spoke on the issue of moving Portland towards Green Energy. He requested that the Council look at their current arrangement and asked that they consider switching to a green tariff. He also asked the Council to consider setting up a community energy project. **See Annex A** to these minutes.

The Chairman responded, stating that there was to be a climate emergency meeting to be held on 31st of July and suggested that this item be discussed further then. Cllr. Draper added that further investigation would be undertaken and would be discussed in more depth at the next Policy and Resource Committee Meeting.

Mr Matthews also added that the issue of alternative power was being pursued with the Local Enterprise Partnership, whilst Cllr. Kimber stated that he had emailed Dorset Council with regard to potential funding to support this issue of alternative power generation.

- b. Mrs Lesley Saunders stated that she was very concerned with end of life care on the Island. She felt that many people did not wish to leave the Island to receive end of life care and were refusing to leave, this in itself, she said, was causing additional stress to both the patient and their families and the situation was being exacerbated with the loss of facilities at Portland Hospital. She concluded by saying, that whilst she recognised that this was the responsibility of the NHS she wished the Council to consider what it could do to ameliorate the situation.

The Chairman stated that Helen Persey (who had presented at the last Full Council Meeting) was due to come back again to provide an update and felt that this was a question that could be put to her.

- c. Mr Paul Snow spoke on the Wages crisis, child poverty and ill-health within Weymouth and Portland. He presented damning statistics on social deprivation within Weymouth and Portland and asked how the Council felt that they could rationalise proposing an increase in the IT Budget and the move to electric equipment, whilst also endorsing Cllr. Kimber's proposal to submit a nomination to Dorset Council on the issue of low incomes, poverty and social mobility in South Dorset (see min 3906 – June '19). He asked that, when the Councillors consider future proposals to commit funds that they consider how better that money could be utilised.
- d. Mr Derek Vincent suggested that, in support of the declaration of a climate emergency previously made by the Council; that rather than move to electric equipment which would only produce a seasonal saving, that the Council revert back to using one vehicle for the Gardening team (rather than the two currently being used) which would produce an immediate reduction.

The Chairman advised that this question could be best answered by the Green Spaces Working Group.

3924. Chairman's Update

- a. The Chairman advised that Councillor Thurston, the Clerk and himself had viewed some of the assets that were being considered for transfer to Portland Town Council. He added that where the assets represented a liability or did not have any community value then they would be left with Dorset Council.
- b. A meeting had taken place with the Granddaughter (Juliet Springer) of Captain Pennington Legh who had drowned off Chesil Beach in the preparations for the D Day Landings, and who was looking to erect a memorial to him. A site had been agreed, close to the Beacon (by the Heights Hotel).
- c. The Chairman advised that a public meeting was to be held on the evening of the 7th August. The aim of the meeting was to provide an update on the progress of the new

Council. He added that the meeting would be attended by Mr David Ackerley (Senior Ranger for DC) who would provide an update on DC's plans to deal with the Brown Tailed Moth caterpillars.

3925. Town Mayor's Announcements

- a. The Mayor advised the meeting of the engagements that she had attended during July 2019 and for the record these are attached at **Annex B**.

3926. Receive written reports from and County Councillors

No written reports have been received.

3927. Financial Matters

- a. **Payments for Authorisation** – The Chairman of the Policy and Resource Committee presented payments for authorisation totalling £30,054.54, the list of payments is held at **Annex C**.

Authorisation of the payments was unanimously approved.

- b. The RFO explained that he was legally required to provide a quarterly expenditure and income report, and normally this would include a comparison against the previous quarter. However, as this was the first quarter with an increased precept there was very little to compare it against. He did, however, explain that at the end of the first quarter at 25% of the way through the year expenditure sat at 20.66%. See **Annex D**.

- c. The RFO provided confirmation that the letter which had been sent to Dorset Council seeking £200k from their reserves to cover known expenditure at the point of asset transfer (1st April 2019) had been received by them but as yet no response has been provided.

- d. He stated that his one concern was that bills for Business Rates on the carparks and toilets etc had been received at just short of £19k. The bills were unexpected (no forewarning had been given) and, he felt were disproportionately high. Whilst he had deflected payment of these until November, without some reduction payment would certainly impact the budget.

A discussion ensued on the cost of water at Portland Bill Toilets (£8k) and it was noted that the hut owners pay ground rates, a proportion of which covered the costs of the sluice. It was suggested that the RFO speak to the Crown Representative and obtain the details of who the landlord for each field was and then write to them to see if some money could be recovered from them. It was agreed that this issue be dealt with by the Toilets Working Group.

Action on the Toilets Working Group to meet and discuss and produce a plan to reduce the water bills for the toilets.

A vote was taken on whether to accept the quarterly report with a unanimous agreement being returned.

- e. **Internal Audit Approval** – The RFO requested the recent internal audit report be accepted by the Council as a true and accurate record, acknowledging that the 1 medium, 1 low observation and the 1 observation recorded for information had or were being actioned. Actions as approved by the June 2019 Policy and Resource Committee Meeting.

Cllr. Cocking thanked the RFO, on behalf of the Council for the hard work that he had undertaken to reduce the financial risk to the Council.

A vote was taken to accept the internal audit report with a unanimous agreement being returned.

f. Pre- approval was sought for various items which breached the current £150 limit; servicing of the mower, procurement of a notice board for the allotments and a skip for the allotments. The RFO also advised that the 'Spinner' in Victoria Gardens Play Park had broken and a quote to supply the parts to repair it had been received at £1,053.11. He further advised that the Friends of Victoria Gardens (FOVG) had approached the Court Leet who had agreed to pay the full cost of the repair. The Court Leet had made the grant to FOVG who had presented PTC with a cheque.

Approval to proceed received a unanimous vote.

3928. Introduction of Paperless Committee Meetings

The Chairman reminded the meeting that a paper had been issued with the Agenda (Annex B) which presented the case for the introduction of paperless committee meetings and provide two options; Option 1 to implement the transition for all meetings over the next two months and Option 2 to opt for a pilot project on an appropriate committee.

Cllr. Roper explained the rationale behind the motion stating that with the declaration of a climate emergency by the Council he felt that it was imperative that the Council now pursued ways in which to reduce the impact of PTC on climate change. He further explained that following this course of action would have both environmental benefits and cost savings.

A discussion ensued, during which it was suggested that a screen and projector be employed, as per the Planning Committee Meetings which would aid those people who did not have tablets and still wished to view the agenda and such.

Cllr. Draper proposed that Option 2 be implemented for the Planning Committee Meeting and that if successful then it be rolled out to all meetings by the end of the current financial year.

A unanimous vote for Option 2 was returned.

3929. Proposed Increase in the IT Budget

Cllr. Roper stated that a paper in support of this proposal was issued with the Agenda (Annex C) and explained the background to why the proposal was being made. Following a meeting of the IT and Comms Working Group it was agreed that the current website was not fit for purpose and needed to be upgraded, in addition additional email accounts were required together with other IT equipment.

Cllr. Draper explained that this was not a request to spend money, but a request to augment the current budget of £3K by a further £17K to bring the total budget to £20K. He further explained that having taken account of some of the objections put forward by the other Councillors on the proposed increase, that rather than seeking an increase of £17K that it be reduced to £7K taking the budget to £10K. He reiterated that any decision to spend money would need to be approved by Full Council and undertaken in accordance with the procurement regulations, which required a full tender exercise, and that he was not proposing that a contract be placed with the Company that had provided the advice.

The Chairman confirmed that whilst there was agreement that a new website was required the motion was now to move an additional £7K from the general reserves to the IT budget. A vote was taken with a majority response in favour being returned.

3930. Green Spaces - Move to Battery Operated Equipment

Annex D to the Agenda provided a strategy paper on the proposal to replace the petrol driven power tools currently used by the Gardening team with battery powered tools. The tools currently being used having been transferred from Weymouth Town Council when the Councils split in April 2019; the tools now being used were old and unreliable. Cllr. Roper explained that he believed that there was an overwhelming case for the replacement of the petrol driven power tools not only were they environmentally friendly (reminding the meeting that the Council had recently passed a motion declaring a climate emergency) but also to mitigate the health and safety risks currently being experienced by both the operators and public. A move to battery operated equipment would reduce the risk of vibration injuries and noise and pollution related health issues. He proposed two options for consideration; Option 1 – replace all existing petrol powered devices at an approx. cost of £18,000 (VAT inc), or Option 2 – replace all existing petrol powered devices with the exception of the battery powered mower at a reduced cost of approx. £16,400.00 (VAT inc).

