

**MINUTES OF PORTISHEAD TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2014 7.30PM**

PRESENT:- Councillor Mrs. Cruse - in the Chair

Councillors: - Burden, Clark, Mrs Koops, Mrs. Lord, McMurray & Terry,
Non
Attendance:- Cllrs: Cameron, Pasley, Patel & Walker

Staff: - Mrs Jo Duffy Clerk to the Council

Public:- There was one member of the public present & PC Simon Tamilia.

RW1308 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda item .1)

There were two declarations of interest recorded in the Declaration of Interest Register.

Cllr. Mrs. Cruse declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5 & 6 Portishead Youth Centre. Exemption has previously been granted on this interest.

Cllr. Mrs. Lord declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5 & 6 Portishead Youth Centre. Exemption has previously been granted on this interest.

APOLOGIES (Agenda item .2)

Councillors: - Cllrs. Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Philpot and Walters gave their apologies.

RW1309 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda item .3)

Mrs. Hennessy addressed the meeting. She wished to congratulate Cllr. Cruse on the Lake Ground playground equipment and went on to say how frustrated she was when Landlords permission was refused to start with but how pleased that Cllr. Mrs. Cruse did not give up on the playground.

Mrs. Hennessy went on to say she was concerned regarding the CCTV in the town. She had attended a forum in Weston-super-Mare where they actually acknowledged that the CCTV in Portishead and some other area's is not as sophisticated as the CCTV in Weston-super-Mare. As a resident she would like to support any funding the Town Council can provide towards the CCTV.

Mrs. Hennessy spoke about speed cameras on Avon way. A gentleman by the name of Chris Coleman has been trying to get a speed camera on Avon Way for many years. A speed camera in this area is essential and if the funding is a problem, then the Town Council should consider funding the camera.

Cllr. Mrs Cruse suggested that agenda item .13 is moved forward to allow PC Tamilya the opportunity to address the meeting on CCTV and then leave. The meeting agreed to the proposal.

RW1310 TO DISCUSS THE CCTV SYSTEM IN PORTISHEAD (Agenda item .13)

PC Tamilya was asked to attend the meeting by Inspector O’Rielly. The reason for his attendance is to say from a police point of view they would very much regret it if the Council withdraw funding. CCTV is an essential tool, it does assist the police in preventing crime and detecting crime. Work is on-going with Clevedon and Nailsea Councils to fund the CCTV with assistance from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and also upgrading some of the systems with the help of local businesses. The Police will come back to the Council with more facts and figures relating to the CCTV system in Portishead.

Cllr. Burden explained that the problem the Council has with the current system is that when something detectable happens within the Town the current system has let us down. Is the council getting value for money and are the Council paying for an archaic system? Generally people are supportive of it CCTV in the town.

PC Tamilya explained that the cameras are set to roam if a call comes in about a specific incident and they can zoom in on it then the quality is actually pretty good.

Cllr. Mrs. Lord said the Council did fund an upgrade a number of years ago and the quality of the images did improve. Cllr. Mrs Lord asked if the Council has been asked to fund another upgrade.

Cllr. Mrs. Cruse noted that the Town Council actually paid for the current cameras.

The meeting noted an article in the Portishead Paper where the camera on Wyndham Way was used to identify two graffiti artists, who have since been caught and prosecuted. Portishead Town Council needs to be sure that it is getting the appropriate proportion of the monitoring room’s time.

Cllr. McMurray felt that the strike rate in Portishead in terms of crimes detected was lower than other areas in the district. There was a comprehensive review of the CCTV at North Somerset Council 7 years ago, which reached the conclusion that it was essential. It could be that the monitoring is the issue.

PC Tamilya mentioned that the Town would actually benefit from having additional cameras. The Police are reliant on calls coming in to them alerting them of incidents.

Cllr. Mrs. Cruse made the point that there is no point funding additional cameras if there is no one available to monitor them.

Cllr. Clark asked if the Council still receives a CCTV report. The Clerk confirmed the Council still receives the report. He went on to ask if there is anywhere where they have given up on CCTV and invested the money back in the Police?

Cllr. Terry said the Working Party will evaluate the system, working with the Police and others. The Working Party are hoping to have an informal meeting with the local police as they are the people who can give some indication of what happens with the information after a report was made to the CCTV unit and its level of value in terms of prosecutions. The working party should visit the CCTV control unit in Weston. There may be other solutions out there if the CCTV control unit cannot cope with the amount of cameras across the district.

The meeting made various suggestions about possible local firms who may monitor CCTV images already and have the capacity to monitor the Town Council's cameras.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The Working Party continues to gather facts and would welcome an informal meeting with the police and others to discuss the current system.

**RW1311 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LAND AT HORATIO HOUSE
(Agenda item .4)**

The meeting noted that the Town Council has received a letter confirming receipt of their application to protect the land at Horatio House as an Asset of Community Value.

The meeting noted North Somerset Council's application to recognise a section of the land at Horatio House under an 'Off Street Parking Order'. The order will formalise the land as a car park which is free of charge and limited to a 2 hour stay.

With regard to the Town Council being allow to use the vacant land as a community garden Martin O'Neill of North Somerset Council is still in discussions with Persimmons.

**RW1312 TO DISCUSS LOW CARBON GORDANO INSTALLING SOLAR
PANELS ON THE ROOF OF PORTISHEAD YOUTH CENTRE
(Agenda item 5.)**

Cllr. Cruse spoke about the proposal for Portishead Youth Centre to look at installing solar panels on the roof of the Youth Centre. Low

Carbon Gordano is keen to go ahead with a plan to put solar panels on the new roof of the Youth Centre. Low Carbon Gordano was advised that landlord's permission would need to be sought from the Town Council if the Youth Centre were to go ahead with the installation.

