

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE ON 23rd OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Charlie Flack (Chairman), Sara Harpley, David Thurston, Paul Kimber, Sandy West, Pete Roper, Jim Draper, Carralyn Parkes, Lesley Saunders, and Cathy Atkins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Matthews (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group), Alan Rogers and Amanda Wallwork (B-Side), and 2 members of the public.

2871 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Giovanna Lewis and Berny Parkes.

2872 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr West declared a pecuniary interest as she was an employee of B-Side.

2873 – PRESENTATION FROM B-SIDE ON THE TUDOR COTTAGE, BRANDY ROW

Alan Rogers and Amanda Wallwork of B-Side arts organisation gave a presentation on a possible research project on the uses of the Tudor Cottage on Brandy Row. **Slides from this presentation can be seen at Annex A to these minutes.**

B-Side sought the support of Portland Town Council to carry out research into the current use of the building. This would include: community research; research on history; finding out who is using the building, what they are using it for and what their rights are. The objective of the project would be to create a shared vision of how the site can be used in the future by talking to residents and visitors to the area. In the long term, a report would be produced that could potentially be used for grant or funding applications to develop the site for community use, which would enhance the esplanade area. There would also be the potential to set up a heritage action group to take the project further.

B-Side asked the committee to consider providing a letter of support to put together with their funding application. If that funding application were to be successful, B-Side would then ask for Portland Town Council to support their work by providing access to documents that will help the community researchers.

Cllr Kimber asked for clarification on the nature of the support being requested. B-Side stated that they were seeking help to facilitate access, with information and reports, and support on how the project goes forward.

Cllr West also enquired about the effect of the current redevelopment work on Brandy Row. B-Side noted that this would depend on the timing of the project. At this stage, their work would only include events around the site as the building could not be used.

Cllr Parkes offered assistance with reports, fact finding, and contact details for Dorchester History Archive.

Action on the Assistant Town Clerk to send Cllr C Parkes' contact details to B-Side.

B-Side questioned whether the Tudor Cottage was on the list of assets due to be transferred to Portland Town Council from Dorset Council.

The Chairman suggested that Cllr Kimber, in his capacity as a Dorset Councillor, take the matter up with the relevant officer at Dorset Council.

Action on Cllr Kimber to contact the relevant officer at Dorset Council to ascertain the ownership status of the cottage.

Cllr Draper suggested that it would need to be looked at as to whether Portland Town Council took the building on as it was understood that there had previously been some concerns regarding the liability of the building as it is listed. B-Side noted that they were proposing a way forward for the building.

Cllr Harpley enquired as to how it was proposed that the building would operate as a business and whether it would be able to fund itself.

B-Side noted that this would depend on the research and which groups were set up to work on the project. They were not saying which future model would be used at this stage.

Cllr C Parkes noted that the cottage was on a list of structures with a view to including on the list of heritage sites but pointed out that it was not currently at the top of the list. She suggested that, if the Committee supported the idea, the Tudor cottage could be moved to the top.

The Committee supported this suggestion.

Cllr Draper expressed concern regarding the setting up of another community group as he noted that Portland Town Council had also recently heard from the Conservation Officer at Dorset Council regarding the setting up of a preservation trust for both the North Windmill and St Peter's Church. Cllr Draper wondered whether there would be enough resource on the island to facilitate three groups. Cllr Kimber informed the committee that the latest suggestion was that one overarching group be set up which would encompass all locations on the island where there was an interest in preserving heritage.

B-Side noted that the purpose of their project was to ascertain whether there was the desire amongst local people to preserve the Tudor Cottage.

The Chairman thanked B-Side for their presentation and noted the significant support in the room for the project. It was agreed that the Committee would support the project by writing a letter.

Action on the Chairman to write a letter in support of B-Side's project to research the Tudor Cottage at Brandy Row.

2874 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st AUGUST 2019

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

2875 – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, MINUTE UPDATE AND OTHER MATTERS ARISING

- a. **Item 2862b, The opening of the new Lidl Supermarket** – The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent to Lidl regarding naming of the store and public transport access. The Chairman noted that the store was now to be called Lidl, Portland. However, Lidl had not responded to the questions about expected footfall. The Assistant Town Clerk had been chasing a response on these points.