Cllr. Draper informed the meeting that a previous Finance Committee had approved the purchase of a petrol driven strimmer, which, because of environmental concerns had not yet been purchased. Cllr. Roper added that the expenditure was not unbudgeted as there was sufficient money within the equipment budget to cover the costs. A number of questions were posed relating to the life of the tools and specifically the batteries. It was explained that the tools themselves would become profitable after 3 years. Cllr. Cocking pressed that the health and safety of the staff was paramount. David Avery (PTC Head Gardener) offered all Councillors the opportunity to trial the current tools and to see for themselves the conditions experienced by the gardening team in using the current tools.

A discussion was had regarding the manufacturer of the tools proposed, it was explained that currently there is only one manufacturer (Perlunc) who were manufacturing a truly commercial solution which made seeking a comparative cost from another manufacturer impossible.

Cllr. Thurston (seconded by Cllr. West) proposed an amendment to the motion, in that the Council vote on a move to Battery Powered Tools without agreeing a monetary limit at this time.

A vote was taken which only received three votes and was therefore not taken forward.

Cllr. Parkes (seconded by Cllr. Cocking) proposed that the Council proceed with Option 1 as stated

A vote was taken on Cllr. Parkes proposal, the proposal received a majority vote and was carried.

Resolved that the Green Spaces Working Group pursue the purchase of battery-operated equipment as per Option 1 up to the value of £18,000; and the costs be attributed to the equipment budget.

3931. Councillor Vacancy

The Chairman explained that approval had been received for the Council to proceed with co-option action to fill the vacancy left by the passing of Cllr. Nowak. He added that an advert had been placed in the Free Portland News and on the Council's website advertising the vacancy with a closing date for applications of 31st August 2019. Candidates will be asked to attend the September Council meeting to present their case for co-option.

3932. Formation of Management and Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman explained that due to the expanded requirements of the Council there was a need to form a Committee to deal with planning and policy issues. It was proposed that the members should be the Chairman, the Mayor and the Chairman of the Policy and Resource Committee, it was also proposed by Cllr. Draper that Cllr. Roper also be included. Cllr. Kimber pointed out that scrutiny of Council decisions by Council members would not be acceptable. Cllr. Draper explained that it was not really scrutiny but rather forward planning and objective setting for direction of the Council; and suggested that the term scrutiny was probably a misnomer.

Cllr. Draper proposed that as all recommendations would need to be submitted to Full Council for resolution, that the group should in fact be a working group. Making it a working group would mean that no minutes would be required, thus relieving the Officers of any administrative burden; whilst the requirement to bring any recommendations to Full Council would ensure full transparency.

Cllr. Cocking suggested that it would probably be useful to agree Terms of Reference prior to the commencement of the working group.

The Chairman proposed that this action be deferred until the next meeting, during which time there be an informal meeting to discuss the Terms of Reference for the working group.

Following a vote, it was unanimously agreed that the proposed members of the group meet, informally to agree Terms of Reference for the Management Working Group and present at the next Full Council Meeting.

3933. St. Peter's Church

Cllr. Roper presented a report on the current state of St Peter's Church and asked the Council to support an action to fund research to determine who owns the church and to subsequently liaise with them to initiate action to start restoration. Cllr. Cocking explained that it was in private ownership but that she was aware that the owner had died and that it was under probate at this present time and that there was very little that could be done until such time that probate had been completed.

Cllr. Kimber stated that a copy of the report had been sent to the leader of Dorset Council and the Conservation Officer, he continued that it was essential that a marker be put down that made it clear that there was support for the church be saved. He acknowledged that there was a process to be followed starting with probate, but that it was necessary to keep the pressure on. He expressed a view that the Council should contact Dorset Council to re-iterate the fact that action needed to be taken.

Following a vote, it was resolved that a letter be sent to Dorset Council asking them to take action and to contact the owner and to convey the Council's concern over the building.

3934. Photographic ID for Councillors

Cllr. West explained that as there was a new Council with several new Councillors it would be a good idea for photographic ID's to be issued. She felt that this would go some way to safeguarding vulnerable people, many of them older and provide them with a degree of comfort when meeting with Councillors.

The Chairman proposed that an action be put on the IT and Comms Working Group to take forward this proposal.