Cllr. Mrs. Cruse pointed out that there are other options for solar panels available to the Youth Centre and these would be explored along with establishing the flat roofs suitability for solar panels.

Cllr. Burden suggested that a resolution is passed stating that the Council has no objection to professionally installed solar panels being put on the roof of Portishead Youth Centre.

Cllr. Mrs. Koop explained that there would be an insurance cost with the solar panels, there would be a significant weight to the equipment and we would need to ensure the roof structure is safe and can withstand the extra weight. If the Youth Centre installed the system themselves, then they could make an income of £2,000 per annum, compared to £500 via Low Cost Gordano.

Cllr. Clark advised the Council to be cautious of entering into a long term lease and make sure that the council does not surrender its rights of control.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

Subject to the work being carried out by an installer recognised by an industry body, this Council would have no in principle objections to the Youth Centre Trustee's going ahead with the installation of solar panels on the roof.

RW1313 REQUEST FOR LANDLORDS PERMISSION TO PLACE SIGNAGE ON PORTISHEAD YOUTH CENTRE. (Agenda item .6)

Cllr. Mrs Cruse explained that the people that use the Youth Centre were asked what they would like the building to be called. It was agreed that the building should stick with the name Portishead Youth Centre and signs put up to that effect. The Trustees have decided that they prefer the brushed aluminium option and will be seeking landlords consent before applying for planning permission.

It was confirmed that the Youth Centre was not seeking consent for the banners along the railings outside the building as these are causing concern.

Landlords consent was also requested for a noticeboard and window manifestations.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

Portishead Town Council grants landlords consent to Portishead Youth Centre Trustees for a sign (as illustrated) saying 'Portishead Youth

Centre' made of brushed aluminium for the exterior of the building. The Council also grants permission for an outdoors noticeboard and window manifestations.

**RW1314 REDCLIFFE BAY HALL SNOOKER CLUB LICENCE
(Agenda item .7)**

The Clerk ran through the report and highlighted where changes had been made to the original document, the main ones being changes to section 6 and the addition of a condition 12.

The Clerk explained that condition 6 relates to the keys for the snooker hall and it has been amended on the licence to reflect the current situation with keys.

The meeting raised concerns that this may cause an issue with our insurers. The Clerk suggested that the locks are changed on the snooker hall and the keys are re-issued using the Council's own Key Control Policy.

The Clerk was asked what the licence meant when it referred to the 'Trustees of the Redcliffe Bay Hall – Snooker Section'. The Clerk did not know the answer and will find out the meaning from Snooker Club.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The Clerk liaises with representatives of the Snooker Club to standardise a Key Policy.

**RW1315 TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF REDCLIFFE BAY HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Agenda item .8)**

The Clerk was able to confirm the value of the business rates for Redcliffe Bay Hall as £2,096.70 this compares to £3,003 for the Folk Hall and £612.15 for North Weston Village Hall. It is assumed that the Council are getting rate relief on the Folk Hall and North Weston Village Hall has not been re-valued recently.

The Clerk will be writing to North Somerset Council to establish what if any rate relief will be applied to Redcliffe Bay Hall.

Cllr. Burden was concerned that there isn't really any management committee as such and that at the moment there is one hardworking councillor and a few members of the public. The booking and administration is done by the Council and the caretaker isn't solely for that building.

Cllr. Mrs. Lord said it is very difficult to make an informed decision on whether to bring the hall in house without having all the financial facts and figures.

It was suggest that a decision was deferred for a cycle.

RW1316 TO NOTE LETTER FROM NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL REGARDING LAND AT THE RETREAT (Agenda item .9)

Cllr. Mrs. Cruse drew the meetings attention to the email form North Somerset Council.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The meeting noted the email.

RW1317 REPORT ON TOWN COUNCIL PLAY AREAS & MEMORIALS VISITED BY THR TOWN CLERK & CLLR. MRS. CRUSE (20/01/2014) (Agenda item .10)

Cllr. Mrs Cruse briefly ran through the report and drew the meeting attention to the section on the Tommy Broom memorial, unfortunately the plaque still has discolouration. The Clerk will get in contact with the manufacturer of the plaque and ask them to inspect it with the view to putting right the discolouration.

The meeting noted the good work carried out by Portishead in Bloom with the planting scheme around the Battery Point Bell on Wyndham Way and that a regular inspection will need to be carried out on the ball court at the Youth Centre.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The meeting noted the report and the work to be carried out.

RW1318 TO DISCUSS PREFERRED CONTRACTORS (Agenda item .11)

Cllr. Mrs. Koops raised concerns that some of the quotes the Town Council receives are on the high side and wondered whether the Council is being taken advantage of.

The Clerk explained that as RFO she is duty bound to obtain value for money at all times.

The meeting agreed that specifications must be given to all contractors when quoting for work to enable the Council to compare like for like.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The Council will keep an eye on the situation with regard to preferred contractors.

RW1319 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WYNDHAM WAY TOILETS (Agenda item .12)

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Cleaning Contractor has changed the times that they visit the Wyndham Way toilets and no problems have been reported since. The Clerk plus others will be trained on operating the timer on the door locking mechanism.

Danfo have confirmed in writing that they will be coming back to finish the external painting and install the new heavy duty stainless steel baby changer.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

The meeting noted the update.

RW1320 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (Agenda item .14)

1. To receive updates on the CCTV system
2. To discuss the future of Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm