

**MINUTES OF THE 113<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY MEETING OF  
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD  
ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2002**

**PRESENT** Councillor Pickering – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brine, J S Clark, Daws, J Johnston, M Johnston, Mrs Mason, Palmer, Terry, Walters, Whitfield

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

**APOLOGIES** Councillors Brown, Mrs Cruse, J H Clark, Mrs Cole, Mrs Haysom, Pasley

**928 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**929 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Bickley

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/1747/TPO – Works to Trees at Beech House, Lake Road, Portishead  
Reason – Acquaintance of applicant by virtue of membership of Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team

Councillor Palmer

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/1747/TPO – Works to Trees at Beech House, Lake Road, Portishead  
Reason – Acquaintance of applicant by virtue of membership of Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team

Councillor M Johnston

- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/1747/TPO – Works to Trees at Beech House, Lake Road, Portishead  
Reason – Acquaintance of applicant by virtue of membership of Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team

**930 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 112<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2002 be confirmed as correct.

**931 NORTH SOMERSET PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

The Chairman introduced Mrs Jane Corke, the Chairman of the newly formed North Somerset Primary Care Trust, to the meeting.

Mrs Corke explained that the North Somerset Primary Care Trust was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 to provide community services and to commission hospital services for the population of North Somerset. The Trust was managed by health professionals and local people and worked closely with North Somerset Council Social Services and voluntary organisations to provide a seamless health and social care service for residents. District Councillor Nigel Ashton was a non-executive Director of the Trust.

In outlining the Trust's plans for the future Mrs Corke stated that their main priority was to make sure local residents received high quality health services as close to where they lived as possible, with the minimum of delay. To help towards this goal, discussions were taking place with local GP's to try and improve appointment waiting times and to encourage GP's to improve their premises. Mrs Corke cited in particular the development of the Harbourside Practice and confirmed that an additional GP was shortly to be employed and a planning application for the new Medical Centre was expected to be submitted early in the New Year.

Mrs Corke informed members that, following the successful introduction of endoscopy services at Clevedon Cottage Hospital, it was hoped that the range of services offered could be extended to include orthopaedic, dermatology, cardiology and general surgery. It was also hoped to extend the out-patient and rehabilitation services currently offered at Clevedon.

Another area of concern to the Trust was the provision of hospital services in the longer term. Discussions were currently taking place on the future of medical services in the Greater Bristol area and a further round of public consultation was expected in the New Year.

During the ensuing discussion a number of comments and questions were raised, including –

- Extending Health Centre opening times
- Allowing all residents of North Somerset to have access to services at Clevedon Cottage Hospital
- Problems of access and transport to Bristol Childrens Hospital and BRI
- The different types of contracts used to employ GP services – directly employed by PCT or independent contractors with own premises.
- Population figures used to determine size of GP patient lists
- Need for additional car parking at Victoria Square Health Centre – could be accommodated on former Town Council-owned land.
- Need for an additional Cottage Hospital in North Somerset as Clevedon could not cope with the anticipated increases in population. Already problems with parking at Clevedon.
- PCT able to refer cardiology patients for private treatment if they are on NHS waiting list for over six months. PCT also able to purchase care from specialist centres eg. liver cases can be referred to specialist centres in Birmingham or London. Cases considered on a cost per case contract by the PCT Commissioning Panel.

In bringing the discussion to a close, Councillor Pickering thanked Mrs Corke for her useful and interesting presentation.

**932 DETR CONSULTATION – FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF AIR TRANSPORT IN THE UK**

The Chairman informed members that studies had shown that air traffic in the UK was expected to treble over the next 30 years. As there is already a shortage of capacity at some of the UK's major airports the DETR had issued a series of consultation documents, each relating to a specific area of the country, which detailed different growth scenarios and the key policy choices for each one.

Members were particularly pleased to note that the Draft Strategy for the South-West advocated the best use of existing airport infrastructure and had concluded that a new airport on land at Pilning would not be financially viable.

Members were also pleased to note that the Draft Strategy for Wales dismissed the possibility of a new airport at Severnside (Cardiff East).

**RESOLVED**

1. The Town Council welcomes and supports the Conclusions and Draft Strategies contained in the South West and Wales Consultation Documents.
2. The Town Council are particularly pleased to note that best use will be made of existing infrastructure by expanding existing airports as necessary thus alleviating the requirement for new airports at Pilning (M5/M4/M49) and Severnside (Cardiff East).
3. Any development must have minimum impact and should be carried out in a sustainable way.
4. The Town Council would support improvements to the surface access to Bristol Airport.

**933 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION/CASH STATEMENT**

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

**934 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor J Johnston, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

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

**02/P/1449/F 3 THATCHERS CLOSE, PORTISHEAD**

Erection of single storey rear extension (Amendment dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 2002, comprising reduction in length of the extension by 2 metres, reduction in height of the extension by 0.3m and the replacement of the mono-pitched roof with a pitched roof.)

The Town Council still considers that the proposed development is detrimental to the amenity of the neighbour at no. 2 Thatchers Close.

Recommend REFUSAL

The report of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2002 is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

**Redcliffe Bay Oil Pipeline and Storage Depot** – Councillor Daws informed members that the Government Oil and Pipeline Agency planned to re-use the depot at Redcliffe Bay for the storage of J4 aviation fuel shortly to be imported into Royal Portbury Dock. Councillor Daws confirmed that the site would be refurbished before it was brought back into use and stressed that there was no danger to local residents. Strict site security measures would also be put in place. He anticipated that it may be possible to arrange for members to visit the site in due course.

**Funding available from North Somerset Council** – Councillor Daws also reminded members that there were currently two sources of funding still available via the North Area Committee – the Area Budget Fund which was available to support local projects and Unallocated S106 Funding which could be used to fund certain highways works. He urged members to make use of both of these avenues of funding.

**935 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

Portishead in Bloom Committee – Letter of thanks for grant towards Golden Jubilee Crown received from Portishead in Bloom Committee. The Chairman also reported that the Committee had received a Silver Gilt award in this years Britain in Bloom competition. Members asked that their congratulations be forwarded to the Committee.

Avon & Somerset Constabulary Beat Manager Surgeries – To be held every Tuesday morning in Fedden Room 10am-12 noon commencing 10<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

Portishead Community Vehicle Trust – Trustees have agreed to continue the service for the time being.

Portishead Lake – Water quality test undertaken confirms low levels of bacteria (25 Coliforms/100ml compared to EEC bathing water levels 1000 Coliforms/100ml).

NSC Replacement Local Plan – Consultation period expected 8<sup>th</sup> November to 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Planning Green Paper – DEFRA have confirmed that Town and Parish Councils will not lose their current rights to be notified of planning applications.

Development of Local Cycling Routes in Portishead – Study being carried out by Sustrans.

The following items were circulated for information –

Portishead Partnership – 5.8.02

New Portishead Library – Update and Briefing Note

Portishead Community Safety Action Team – 16.7.02

Redcliffe Bay Hall Committee – 29.7.02

Merlin Park Skatepark Facility – 12.8.02

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

..... Chairman

9<sup>th</sup> October 2002