Following a vote, it was unanimously resolved that the issue of photographic ID be dealt with by the IT and Comms Working Group.

3935. Ratification of Financial Regulations

The Chairman explained that the new Financial Regulations had been approved at the Policy and Resources Meeting in June 2019 and that the action for this meeting was to ratify that approval. A vote was taken which returned a unanimous agreement.

Resolved that the revised Financial regulations for Portland Town Council, as agreed at the Policy and Resource Meeting held in June 2019 be accepted.

3936. Report from the Marine, Environmental and Tourism (MET) Partnership

Cllr. Draper provided a brief report on the MET meeting held in July 2019. He brought two things to the attention of the meeting.

- i) Cllr. Harpley agreed to update, with the help of the Assistant Town Clerk, the emergency plan. Having been written a few years ago it was now in need of review and update.
- ii) Cllr. Harpley agreed to undertake an audit of the Island’s defibrillators. Ensuring that where they are situated, they are being maintained, recognising that many sit outside of retail outlets which have changed hands.

He also informed the meeting that a small sub working group had been formed which would specifically look at tourism. This sub-working group have identified three actions:

- i) Look at the Council’s website and see if an area of it can deal specifically with tourism.
- ii) Pursue the undertaking of a scoping study to understand the feasibility of accessing the missing link element of the footpath.
- iii) Pursue an access path to the top of the Island.

3937. Appointment of Community Safety Officer

No definitive nominations for this post had been received; and it was generally conceded that more information on the role of the Community Safety Officer was required prior to receiving any. As Inspector Gosling is to be present at the Full Council Meeting in September it was proposed that this issued be deferred until then.

It was resolved that this issue be deferred until the Full Council Meeting in September.

3938. Exclusion of Press & Public (discretionary)

There were no matters to discuss.

3939. Date of Next Meeting

The Committee’s next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 18th September 2019 at the Portland Community Venue at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 21.15 hours.

Signed Dated.....
Chairman

Report to the Free Portland News and Portland Town Council

Tribute to Les Ames

Dear friends,

Firstly, it gives me great pleasure to wish Les Ames a very Happy Birthday for his 100th birthday on 24th August.

Les was an outstanding Councillor for Portland for many years, and I was proud to work with him at both Portland Town Council and the Weymouth and Portland Borough Council. Les worked on many projects and took forward many difficult issues to Dorset County Council.

I remember campaigning with Les to get a new Brackenbury school and nursery for the Underhill community. At the time, this was a massive achievement.

I know many Portlanders will have known Les and will remember him as someone who was always there for them and listened to their concerns.

I also extend my good wishes to Jean, always a great support for Les, with her golden smile.

Work has started on a new Dorset Local Plan.

(Work to be completed and adopted by 2024).

The New Dorset Council is now required to produce a new Local Plan that states how much development is required to meet housing demands; which I know many Portlanders will want to comment on. This plan must meet the needs of our community, setting out where development should or shouldn't take place. It also identifies areas that are environmentally or historically important to our Portland community, and how the plan should protect our iconic buildings and villages.

Local Plans typically cover a 15- year period. The Dorset Local Plan will eventually replace other plans adopted by the Dorset Councils that existed before Dorset Council was formed. An EAP (Executive Advisory Panel) has been set up, with the first meeting later this summer. I will, of course, keep Portlanders updated as the plan moves forward.

Weymouth & Portland Action on Wages (WeyPAW)

At Dorset Council, I seconded a motion, that was passed, regarding action on wages in Weymouth and Portland. This will now go forward to another EAP working group.

For the past two years, I have been working in partnership with WeyPAW (Weymouth and Portland Action on Wages) to highlight the problem of poverty wages, and poverty more generally, in the area.

Please come along to a free conference, on Saturday September 28th at 12pm, at the Safewise Centre on Radipole Lane, DT4 0QF (which is by the fire station). You'll hear a professor, and two GPs, talk about the relationship between poverty and poor health (among other issues). Check out Facebook or www.weypaw.org.uk or email weypaw@gmail.com

St Peter's Church, the Grove, Portland

Cllr Peter Roper and I are working, with the Grove community, to save St Peter's Church. This wonderful historic church badly needs urgent repairs, so I have written to the Conservation Officer, at Dorset Council, to enlist support. This is also on the agenda of the Portland Town Council. Clearly there's a great love for this church.

