

**203rd ORDINARY MEETING OF
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
10 MARCH 2010**

PRESENT Councillor Pasley – in the Chair

Councillors Cruse, Mrs Cruse, Hazelton, Howells, Mrs Knight (Vice Chairman), Mrs Lord, Mrs Mason, Parker, Miss Stanley(*), Terry, Walker, Mrs Way, and Walters.

(*Councillor Miss Stanley joined the meeting at 7.47pm)

Mr M Dolton – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES Councillors Cameron, Miers, McMurray, and Wright.

There were 44 members of the public and press present at the meeting.

1771 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Knight and Pasley stated that any views they expressed on matters to also be considered at North Somerset Council would be provisional and based on the facts currently known. They would be exercising their rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

Councillor Howells:-

- Personal Interest in Planning Application 10/P/0144/F
Sites M & U Harbour Road, Portishead
Erection of a Class A1 Foodstore, hotel and relocation of existing park and ride facility
Reason – Membership of the Portishead Railway Group
(Clerk's Note: Councillor Howells has sought advice from the Clerk who confirmed the interest is not so significant so as to become prejudicial.)

Councillor Mrs Lord:-

- Personal Interest in Planning Application 10/P/0144/F
Sites M & U Harbour Road, Portishead
Erection of a Class A1 Foodstore, hotel and relocation of existing park and ride facility
Reason – Membership of the Portishead Railway Group

Councillor Parker:-

- Personal Interest in Planning Application 10/P/0144/F
Sites M & U Harbour Road, Portishead
Erection of a Class A1 Foodstore, hotel and relocation of existing park and ride facility
Reason – Membership of the Portishead Railway Group

Councillor Mrs Mason:-

- Personal Interest in Planning Application 10/P/0144/F
Sites M & U Harbour Road, Portishead
Erection of a Class A1 Foodstore, hotel and relocation of existing park and ride facility
Reason – Membership of the Portishead Railway Group

1772 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 4 members of the public wishing to address the meeting. The Chairman reminded speakers that the meeting was for Town Council matters only and that any issues concerning North Somerset Council or its members should be addressed at another place.

- (i) Mrs June Williams, a resident of Lockside, Portishead, addressed the meeting. Mrs Williams expressed her disappointment with the members of the Council relating to a current licensing application for a food and beverage trailer to be sited at Lockside. Mrs Williams stated that local residents had now gathered in excess of 100 signatures on an objection petition to the licensing authority, North Somerset Council, but residents had been dismayed that no member of the Town Council had approached residents for their views. She pointed out that Clevedon Town Council had recently submitted objections to a similar application as a Council, but that this Town Council were not acting in a similar manner. Mrs Williams said that local residents felt let down by the members of the Council.

On a further matter, Mrs Williams had noted that a new notice had been displayed on the marina relating to a planning application for a block of flats. She was aware that the Town Council had supported local residents on a previous application and asked that the Council ascertain whether or not this was the same site.

- (ii) Mr Roger Whitfield of the Portishead Open Air Swimming Pool Trust addressed members. Mr Whitfield thanked the Town Council on behalf of the Trust members for the payment of the first half of the grant that was awarded last year. He was also aware that members were now considering paying the second payment early in the new financial year, rather than later in the year as agreed by previous resolution, and urged members to agree to this as the cash flow was needed prior to the commencement of the new season.

The Chairman thanked Mr Whitfield for his attendance, and the continued sterling work of the Trust, wishing them every continued success for the coming season.

- (iii) Mrs Sandy Tebbutt, the Chairman of Portishead In Bloom, addressed the meeting to provide an update on their activities in the past month. She summarised the activities as including :- deciding the route for the national judges later in the year, producing and distributing the monthly newsletter, meeting with North Somerset Council to discuss the proposed Nuttery at Stony Steep, conducting a work party at the Millennium Gardens, and litter picking at the Lake Grounds. Such activities had resulted in some 122 hours of volunteer work in the past month.

