

**MINUTES OF PORTISHEAD TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
23rd NOVEMBER 2016 7.30PM**

In the absence of Cllr. Oyns (Chairman of the Recreation & Works Committee) the Clerk opened the meeting and invited Councillors to nominate a Chairman for the meeting. The meeting proposed that the Cllr. Cottrell chaired the meeting.

PRESENT: - Councillor Cottrell - in the Chair
Councillors: - Burden, Cameron, Clark, Lord, Mason, Mitchell
Staff: - Jo Duffy – Clerk to the Council
Public: - There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

RW1644 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda item .1)

There were no declarations of interest recorded in the Declarations of Interest Register.

APOLOGIES (Agenda item .2)

There were apologies from Councillors M. Cruse, R. Cruse, Huffadine-Cooper, Koops, Oyns, Pasley & Terry.

RW1645 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda item .3)

There were 2 members of the public in attendance who wished to address the meeting:-

- Mr. Geoff Hardman spoke about the Elonex Totem. He felt that this had been discussed and agreed that the costs were too high. The revenue income to the Council would never be achieved and thought that the idea had been scrapped.

Cllr. Mitchell responded. He explained that the delay in making a decision was down to him and not Elonex. This was not about buying totems; it was more about getting a risk free form of marketing. He is now in receipt of a copy of a presentation to Torbay Town Council which does not rely on buying totems.

Mr. Hardman asked whether Lake Road is North Somerset Council's (NSC) responsibility or the residents of the road?

Cllr. Lord said that as she understands it, the road is owned by NSC, but it is not an adopted highway. Cllr. Burden confirmed that maintenance of the road is the responsibility of NSC.

- Mrs. Ann Townsend spoke about the NSC Public Rights of Way sub-committee meeting held on 15th November 2016. She gave an address regarding the two footpath applications on the land known as Portishead Golf Course. The Secretary of State has directed NSC to determine one of the footpaths by February 2018. She has been pressing for both footpaths to be determined simultaneously in order to save time, increase efficiency and avoid unnecessary cost. The recommendation from the NSC footpath team to determine the footpaths together was voted 3 votes to 2 in favour. She appreciated the support of Cllr. Burden in providing essential background information and also trying to seek a pragmatic way forward. She went on to say it remains uncertain why NSC would not want to support Town Green status thus supporting the safety and security of the land beyond doubt. She said pressure must be maintained until the security of the land is beyond question.

Cllr. Burden referred to the sub-committee vote. He explained that he actually voted against it being taken out of sequence (the officers' recommendation) because he had suggested another form of action, namely that the Council should deem that the paths are dedicated. There was no-one on the committee against the proposal as it stood.

These minutes summarise what was said during public participation and were views expressed by the speaker named, not the Town Council.

RW1646 TO DISCUSS MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORTISHEAD DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR PORTISHEAD QUAYS AT EAST PORTISHEAD CIRCA.1997 - CLLR. CLARK (Agenda item .4)

Cllr. Clark referred to a copy of the document Development Framework for Portishead Quay at East Portishead dated 1997. This wasn't the very first step but it was a significant landmark that showed the ideas that the developers had as their initial framework. Twenty years is a suitable landmark date to take note of what has happened and look at what existed when it took off.

Both the Town and District Councils have been very active in this process. He would like the Council to take the opportunity to pat itself on the back and draw it to the attention of people elsewhere who are doing similar developments, so they can learn from "our mistakes." He is open minded about how the Council marks the stages of this development. Crest Nicholson might sponsor an exhibition of the designs. He is open

to ideas and thinks that something as big and transformative as this should be marked in some way.

Cllr. Burden gave some relevant background information to the development of the Town. Something could be put together to praise the positives and recognise where mistakes are made. The two main areas where mistakes were made were; parking standards and the number of school places.

Cllr. Cameron asked what the Council is thinking of doing in practical terms. Where could an exhibition be sited and where would the material come from?

Cllr. Mason thought that past employees could write up their experiences or memories. Cllr. Cottrell added their voices could be recorded and played alongside their pictures.

Cllr. Burden suggested organisations in the town, like the Gordano Society for example, could be approached and asked for their ideas.

Cllr. Mason mentioned a group of past employees from the industrial sites could be consulted and the Somerset Hall or library could be used as a venue.

Cllr. Lord asked when the final section of the development will be completed.

It was proposed that Portishead Town Council contacts the Gordano Society in the first instance for an informal exchange of views. The subject is to be revisited at the February Recreation & Works Committee. The proposal was seconded with all in favour.

RECOMMENDATION that:

Portishead Town Council contacts the Gordano Society in the first instance for an informal exchange of views. The subject is to be revisited at the February Recreation & Works Committee.