Cllr Paul.R.Kimber

Leader of the Labour & Coop Group

Ward member for Portland

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Caring for our Portland Community.

This paper details the content of emails between Cllr Kimber and Susan Dallison (Dorset Council).
The reports referred to are available for review if required.
Cllr Kimber is a member of the ERP on climate change.

Climate Change EAP - Cllr Priorities

Dear Sue

I have pleasure in enclosing the above reports regarding your request of the Climate Panel members meeting on 2 July. Where it was agreed that panel members should send their Climate Change EAP priorities.

I'm pleased to report I had a meeting with the Portland climate change group which met on Friday afternoon, which considered your request with Councillors Lewis and Roper Mr Tony Walters and Ms Helen Carr.

I've also forwarded onto the Portland Town Council who are also considering this question.

I look forward to the EAP meeting.

Kind regards

Paul

Cllr Paul.R.Kimber

Leader of the Labour & Coop Group

Caring for our Portland Community.

1. Consider community Energy scheme enterprise. Portland has more sun or wind energy than other areas plus tidal sea power.
 2. Grass cutting equipment battery operated as Portland Town Council has grass cutters instead of petrol engines stopping pollution .
 3. Is our electricity Dorset Council Electricity supplier come from 100 % renewables like Dorchester Town council has just gone over to.
 4. Homes to be more energy efficient on all new developments to have solar panels or ground pumps .
 5. Investigate generating Electricity supply from Portland Bill from the sea or wave power.
 6. Education for all people on Climate change many people are still unaware of global warming.
 7. Understand recommendations from the united nations climate change emergency on how we handle this climate emergency. With the 2% increase in temperature. What are our plans?
- Ask the U.N for a speaker to address us.
8. Press releases from our meetings.
 9. Climate change day is on the 20th September. suggest we put on exhibition, on giving and publishing our policies.
 10. **Make sure our Community leaders build climate-friendly communities across the County of Dorset .**
 11. **Link up with schools across Dorset**

Subject: Climate Change EAP - Cllr Priorities

Dear all

As you may recall from the panel meeting on 2 July it was agreed that panel members would send me their climate change priorities for the council. If you have not already done so, please could you send me your priorities as soon as possible.

Many thanks

Susan

Susan Dallison

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE
PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL
FORWARD PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

BACKGROUND:

Portland Town Council recognises that there is a requirement to ensure that there is a cohesive policy on the direction that the Council takes and that it is demonstrably in the best interests of the citizens of Portland.

AIMS:

The aim of the working group will be to ensure the health and wellbeing of Portland Town Council. This will be achieved by producing a five-year plan that will agree the aims and objectives of the Council, initially for one year but extending out to encompass the period up to April 2024.

ROLE:

The role of the Working Group will be to:

- a. Initiate and progress a forward plan for Portland Town Council
- b. Consider proposals for the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies
- c. Consider the feasibility of future projects from Brief Holders and provide advice on subsequent actions
- d. Act as an arbitration board

OUTPUTS:

The Working Group will:

- a. Deliver a forward plan for the direction of Portland Town Council
- b. Provide recommendations to Full Council on the distribution of CIL monies
- c. Support appropriate recommendations to Full Council on future projects ensuring that they are fully costed, and risk tested.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership of the Working Group will consist of the following:

- The Chairman of the Council*
- The Chairman of the Policy and Resource Committee*
- The Deputy Chair of the Policy and Resource Committee*
- The Town Clerk*
- One Councillor

* The position determines membership of the Working Group, once that position is no longer held then membership of the Working Group will cease and will pass to the new incumbent.

The Councillor seconded to the Working Group will be nominated at a Full Council meeting by the Councillors and will hold membership for one year.

Membership will be limited to five members and, with the exception of the Town Clerk, must all initially hold office as a Councillor of Portland Town Council.

REVIEW:

An annual review will be undertaken to ensure that the relevance and value of the work undertaken continues.

An annual review of the Terms of Reference will be undertaken.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Working Group will not have any powers to legally commit Portland Town Council and any proposals are to be submitted to Full Council for their consideration and determination. In the event that the Working Group considers that the matter is urgent then it will have the authority to call an extraordinary Full Council Meeting.

MEETINGS:

The Working Group will initially meet on a monthly basis, but this may be changed to a lesser frequency dependent upon the level of business to be transacted.