Mrs Tebbutt then informed members of a serious occurrence whereby some plants had been stolen from a tub in the town, and dangerous objects had been left in the soil with the potential to seriously injure anyone tending the tub. Fortunately, no injury was sustained by anyone, but the possible implications were far reaching.

Forthcoming events will include the planting of the 'Lions Bed' at the Open Air Swimming Pool which will take place on the 17th March 2010, and more participants are requested for the Open Gardens Days to take place on the 12th and 13th of June 2010. The forms to apply for the Spring Gardens Award are now available for download from the Portishead In Bloom website.

Mrs Tebbutt also remarked that as this year is the centenary of The Lake Grounds, she would welcome any information or contributions toward a publication she is preparing, and particularly any information anyone could furnish on sports events / carnivals that had been staged at the Lake Grounds in the past 100 years.

Mrs Tebbutt wished all those seeking to protect the Court farm site her best wishes and support.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Tebbutt for her update, and asked that she convey to the committee and all the volunteers of Portishead In Bloom, the appreciation of the Council for their continued efforts in making Portishead such a pleasant environment.

- (iv) Mr Kenneth Smith, a resident of Down Road, Portishead made comments to the members of the Council in relation to what he saw as their lack of support for the youth of the town. He also asked members to ensure that local residents understood that the Town Council only made comment on planning application matters, and were not the decision makers.

1773 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the 202nd Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 10 February 2010 were presented to the meeting.

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the 202nd Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 10 February 2010 be confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

1774 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION / CASH STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2010

Members considered the report of the Clerk. The Clerk responded to questions from a member clarifying matters of detail on some items.

RESOLVED that

The schedule of payments and bank reconciliation / cash statement for the month of February 2010 be approved.

The schedule is attached to and forms part of these minutes

1775 ANNUAL REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT

Members received the report of the Clerk.

Members did not wish to discuss the report.

RESOLVED that

The risk assessment document of the Portishead and North Weston Town Council dated March 2010 has been reviewed by members, and is approved.

1776 MOTION TO COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO.9

Councillor Pasley had provided written notice in accordance with Standing Order number 9, proposing the following motion to members :-

“Portishead Town Council considers Court Farm and Springfield Farm to be of the utmost importance to the Town’s history and character. The sale of this historical site by Bristol City Council is deeply concerning. The Town Council expressly wishes the buildings and land to be protected from development now and in the future. The open amenity space which has been used as grazing/agricultural land for centuries and is classed as such, must remain a

green and open space as any form of development would seriously and permanently damage the character of Portishead.

The Town Council fully supports residents' efforts to form a charitable trust so that the buildings and land can be secured in order to protect and preserve this jewel in the Town's crown.'

Members discussed the proposal, and Councillor Walters moved to amend the wording of the proposal to read :-

"Portishead and North Weston Town Council consider Court Farm and Springfield Farm to be of the utmost importance to the Town's history and character. The sale of this historic site by Bristol City Council is deeply concerning. The Town Council expressly wishes the buildings and land to be protected from development now and in the future. The open amenity space which has been used as grazing/agricultural land for centuries and is classified as such, must remain a green and open space as any form of development would seriously and permanently damage the character of Portishead.

The Town Council fully supports residents' efforts to protect and preserve this jewel in the Town's crown".

"The Town Council requires our Clerk to send copies of the Resolution to Bristol City Council and North Somerset Council"

In discussion, members, both individually and collectively, expressed their support for efforts to protect the area of Springfield and Court Farm. Some members cautioned against comparing the situation that had arisen with that of the open air swimming pool, pointing out that the situations were different in their nature.

Members voted and unanimously supported the amendment to the resolution.

RESOLVED that

"Portishead and North Weston Town Council consider Court Farm and Springfield Farm to be of the utmost importance to the Town's history and character. The sale of this historic site by Bristol City Council is deeply concerning. The Town Council expressly wishes the buildings and land to be protected from development now and in the future. The open amenity space which has been used as grazing/agricultural land for centuries and is classified as such, must remain a green and open space as any form of development would seriously and permanently damage the character of Portishead.