The Chairman further noted that the opening date for the new Lidl Supermarket had been put back to 14 November due to some planning issues.

- b. **Item 2862f, Call for Sites** – Andy Matthews reported that he had spoken to the lead officer on the Local Plan at Dorset Council, who had given him reassurance that the work that had been done on the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan should not be compromised by the call for sites. Andy Matthews would update the committee later regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

- c. **Item 2868a, Speed data collection at Grove Corner** – Cllr Harpley reported that a data camera had been placed and had been in operation for one week. She was currently waiting for data.
- d. **Item 2868f, Pelican crossing at Weston Road** – The Chairman noted that the work on the pelican crossing at Weston Road had commenced.

2876 – UPDATE ON HERITAGE SITES ON PORTLAND

Cllr C Parkes gave an update on her work on the heritage sites on Portland. **A report of this work can be found at Annex B to these minutes.**

2877 – 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.

2878 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman advised that he had received a number of letters which detailed concerns and objections to the proposed development of 106 Weston Road. He advised that anyone who had an objection submit that objection to the Planning Authority via the online portal on the Dorset Council website, however, if no access to the website was available then objections should be submitted in writing. A number of residents present at the meeting wished to make their objections known and the Chairman asked that this discussion be deferred further until that specific planning application was discussed in full under the relevant item of the agenda.

2879 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFIED BY DORSET COUNCIL

The advisory committee discussed 9 new planning applications with a detailed list, including decisions made at this meeting, being held at **Annex C to these minutes.**

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

2880 – PLANNING CONTRAVENTION ISSUES

The Chairman noted that he had received a response from Dorset Council regarding two contravention issues that had been reported to the committee by residents at the meeting of 25th September. Firstly, a report of encroachment on a property next to the former Clifton Hotel. Secondly regarding a kerb on the pavement in Castletown, reported by Clarkes Boatworks. However, Dorset Council had requested that the residents report the incidents themselves via the Dorset For You website.

Action on the Assistant Town Clerk to respond to Clarkes Boatworks notifying them of Dorset Council's response.

The Chairman also referred the meeting to the one other planning contravention issue which had been issued as Annex B to the Agenda.

2881 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

Mr Matthews provided an update on the Neighbourhood Plan, stating that an inspector had been nominated by the planning authority. However, Andy Matthews was unclear as to whether the name was able to be made public at that stage. He had been informed by the authority that it should take

2882 – HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a. **Littering at Courtlands Road bus stop** – The Chairman reported on a complaint that had been made by a resident regarding littering around Courtlands Road bus stop. The resident had requested that a litter bin be placed at the bus stop on both sides as there was only a litter bin on one side. The resident had suggested that litter

was being left on the ground by children using the bus to and from Atlantic Academy. The Chairman noted that there were plenty of litter bins in the local vicinity, at the opposite bus stop, the Coop, by the fish and chip shop, and the Scout hut. The Chairman suggested writing to the Atlantic Academy to request that they ask the students to use the bins. However, Cllr Draper raised an objection to laying the blame with the academy.

As there were plenty of litter bins in the local vicinity, the Committee did not support the placing of a new bin at the bus stop due to the cost implication.

- b. The Chairman reported on an email regarding access issues on East Weare Road. Dorset Council wrote to Portland Town Council to ask for support to place double yellow lines in order to tackle access issues for emergency vehicles.

The Committee supported the proposal for double yellow lines at East Weare Road.

- c. The Chairman reported that Easton Lane would be closed on Sunday 10 November 2019 10-11am for Remembrance Sunday.
- d. The Chairman further reported that a consultation document had been issued by Dorset Council regarding proposed works to Weston Road to repair sections of the road. The road would be closed from the 18 November 2019, 9am-4pm weekdays.
- e. Cllr Saunders queried whether there had been any progress regarding zig zag lines outside the nursery.

Action on the Assistant Town Clerk to chase Dorset Council regarding the instatement of zig zag lines on Three Yards Close.

2882 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee's next meeting is to be held on 21st November 2019 in Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Close starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8:30

Signed..... (Chairman)