The Meeting will be Chaired by the nominated Councillor and the Vice Chairman will be the Vice Chairman of the Policy and Resource Committee.

The Meetings will be held directly after the monthly Policy and Resource Committee Meeting.

A standard Agenda will be generated which will consist of the four roles as stated above, although additional agenda items will be added where required. Any additional items are to be notified to the Town Clerk a minimum of five working days before the Working Group Meeting. The Agenda will be issued to the Working Group Members three working days before the meeting.

The Town Clerk will provide secretariat for the Working Group, but no formal minutes will be issued rather action points will be noted and distributed to all Council members.

Non-members (Councillors and Members of the Public) may be invited where there is a requirement for additional information or where a case is to be presented.

SHARING OF INFORMATION

Where possible the distribution of information is to be electronic.

Lets get Creative and Thrive



*Come and meet me for a chat and see what I do
Coffee Morning September 5th 9.30 Council Community Hub*

I am really excited to announce that I will be running weekly Thrive sessions on Portlanda from September

Thrive is a specific way of working with all children that helps to develop their social and emotional wellbeing, enabling them to engage with life and learning. It supports them in becoming more self-assured, capable and adaptable.

Thrive uses arts and play-based activities with children to support healthy neural development, promote a positive sense of self and build optimal learning capacity. There are many artistic mediums that I work with in the Thrive Approach, sand play, puppetry, story telling, music, drama, movement and dance, painting and drawing, each of which has particular benefits and strengths. The Thrive Approach integrates arts and creativity to support children's emotional and social development.

Thursday Mornings 9.30 – 10.30 - 4 spaces for primary aged children
possibility of 2 groups if numbers are high

Local parents will get a reduced rate through local grant funding please contact me to discuss cost and secure you place

Barbara Davis 07506728148 bdavistraining2017@gmail.com

Sessions will be held at the Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Cl, Fortuneswell, Portland DT5 1JN

MOTION – for Portland Town Council Full Council Meeting - 18 September 2019:

Proposed by: Councillor Giovanna Lewis

Seconded by: Councillor Peter Roper

As part of its recent Declaration, Portland Town Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group request Portland Town Council to send the letter below to all the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy – the contents of which are self explanatory. Thank you.

The Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP
Secretary of State
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

andrea.leadsom.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Ms Leadsom

We are a Town Council representing a population of just under 13,000 people in Portland, Dorset. We are writing to you as the Minister whose Department took over the Department of Energy and Climate Change in 2016.

The Committee on Climate Change, in their 2012 report (updated June 2018) said that on local authority: "There is currently a significant risk that local authorities will not develop and implement sufficiently ambitious low carbon plans ... given the highly constrained fiscal situation. In order to mitigate this, and the associated risk for meeting national carbon budgets, the Government should seriously consider providing additional funding ... and/or introducing a statutory duty for local authorities to develop and implement low-carbon plans."

Like many local authorities, we have passed our motion declaring a 'Climate and Ecological Emergency' and expressing a willingness to take action. It is important that any action we take is beyond simply improving our own estate (e.g. the buildings we own) and instead encompasses a wider brief.

In order that we may effectively do this, we are asking that consideration be given to enabling local authorities through funding, and possibly statutory duties to be empowered to take up such a wider brief, thus we would specifically like to ask:

- 1 What current, and/or future, initiatives are, or will become, available for local councils to participate fully in reducing carbon emissions, and
- 2 What funding is, or may become, available to support this?

Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

Portland Town Council

MOTION – for Portland Town Council Full Council Meeting - 18 September 2019:

Proposed by: Councillor Giovanna Lewis

Seconded by: Councillor Peter Roper

As part of its recent Declaration, Portland Town Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group request Portland Town Council to send the letter below to all Councillors of the Dorset Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group – the contents of which are self explanatory. Thank you.

To Cllrs:

Ray Bryan cllrray.bryan@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Leader Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group

Kelvin Clayton cllrkelvin.clayton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Les Fry cllrles.fry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Rob Hughes cllrrob.hughes@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Paul Kimber cllrpaul.kimber@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Belinda Ridout cllr.belindaridout@gmail.com

Maria Roe cllrmaria.roe@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Jane Somper cllrjane.somper@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

David Tooke cllrdavid.tooke@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Daryl Turner cllrdaryl.turner@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Peter Wharf cllrpeter.wharf@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Copy to: Max Bishop, Energy Officer, Dorset Council – m.bishop@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Dear Councillors

We are writing to you as members of Dorset Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group. Like many other Council's in Dorset, many of our buildings are supplied with electricity under Dorset Council's LASER Scheme – such as our public toilets for example. We are aware that the process for renegotiating this contract is about to begin from September 2019.

