

**MINUTES OF THE 111TH ORDINARY MEETING OF
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD
ON WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY 2002**

PRESENT Councillor Pickering – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brown, J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cruse,
Daws, Mrs Haysom, J Johnston, M Johnston, Palmer, Terry, Walters

Mrs R Tranter – Assistant Clerk

APOLOGIES Councillors Brine, Mrs Mason, Pasley

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

911 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Council.

912 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Cruse

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 917 – Portishead Traffic Management Review (item referring to parking spaces outside Oxfam/Dingley Brown)
Reason – Interest in neighbouring property
- Personal Interest in Minute No. 918 (RW470) – Portishead Partnership – Tree outside Poacher Public House
Reason – Member of Portishead Partnership

Councillor Mrs Haysom

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 918 (RW471) – Lake Grounds Island Regeneration
Reason – Interest in neighbouring property

Councillor Pickering

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 918 (RW469) – Application for a grant from Portishead Youth Centre
Reason – Member of Youth Centre Management Committee

Councillor Palmer

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 918 (RW469) – Application for a grant from Portishead Youth Centre
Reason – Member of Youth Centre Management Committee

913 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 110th Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 12th June 2002 be confirmed as correct.

914 MOTION TO COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 17

Councillor Brown proposed the following motion –

Motion

This Town Council calls on North Somerset Council to act more vigorously to ensure that the developments now taking place in Portishead include sufficient housing that is affordable by people on low incomes. We draw attention to the fact that the lowest cost housing is priced out of the reach of many of our young people and that there is an acute shortage of homes to rent, especially family sized accommodation.

In providing additional information, Councillor Brown reported on the number of council properties in Portishead, the effect of the “Right to Buy” Scheme and questioned whether the percentage of “affordable” housing provided on new developments was adequate.

During the ensuing discussion members expressed their general support for the motion, and commented in particular on the importance of ensuring that a wide range of properties are provided in an area to ensure a balanced community. An opinion was also expressed that the cost of site remediation work at East Portishead could have affected the price of properties on that development.

On being put to the vote the motion as recorded above was carried. It was therefore RESOLVED that

This Town Council calls on North Somerset Council to act more vigorously to ensure that the developments now taking place in Portishead include sufficient housing that is affordable by people on low incomes. We draw attention to the fact that the lowest cost housing is priced out of the reach of many of our young people and that there is an acute shortage of homes to rent, especially family sized accommodation.

It was further RESOLVED that

An urgent meeting to discuss this issue be sought with Councillor Burden (NSC Executive Member for Strategic Planning), Councillor Ashton (NSC Executive Member for Social Care) and relevant officers of North Somerset Council.

915 ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REGULATIONS 1996 – APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR

Further to Minute No. 907, members now received a report from the Clerk which outlined the options for the appointment of an internal auditor as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 (as amended).

RESOLVED that Mr Martin Staines, a local residents and retired bank manager who is experienced in auditing various government departments be appointed as the internal auditor for the audit of the 2001/2002 Accounts at a cost of £380.

Councillors Mrs Cruse, Daws and Terry asked that their abstention from voting on this matter be recorded in the minutes.

Members noted that an extension to the timetable for the Audit of the 2001/2002 Accounts had been obtained by the Clerk.

916 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation/Cash Statement for the month of June 2002 be APPROVED.

917 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor J Johnston, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 6th July 2002.

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations therefore be APPROVED subject to the following –

02/P/1346/F UNITS 12, 13 AND 14 OLD MILL ROAD, PORTISHEAD

Change of use from light industry (Class B1c) and storage and distribution (Class B8) to light industry (Class B1c), general industry (Class B2) and storage and distribution (Class B8), plus general external refurbishment.

Amend recommendation for approval to REFUSAL

**02/P/1392/CA LAND AT CHURCH ROAD, PORTISHEAD
02/P/1393/F**

To demolish and rebuild the front boundary wall.

Amend 1st bullet point of conditions for APPROVAL to read –

- The wall must be rebuilt using the original stone to the original height

PORTISHEAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REVIEW

North Somerset Council's response to the Town Council submission was noted and two new schemes proposed by North Somerset Council were considered.

The Town Council's detailed response to the Traffic Management Review is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

The report of the meeting held on 6th July 2002 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

918 RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

As Councillor Mrs Cruse, the Chairman of the Recreation and Works Committee, had been absent from the Committee meeting held on 26th June 2002, the report of the meeting was presented by Councillor Mrs Bickley, who had chaired the meeting.

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations thereon be APPROVED, subject to the following –

RW471 LAKE GROUNDS ISLAND REGENERATION

Councillor M Johnston now provided additional details of the proposed project to enhance the island in the lake. The proposed work would be carried out in partnership with North Somerset Council and a bid for funding towards the project could be made to the North Area Committee Fund, Councillor Terry having agreed to be “sponsor”. The total cost of the project would be in the region of £6,000.

Members discussed the suggested improvements in detail. Some members raised concerns at the costs involved and suggested that the funding could be better spent on other projects at the Lake Grounds, ie provision of childrens play equipment. Other members questioned whether the proposals would significantly improve the water quality of the lake and the general condition of the island.

RESOLVED that the Town Council support this project to the sum of £1,500, to be allocated from the environmental enhancement budget.

RW472 TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNICATION POLICY

It was further RESOLVED that the Recreation and Works Committee review the existing computer facilities in the Town Council office and consider the possible provision of an additional e-mail facility that could be used by the general public for contacting the Council.

RW473 FOLK HALL – DAMP IN REYNOLDS ROOM

Amend 2nd bullet point of recommendation to read:-

- When agreed, the works to the Reynolds Room *could* be included with the contract for the works to relocate the disabled toilet

RW474 SKATEBOARD FACILITY

Amend recommendation as follows –

Delete last three words ... agreement from residents.
Insert in their place consultation with residents

The report of the meeting held on 26th June 2002 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

919 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Wyndham Way Pedestrian Crossing – Light controlled crossing to be installed instead of pedestrian refuge as originally proposed.

Public seat outside Cabstand – Letter of thanks and donation received from Miss Mary Mason

Parish Wharf – Winter storage facilities to be advertised in July.

The following items were circulated for information –

North Somerset Council Highways Services Newsletters – May & June 2002

Portishead Partnership – 13.5.2002

North Weston Allotment Committee – 28.5.2002

Gordano Councils Transport Group – 1.7.2002

Briefing Note ref. Harbourside Surgery

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

..... Chairman

14th August 2002