**RW1647 TO DISCUSS THE SLIPWAY AT THE MARINA
(Agenda item .5)**

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr. R. Cruse has nothing further to report and understood that any further information would be reported by the Yacht and Sailing Club in due course.

**RW1648 TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF ELONEX
MARKETING SCREENS TO PORTISHEAD (Agenda item .6)**

Cllr. Mitchell explained that he is in discussions with Elonex about marketing screens and asked that the item is added to the January Recreation and Works Meeting agenda.

RW1649 TO RECEIVE VERBAL UPDATES ON PORTISHEAD GOLF COURSE (Agenda item .7)

Cllr. Burden confirmed that Mrs Townsend has already provided an update on the Golf Course earlier in the meeting.

RW1650 TO REVIEW QUOTES FOR THE TREE WORKS (Agenda item .8)

The Clerk was asked whether it was likely that any of the other contractors would provide quotes. The Clerk confirmed that it is now unlikely as the contractors have been chased several times.

Cllr. Mason commented that she was unhappy with the name of the contractor featuring in the report.

Cllr. Burden noted that any works to trees on the Bristol Road Playing Field would need to be carried out under the terms of the Football Club's lease.

Cllr. Mitchell suggested that the Council writes to the Football Club and makes them aware of their liability with the trees.

Cllr. Cottrell proposed that Portishead Town Council agrees to the quote, all bar the Bristol Road playing fields, and write to inform the Football Club of their liability. The proposal was seconded. A vote was taken with all in favour.

RECOMMENDATION that:

Portishead Town Council agrees to the quote except for the Bristol Road playing fields, and writes to inform the Football Club of their liability.

RW1651 TO DISCUSS NOTICEBOARDS (Agenda item .9)

Cllr. Lord said that she has asked for this item to go on the agenda as there appears to be a diverse range of opinions from the Councillors as to whether they were worth having or not. Now that the new website is up and running it is probably the right time to review their future.

The following problems were listed with the noticeboards:

- The lining coming away from the backing
- Locks not working
- Old notices not being removed

- If the keeper of the noticeboard is ill or away the board does not get updated
- Water damaged backing boards
- Do people look at the noticeboards anymore?

During discussion the following points were made:

- Should the number of noticeboards be reduced?
- The information will always be days if not months out of date
- Avon Way noticeboard is the newest (and is in the worst condition)
- The manufacturer of the council's notice boards has gone into administration
- The boards have not been recovered
- Assuming people do still look at the boards so they need to be maintained and kept up to date
- Would marketing screens reduce the need for traditional noticeboards?
- There are issues with the size of some of the smaller noticeboards
- Are they an effective way of communicating?
- If the Council decides to keep any of the boards then money will need to be spent replacing them
- Many older people have no access to the internet and this is their only option for finding out what the Council is doing
- The Council has a duty to the people who don't have internet access
- Write an article for Gordano Living asking the public if they use the notice boards and want them kept?
- A notice board is a way of informing some residents
- Public information notices e.g. Domestic Abuse, still have a relevant place on public noticeboards
- The noticeboards on the halls should be kept
- The noticeboards in a reasonable condition could be moved and replace those in a poor condition
- The board at Venga could be moved, along with either Parish Wharf or Waitrose

The Clerk was tasked with investigating the costs for 8 large replacement noticeboards.

RW1652 TO DISCUSS THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL WITH REGARD TO THE LAKE GROUNDS (Agenda item .10)

Cllr. Clark commented that the report has a column headed 'Total Costs' and queried whether this should actually read 'Total Annual Income'. The meeting agreed that it should read 'Total Income'.

Cllr. Lord stated that the report is incomplete as it clashes with some of the information she had when she was chasing Special Expenses, due to the Lawn Tennis Club lease not being a full repairing lease, whereas all the others are.

The purpose of the report was to enable the council to establish the existing timescale for the leases, where land may, or may not, be freed in the future.

RECOMMENDATION that:

The report was noted.

RW1653 HEAVEN'S FIELD – UPDATE (Agenda item .11)

The Clerk reported that Ian Monger was due to access the trees at the Heavens Field site W/C 21st November.

RW1654 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BRISTOL ROAD PLAYING FIELDS (Agenda item .12)

The Clerk confirmed that Mark Stallard, Chairman of Portishead Town Football club has stepped down, with immediate effect and Adrian Green has stepped in to the role on a temporary basis.

RW1655 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (Agenda .13)

- To discuss the slipway at the Marina
- To discuss the possible introduction of Elonex marketing screens to Portishead
- Heavens Field - Update
- To receive an update on Bristol Road Playing field

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.36pm.