In support of our own decision to reduce our carbon emissions, Portland Town Council are writing to request that Dorset Council consider the following when reviewing the way forward for not only its own future needs, but also those of all the buildings and organisations that join with it in the current LASER scheme.

1 – in the longer term - setting up Dorset Council's own Energy Generation Scheme - such as the large scale solar farm which Warrington Borough Council has set up - <https://www.gridserve.com/post/breaking-news>.

The large amount of properties owned and managed by Dorset Council and requiring electricity (currently through LASER) creates an immediate and direct large customer/consumer base to support such investment and minimise risk, ie schools (inc academies), social services premises, Tricuro buildings, public toilets, etc. Additionally, the Warrington Scheme is set to bring in revenue of approximately £150m to the Council over the longer term and help support the Council with much needed funds.

2 – In the shorter term - purchase of supply from either:

Companies involved solely in the generation of renewable energy (such as Ecotricity and Good Energy), or Local Authorities invested in renewable energy through the LASER framework.

This option will ensure that a greater commitment to using renewable energy is made, and also lends support to companies and organisations clearly and transparently investing in the generation of renewables.

Please note that the purchase of Green Tariffs from national large suppliers does not afford such a significant and direct investment in renewable energy companies and is thus not encouraged.

Thank you – Portland Town Council

Extended Opening of Accessible Toilets on Portland

We have received a request from a resident that accessible toilets on the island are left open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are currently locked overnight as there is no one available to be responsible for them until daytime. However, the resident pointed out that these toilets are only available to radar key holders so should only be accessible to them anyway and will be locked for the wider public. Brief Holders, Cllr Kimber and Cllr Atkins would like to suggest a trial period over 12 months to keep these toilets unlocked 24/7 for radar key holders. It is hoped the trial period would safeguard any unfortunate circumstance we may have overlooked.

Content of an email from Mr Mike Kelly who has a wider knowledge of Disability rights to give his valued judgement.

'I have no doubt that Weymouth and Portland Access Group would fully support Portland Town Council with the idea of providing 24-hour access by use of a Radar key. These keys are a great asset to many people with disabilities including many whose disability may not be readily apparent.

You will probably have heard that the keys have, unfortunately, become rather too readily available - I have been told that they can be bought cheaply on Amazon without any special need being identified. Nevertheless, I would not wish this to be taken as a reason not to provide 24-hour access.

I have not heard of any comments about Portland's public conveniences for a while - which I trust is good news! They have been reduced to only 4 locations, I believe, which is unfortunate. I hope and assume that people in Castletown could use Osprey Leisure Centre or a pub or cafe in the area though I imagine Chiswell may be more difficult, especially with the limited hours that Quiddles is open'.

Extract of an email received from Angela Watson 2nd September 2019

Hi All.

We are part of a Facebook group, keen to save the Portland Windmills, and carry on Ray Nowak's work, we are calling upon the Portland Town Council and the Dorchester Town Council, to start to look seriously at our 2 Windmills at Tophill, Portland.

Clearly people are going in the Windmills as there is evidence of fires, beer bottles and cans.

They do have signs on them saying not to go in as it could be dangerous these can't always be seen, but they are ignored anyway.

They are Grade 2 listed and we are in danger of losing part of Dorset's Heritage. We have found records dating back to 1628. They were the original sat nav for Mariners in the 16th Century, before the lighthouses were built.

We all have a Duty of Care for these to be looked after and we have had offers of help from our group to tidy them, but unless something is done to stop entry to the Windmills then it will continue to put their safety at risk.

As I was finishing this report on Saturday to send to everyone, there has been an alleged serious assault reported inside 1 of the Windmills, the police had cordoned it off and CSI's had been to the sight. It was hoped the tapes would be taken off later that day. I spoke to the officer who understandably couldn't give me a great deal of information, but I did get a crime number ref I 31:80.

I think this confirms the urgency of getting these tidied up and some type of gates on the entrances.

Looking forward to a response.

Regards

Angela Watson