

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 25TH PORTISHEAD
RESIDENTS ANNUAL MEETING
9TH MAY 2018 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT Councillor: Lesley Cottrell (Chairman of the Council) – in the Chair

Councillors present: - Burden, Cameron, M. Cruse, R. Cruse, Lord, Koops, Mason and Mitchell

Mrs Jo Duffy, Clerk of the Council
Ms Heather Holbrook, taking the minutes

Approximately 69 attendees

2 Members of Press

APOLOGIES Councillors: -

The following transcript forms the minutes of the Portishead Residents Annual Meeting.

Name	Comments
Cllr. Cottrell	<p>Cllr. Cottrell welcomed everyone to the Portishead Residents Annual Meeting.</p> <p>Cllr. Cottrell said; "This is a meeting of Portishead electors, not a Town Council meeting. Only electors of Portishead have a right to speak and to vote.</p> <p>If a vote is called please use the piece of red paper that you have to indicated that you are voting and counters will count the number of pieces held up. When you speak would you give your name very clearly as it will be recorded in the minutes. We have Heather taking notes on the meeting and it would be very helpful if you could be clear in what you say.</p> <p>Please respect each other's views and don't speak over on another, we would like the normal courtesy to apply and the meeting will finish when the last person on the list has spoken or at 10pm which ever is the sooner.</p> <p>The first thing that I want to say is there has been a serious of emails, communications about my right as chairman of the Town Council to Chair this meeting. As far as I am concerned and as far as I have been able to discover and the Clerk has been able to discover, it is stated that the Chairman of the Town Council shall chair a Parish /Town Meeting, such as this. If that person is absent, then the Vice Chair if present will chair the meeting. If neither the chairman, nor the Vice</p>

	Chairman is present, then the electors may decide to elect their own Chair. That is the situation, and that has been what I advised. So, the first thing to do this evening is to ask and raise your hands, do you accept my authority to chair this meeting as Chairman of Portishead Town Council?"
Annette Hennessy	"Before you do Mrs Cottrell..." (over talking)
Cllr. Cottrell	"No, no, this is what I am doing, please do not interrupt me Mrs Hennessy. So those who accept my authority to chair this meeting, please raise your hands. With your red bits of paper"
Clerk	Counting 23
Cllr. Cottrell	"Those who do not accept my authority to chair this meeting please raise your red pieces of paper."
Clerk	Counting 34
Cllr. Cottrell	"In that case, the legal advice that we as the Town Council has been given is that if I am not chairing the meeting then the meeting is not valid and, on that basis,, I am going to close the meeting because there is no point in having the meeting."
Annette Hennessy	"Mrs Cottrell legal advice...." (over talking)
Cllr. Cottrell	"If you do not accept me as chairman...."
Annette Hennessy	"Legal advice" (over talking)
Cllr. Cottrell	"I am closing the meeting. Mrs Hennessy would you please be quiet, so that is the end of this meeting. (over talking) Now if you can be quiet and listen. If you would listen. The meeting can be reconvened, we have to hold an Annual Meeting each year by the 1 st June. A new date will be set for a meeting, it will be widely advertised, in the North Somerset Times and anywhere else we are able to do so. But as far as tonight's meeting is concerned, the meeting is closed."
Annette Hennessy	"We can hold our own meeting, it doesn't have to be...."
	Lots of people calling out.
	The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Meeting concluded at: 7.35pm

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Signed

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Dated