

**MINUTES OF THE 115TH ORDINARY MEETING OF
PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE FOLK HALL, HIGH STREET, PORTISHEAD
ON WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2002**

PRESENT Councillor Pickering – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Brine, Brown, Mrs Cruse, Mrs Haysom, J
Johnston, M Johnston, Mrs Mason, Pasley, Walters, Whitfield

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES Councillors J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Cole, Daws, Palmer, Terry

946 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr Justin Templer, Chairman of the New St Joseph's School Steering Committee, to address the Council in respect of the Traffic Regulation Orders relating to the new school site.

In particular, Mr Templer wished to clarify the School Governing Body's views on the Draft Traffic Orders relating to the road changes which were required as a condition of the planning consent for the replacement school.

Mr Templer confirmed that the governing body –

- Supported the installation of the road humps as proposed because they would have the effect of slowing and calming the traffic and thus improving the safety of the children.
- Supported the proposed installation of the pedestrian crossings but wished to see one more crossing in Bristol Road.
- Were of the firm opinion that the pedestrian crossings must be light controlled.
- Had not reached a view on the proposed two-way traffic scheme outside the new school.

Mr Templer hoped that the present difficulties could be overcome and the traffic management scheme finalised as soon as possible

Standing Orders were resumed.

947 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Cruse

- Personal Interest in the Application for a Grant from Portishead Partnership
Reason – Member of Portishead Partnership
- Personal Interest in Planning Application No. 02/P/2318/RG3 – Albert Road Depot
Reason – Interest in neighbouring property

Councillor J Johnston

- Personal Interest in the Application for a Grant from Portishead in Bloom Committee
Reason – Member of Portishead in Bloom Committee

Councillor M Johnston

- Personal Interest in the Application for a Grant from the Gordano Society
Reason – Member of Gordano Society

Councillor Pickering

- Personal Interest in the Application for a Grant from Portishead Partnership
Reason – Member of Portishead Partnership

Councillor Walters

- Personal Interest in the Application for a Grant from Portishead Partnership
Reason – Member of Portishead Partnership

948 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 114th Ordinary Meeting of Portishead and North Weston Town Council held on 9th October 2002 be confirmed as correct.

949 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS 2002/2003

Members received a report from the Grants Working Party detailing the 2002/2003 applications for grants.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The grants detailed on the schedule attached to and forming part of these minutes be APPROVED.
- (ii) Grants to the following be included in the 2003/2004 budget –
 - Waverley Steam Navigation – Grant of £1,000 towards the Balmoral Regeneration Project.
 - Avon Wildlife Trust – Grant of £1,000 towards the purchase of Prior's Wood and Bourton Combe
- (ii) In accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council approves the following expenditure which in their opinion, is in the interests of the area and will benefit the area in a manner commensurate with the expenditure –
 - North Woodspring Victim Support – Grant of £300 towards training costs

- Woodspring Association for Blind People – Grant of £250 towards the purchase of four hand held text magnification cameras for use by visually impaired people
 - Waverley Steam Navigation – Grant of £1,000 towards the Balmoral Regeneration Project.
 - Avon Wildlife Trust – Grant of £1,000 towards the purchase of Prior's Wood and Bourton Combe
- (iii) All recipients of grants be requested to indicate in their annual accounts/reports that they have received a specific grant from the Town Council.

950 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE SIX MONTHS TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2002

The Clerk presented the financial report for the six months to 30th September 2002. The statements detailed the actual receipts and payments compared with the budget for the year and an unofficial forecast of the likely result for the year to 31st March 2003. It was noted that the General Fund was projected to stand at approximately £45,000 at the year-end providing no further contingency items arose.

The Clerk was thanked for preparing the financial report.

951 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND BANK RECONCILIATION /CASH STATEMENT

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

952 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor J Johnston, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Committee meeting held on 2nd November 2002.

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

02/P/2264/F HIGH STREET LINK, HARBOUR ROAD, PORTISHEAD

Construction of pedestrian route linking Cabstand and Harbour Road including hard and soft landscaping.

Add the following point –

- The Council would like to see fixing points for Christmas Lights included in the scheme to enable the High Street display to be extended into the new link.

02/P/2318/RG3

ALBERT ROAD DEPOT, ALBERT ROAD

Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of site for residential dwellings

It was agreed that whilst the majority of the present buildings on the site have no merit, the stone and slate former fire station building should be retained and reused. The Council further considered that redevelopment of the site should include sheltered housing, affordable housing, public car parking and a public convenience. Members noted that the external garden was included in the planning application, but considered that part of this area should be retained as a public garden with seats and a sculptured feature.

Recommend APPROVAL.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS – NEW ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL SITE

Following representations to the Clerk from Mrs Harris, the statement made to the Planning Committee at their meeting on 2nd November was amended to read as follows –

Mrs Harris made a number of points –

- The Governors of St Joseph’s School would wish to see light controlled crossings.
- The Governors cannot understand why North Somerset Council want children to cross to and then from the central island. They would prefer to have one crossing point further along Bristol Road.
- The Governors have been constantly frustrated with the delays by North Somerset Council and previously provided the services of their site engineers to prepare the original circulatory system to North Somerset Council requirements.
- The Governors consider the children’s safety to be paramount and if further delays are necessary to ensure a safe scheme then that is preferable to an unsafe scheme.

The comments made by Mr Templer earlier in the meeting were also noted.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which members expressed their strong concerns about North Somerset Council’s apparent disregard for the Town Council’s views on this matter. Whilst members were pleased to see the addition of a mini-roundabout at the Clevedon Road/Clapton Lane junction and a pedestrian crossing at Lipgate Place, members considered that overall the amended scheme still posed unnecessary risks to pedestrians and that the scheme as previously proposed by the Town Council offered a much safer system for the Bristol Road/Clevedon Road/High Street interchange.

RESOLVED

- The Town Council's prime concern is the safety of the children.
- The Town Council does not consider the proposed system to be safe.
- The Town Council emphasise the need for regulated crossings.
- The Town Council is strongly opposed to a two-way traffic system outside the new St Joseph's School site.
- The Town Council does not wish to withdraw the objection made to the Traffic Regulation Orders

It was further agreed to accept Councillor Burden's offer to discuss the matter and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting as soon as possible. The Town Council to be represented by the Chairman, Chairman of the Planning Committee, Ward Councillors and the Clerk.

The report of the meeting held on 2nd November is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

953 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Royal British Legion Annual Remembrance Service – 10.50am, 10th November 2002 at St Peters Church.

New Legislation and Local Councils – Seminar 19th November

Advertisement and direction signs for new homes at upper Port Marine – Complaints being dealt with by NSC

2003/2004 Budget Meeting – 6th January 2003

Replacement Local Plan – Report to be considered at 4th December meeting

The following items were circulated for information –

NSC Highways Services Newsletter – September 2002

Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee – 30.9.02

Port Marine Public Art Management Group – 17.9.02

Meeting with NSC ref Affordable Housing – 3.10.02

NSC Freight Strategy – 10.10.02

954 CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that its consideration would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

2002/2003 STAFF PAY REVIEW – NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

RESOLVED that the revised pay rates as recommended by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and The Society of Local Council Clerk's be applied with effect from 1st April 2002.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

..... Chairman

4th December 2002