

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE ON 21ST AUGUST 2019 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Charlie Flack (Chairman), Sandy West, Sara Harpley, Cathy Atkins, Jim Draper, David Thurston, Giovanna Lewis, Carralyn Parkes, Bernard Parkes, and Pete Roper.

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) and two members of the public.

2848 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillors Paul Kimber, Rob Hughes, and Sue Cocking (Mayor) – Please see minutes of the meeting of 22 May 2019, item 2048a for more information.

2849 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Harpley declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 4e, as she is a resident of the area around Grove Corner.

2850 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th MARCH 2019

The Chairman reported that there were some inaccuracies in the minutes of the previous meeting on 17th July 2019 under item 4842 – Public Participation. Please see page 3 of the minutes from this meeting for more details. The Committee supported the amended wording.

Further to the amendments, the minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

2851 – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT, MINUTE UPDATE AND OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Item 4a – Dangerous parking in Castletown. The Chairman confirmed that Portland Town Council had recently sent an email to Dorset Council Highways requesting that a Traffic Regulation Order be put in place to convert some of the parking spaces in Castletown, adjacent to Clarke’s Boatworks to disabled parking spaces. The Chairman reported that Portland Town Council are still awaiting a response.

Agenda Item 4c – Cyclist safety at the Masonic car park. The Chairman noted that there have not been any further reports of incidents. Cllr Draper confirmed that there was in fact, a *Slow, Children* sign in place, but it was not clear whether this had been put in place since the last meeting.

Agenda Item 4d – Abandoned vehicles in Easton Car Park. Cllr Draper confirmed that Dorset Council had placed a 14-day notice on the trailer. Action would be taken if the trailer was not removed after this time.

Agenda Item 4e – Grove Corner traffic calming scheme. Cllr Harpley would report later in the meeting.

Agenda Item 4f – Address for commercial land at Lerret Road. The Chairman noted that Portland Town Council had previously written to Dorset Council to request that it is consulted prior to street naming. He further reported that they had failed to do this. The land in question at Lerrett Road was to be named Victoria Park.

Portland Town Council are to write to Dorset Council to request that Portland Town Council are consulted on street naming.

Agenda Item 4g – Naming of the Lidl Supermarket. The Chairman noted that he had had reports that the Lidl supermarket, which was due to open shortly, was to be named *Lidl, Weymouth South*. The Chairman suggested that Portland Town Council writes to Lidl to strongly object to this name as the supermarket is in fact on Portland. The Chairman further noted that there were additional matters to be raised with Lidl regarding public transport access to the supermarket and this could be included in the letter.

Portland Town Council are to write to Lidl regarding naming and public transport access.

Agenda Item 4f – Heritage sites on Portland. Cllr C Parkes gave a report on her recent research on the heritage of Portland Underground Hospital. Please see the report attached to these minutes at **Annex A for further details**.

The Committee thanked Cllr C Parkes for her research.

The Chairman enquired whether Cllr C Parkes had been in contact with Steven George, the curator at the D-Day museum, who may be able to arrange access to the hospital.

Cllr C Parkes noted that for personal reasons she had not been able to dedicate any further time to do any more research. However, she noted her intention to do more work on the project when she has more time available in the coming months.

Cllr Draper moved a motion to include Portland Underground Hospital on the list of heritage sites on the island. The Committee supported this motion.

Portland Underground Hospital is to be included on the list of heritage sites on the island.

2852 – UPDATE ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Chairman provided an update on the current planning applications. For further information please see Dorset For You / Planning / Portland.

2853 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Andy Matthews raised an issue with some of the lanes that run down the back of the houses in Underhill. One of the residents had extended the back wall of their house into the lane, restricting access. Andy Matthews queried whether this could pose a potential hazard should an emergency occur that required an escape route. The Chairman agreed that this required further investigation.

Andy Matthews is to present the address in question to the Committee for further investigation.

An Underhill resident wished to clarify whether the issue regarding the bus stop in Fortuneswell had been put to Full Council. The Chairman confirmed that the matter was on the agenda for the next Full Council on 18th September 2019 but due to the timing of the last Planning & Highways meeting on 17th July 2019, the deadline had passed for the previous Full Council meeting on 24st July 2019.

Andy Matthews will report later in the meeting regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

2854 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFIED BY DORSET COUNCIL

The advisory committee discussed 11 new planning applications with a detailed list, including decisions made at this meeting, being held at **Annex B to these minutes**.

For further information please see Dorset For You / Planning / Portland.

2855 – PLANNING CONTRAVENTION ISSUES

The Committee discussed 4 planning contravention issues. Further details can be found in **Annex C to these minutes**.

2856 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

Andy Matthews confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted and the Regulation 16 consultation was now underway. The plan was available to be viewed in various locations and online until 9th October.

Andy Matthews proposed using the facilities at the Portland Town Council offices to produce some A5 flyers promoting the consultation and encouraging public engagement. The flyers would be taken around local shopping areas. He further proposed displaying the banners that had been previously produced, in various hotspots around the island to further promote the consultation.

Andy Matthews sought approval from the Committee to use council facilities to produce the flyers. This was agreed by the Committee.

2857 – HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a. Road safety at Grove Corner. Cllr Harpley gave an update on the matter of road safety and speeding cars at Grove Corner. She reported that she had had a meeting with Alaric Little of Dorset Council Highways, who had explained the history of the situation. Mr Little had informed Cllr Harpley that the last time the suggestion of traffic calming measure had been investigated at Grove Corner, the area scored 3.7, and the target for introducing measures was 4, meaning the area narrowly missed out. Mr Little suggested that the best way to proceed with applying for traffic calming measures in the area would be to first collect speed data. To do this, Portland Town Council would need to pay £250 for Dorset Highways to install the equipment, which would record traffic speed data for two weeks. Cllr Harpley wanted to seek approval from the Committee to request that Dorset Council install the equipment.

The Committee discussed the proposal. The Chairman raised the issue of school children walking down to the bus stop on the opposite side of the road, who had to cross this section of busy road every day.

Cllr Thurston raised an objection about Portland Town Council having to spend £250 in order to collect the data when this could come from other sources. Cllr Harpley stated that it would not be investigated by other sources unless Portland Town Council spends the money. Cllr Harpley further pointed out that although most of the criteria for introducing traffic calming measures was about data, lobbying Dorset Council also had weight.

The Chairman suggested that the money for the speed data collection could come from the Community Infrastructure Levy money as road safety was part of the criteria.

Cllr Harpley put the proposal of spending £250 to collect speed data at Grove Corner to the Committee and it was seconded by Cllr Draper on the grounds of protecting pedestrians and especially children crossing the road. The proposal was approved by the Committee. Cllr Thurston objected.

- b. The Chairman brought some road closures to the Committee's attention. Spring Gardens would be closed for water repairs until 23rd August. Also, Wide Street would be closed for 20 minutes on 3rd September for the Dumble Bimble road race.

2858 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee's next meeting is to be held on 25th September 2019 in Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Close starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)