

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MARINE, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD AT PETER TRIM HALL, ST. GEORGE'S CENTRE, REFORNE ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH JUNE 2017

PRESENT: Councillors Jo Atwell (from 7.35 pm), Jim Draper, Charlie Flack, Lucy Grieve, Sue Lees, David Thurston and Rod Wild, together with Philip George (Crown Estate), Jane White (Court Leet), Andy Matthews (Portland Community Partnership), Hannah Sofaer (Portland Sculpture & Quarry Trust) (from 7.05 pm) and Mike Deadman (Weymouth & Portland Tourist Board)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and Katharine Garcia (Dorset County Council)

Cllr. Lees in the chair.

1176 – CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Cllr. Lees be appointed Chairman of the Partnership for 2017/18.

1177 – CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr. Lees welcomed all to the Partnership meeting and gave fire safety directions.

1178 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Susan Cocking and Chris Gover, together with Cllr. Kate Wheller (Dorset County Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Geoff Peters (National Coastwatch Institution), Ruth Carpenter (Natural England), Sandi Wilson (Portland Port) and Peter Allam (Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy)

1179 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Lees declared a pecuniary interest in the Chesil Equestrian Centre and Mr Matthews non-pecuniary interests in Weymouth College and the MEMO project.

1180 – DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Cllr. Grieve be appointed Deputy Chairman of the Partnership for 2017/18.

1181 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER 2016

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

1182 – NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST MARCH 2017

RESOLVED – that the notes be received.

1183 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

Minute 1165 – Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Matthews said the Community Partnership had not been successful in obtaining a grant, so would break the application into smaller parts and reapply.

1184 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mr Matthews reported that the Heritage and Character Study had now been issued in a corrected version. It also now includes a joint statement with Portland Port about the Port's land holding. Consultation on the Study would start on 9th June with publicity in the July Free Portland News. Mr Matthews emphasised the need to provide evidence-based documentation in making a case regarding planning applications.

In addition Aecom had been commissioned to carry out a site assessment of local development land. The Working Group would be collating an analysis of green spaces on the Island.

1185 – OVERGROWN VEGETATION

Members compared notes on the current situation. Cllr. Garcia said she was due to have a meeting soon with the County rights of way officer and welcomed notification of any footpath that was overgrown.

1186 – PEBBLE SIGNAGE

Mr Matthews advised that some of the storm damage funding would be used for additional signage and presentation material as an educational resource, including information boards at Chesil Cove.

1187 – BROADBAND PROVISION

Osprey Quay now has broadband accessible.

1188 – FINGERPOSTS

Philip George said that the new fingerpost in the vicinity of Perryfield House had not been installed yet.

(Cllr. Atwell joined the meeting.)

1189 – JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Following discussion it was **RECOMMENDED** – (1) the Council record where knotweed is sited, including photographs, and write to the landowners, (2) publicise its occurrence on the Council's website and in its display window, (3) write to the Borough Council, Cllr. Grieve to draft a letter.

1190 – PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Members considered copies of a member of public's letter to the County. Cllr. Garcia undertook to raise this too with County officers. The Clerk will write once the meeting has taken place.

1191 – STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS (by exception)

b) Litter and Fly-Tipped Material

The Clerk was asked to write to Dorset Waste Partnership to find out whether litter-pick material could be brought to the tip. Mr Matthews will attempt to contact a climbing association about rubbish tipped over Cheyne Weares.

c) Run-Down Areas

Cllr. Flack raised the issue of 11 High Street, where the guttering is collapsing. The Clerk will write to the Borough. He was also asked to write to English Heritage about St. Peter’s Church.

d) Hedgerows

Cllr. Wild requested an agenda item for the next meeting about brown-tailed tussock moths and their eradication.

e) Cycle Paths

Cllr. Draper reported that he and Mr Matthews had identified a cycle route from Chesil to the Bill as part of a Sustrans route from Porlock to Portland. Further work was required to progress the project and additional helpers would be welcomed.

1192 – ADDITIONAL ITEM

Mr Deadman brought members up to date with various tourism developments on the Island.

1193 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at Easton Methodist Church Hall, Easton on Wednesday, 6th September 2017, starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.45 pm.

Signed (Chair) Date