The Town Council fully supports residents' efforts to protect and preserve this jewel in the Town's crown".

"The Town Council requires our Clerk to send copies of the Resolution to Bristol City Council and North Somerset Council"

1777 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS / FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members received the report of the Clerk, which related to amendments required to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to enable changes to committee structure, and delegated powers for the Planning Committee, which had been agreed at the last meeting of the Council.

Members agreed to stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting on this item, to comply with the requirements of Standing Orders.

RESOLVED THAT

Portishead and North Weston Town Council shall stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council (14 April 2010) as per the requirements of 'Standing Orders Variation, Revocation and Suspension of Standing Orders (Paragraph 38.2)'.

1778 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Howells presented the report of the Planning Committee held on 03 March 2010, summarising the applications and recommendations.

Councillor Mrs Lord proposed an amendment to the current recommendation in relation to planning application number 10/P/0144/F (Lidl) by adding to the current wording :-

- 'Information on the need for more retail shopping does not include the proposed Sainsbury's store (and similarly the Sainsburys application does not include the possibility of Lidl). The Town Council requests that North Somerset Council take this fact into consideration when dealing with both applications.'

Members unanimously agreed to amend the recommendation to include the proposed wording.

Members unanimously agreed all other recommendations contained in the report

RESOLVED that

The report of the Planning Committee held on 03 March 2010 be approved subject to the following amendment :-

Planning Application 10/P/0144/F
Sites M & U Harbour Road, Portishead

Erection of a Class A1 Foodstore, hotel and relocation of existing park and ride facility

Add to the wording of the recommendation :-

'Information on the need for more retail shopping does not include the proposed Sainsbury's store (and similarly the Sainsburys application does not include the possibility of Lidl). The Town Council requests that North Somerset Council take this fact into consideration when dealing with both applications.'

The report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 03 March 2010 is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

1779 RECREATION AND WORKS COMMITTEE

Councillor Walters presented the report of the Recreation and Works Committee held on 24 February 2010.

Members unanimously agreed the recommendations contained within the report.

Councillor Mrs Cruse stated that in future, requests for the installation of dog bins would be considered on a quarterly basis to avoid unnecessary burden on the committee's workload.

RESOLVED that

The report of the Recreation and Works committee meeting held on 24 February 2010 is approved.

The report of the Recreation and Works Committee meeting held on 24 February 2010 is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

1780 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN WISHES TO PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

- **Formation of Anti Social Behaviour Task Group**

The Chairman stated that he had received communications from the Police, relating to the formation of a Task Group, and requesting consideration of a nominee from this Council to join the Group. The Chairman will put full details to the next Recreation & Works Committee, and asked members to give this matter their consideration prior to that meeting.

- **Correspondence Received :-**

- A letter from the West of England MS therapy centre thanking the Town Council for the recent grant award of £250.
- Letter from North Somerset Council (Waste Contracts) informing that the recycling banks at The Quays Marina have been removed due to low usage and therefore no longer viable.
- Email from Mr Paul Conolly, Principal Transport Planning Officer, North Somerset Council, relating to the award of new bus service contracts.

- **Publications and Reports –** The following items have been received and are available in the Town Council Office –

A.L.C.A. Newsletter – February 2010

Portishead In Bloom – Press Release / Newsletter – February 2010

Newsletter of ‘The Friends of North Somerset Museum’ – February 2010

Minutes of AGM of Portishead Railway Group

Campaign to Protect Rural England – report to ALCA re consultation on Hinkley C connection

Campaign to Protect Rural England – report re ‘Avon Green Belt’

North Somerset Council – ‘What’s on in North Somerset’ 25 02 10 – 21 03 10

North Somerset Council – ‘Streetscene’ – February 2010

North Somerset Farmers Market Ltd – Notice of AGM – 15 March 2010

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.09pm

Chairman

14th April 2010