

Minutes of the Town Projects Committee meeting held on Monday 17th August 2015 at 7pm in the Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea.

Present: Cllr Young (Chairman), Cllr Cox, Cllr Mrs Ripley, Cllr Tolley,

Mrs D Emery – Town Clerk, Mrs L Williams – Deputy Town Clerk, Beverly Milner Simonds – Town Centre Manager (TCM)

33/15/TPC Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Cllr Burridge-Clayton (holiday), Cllr Parkes (holiday), Cllr Ms Lawson (work)
There were no declarations of interest

The Chairman invited registered speaker Mrs Pearce to the table.

Members NOTED her comments:

- The planters chosen were in-keeping with existing street furniture i.e. black and gold lettering
- The lettering on existing street furniture was considered and was between 1 ½” & 3”, so that is why 2” lettering for the planter was chosen
- As the launch event for the buffers is on 19th August, Mrs Pearce asked members if the sponsorship lettering could remain for this year as in principle members had already agreed to this, and next year consider the font type and size before sponsorship

Members considered the request and Cllr Cox proposed, Cllr Tolley Seconded and ALL AGREED

RECOMMENDATION that the sponsorship lettering could remain for this year and that it would be reviewed on a year by year basis.

The Chairman invited registered speaker Mr Murphy representing Highbridge Chamber of Trade and Commerce to the table.

Members NOTED his comments.

- The Highbridge Chamber of Trade and Commerce met recently and discussed the inequality of resources that are going into Burnham Parish
- Although fully aware that this is mainly due to the Tesco 106 funds, there appeared to be a lack of any forward thinking from the Town Council when it came to Highbridge.
- Would like to see some sort of financial gesture however small going towards improving the shop frontages in Church St. & Market St. or help in trying to find pots of money that if a new community group was formed could tap into.

The Chairman did comment that there are some real progressive sites in Highbridge such as Apex Park and the Isleport Industrial Estate. The committee would consider the comments in item 7 on the agenda.

34/15/TPC Tesco 106 Project

Members NOTED 5 reports from the Town Centre Manager.

3.1 Benches - In light of the rapid escalation in costs, the limited range available and the difficulty in linking this with the town centre, it is outside the remit of the TCM and as such, there is no budget within the Town Council's funds. It was **AGREED-** that the purchase of benches was put on hold.

3.2 Building a Brand identity for Burnham, creating 2 new architectural images, one of the lighthouse and one of the esplanade including the pavilion. The fee was £600 for each drawing. The artist would hold the copyright, but the license would belong to the Town Council and could be used at any time in the future on high quality ceramics that the artist manufactured e.g. cups, plates and pictures.

Members also discussed that having an 'Icon' to help brand Burnham would be good, and asking school children to design something in a competition.

ACTION The TCM was to approach the King Alfred School Art Department to ask if they would engage in arranging their students to produce an Icon for Burnham-on-Sea. Members asked the TCM to provide more information regarding 'Branding'.

3.3 Shop Front Grants – The fund is almost exhausted from the take up of grants.

RECOMMENDATION The TCM was to ask SDC if another £25K could be used from existing funds to enable more grants to be given for this.

This is a Recommendation, as expenditure for each project having already been agreed, Members need to decide which part of the budget this funding is coming from before approaching SDC.

3.4 Events in the town during 2015/16

- Frostival from 21 November to 24 December
- Shrove Tuesday, but change to Saturday 13th February, and move to College Street between Barringtons and College Court
- Commonwealth Day – Monday 14 March
- To add - Somerset Day –
- St. George's Day – Saturday 23 April
- Chase the Sun – Saturday 18 June
- World paper Aeroplane Championships – Sunday 19 June

Members ALL **AGREED** the events listed above with the inclusion of Somerset Day, and to continue to use the flag poles around the dates of these events.

3.5 Victoria Quarter – Members asked that the TCM also look at Pier Street end of the High St. to see if something could be done, but in a different style. ALL **AGREED** for the TCM to develop a specification and run a competitive tender process to design, build and install across street branding in the following locations:

High St. between Greenslade Taylor & Hunt & Calm Coffee or Lloyds & Barringtons

Regent Street between the rear of Royal Clarence Hotel and Stitch up, facing the Esplanade

To work with landlords and Highways on the necessary permissions/licences

35/15/TPC Commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II Birthday – April 2016

Members considered the report from the Clerk.

Mrs Popham informed the committee that the past Jubilee Committee was going to reform to look at planning a celebration of some kind similar to that provided at the Bay Centre for the Jubilee.

Actions The Clerk was asked to write a letter of congratulations on reaching her 90th birthday, using the coloured headed notepaper of the Town Council.

Councillors were to think of suggestions that could be brought to the next Town Projects meeting

The Clerk to book the Princess Theatre for April 21st 2016 – to be used as part of the celebrations

36/15/TPC SCC adopt a path scheme and Tesco Community Champion

Members NOTED the information on Adopt-a-Path. The Clerk gave a verbal report on Tesco's Community Champion. The aim was to support local events or schemes finding volunteers from the store to assist. The request has to go through their office and they will try and source available people to help. The Clerk suggested that they could be asked to be involved in Adopt-a-Path scheme, possibly the path running from Tesco's to Rosewood and behind the Old Courthouse.

ACTION The Clerk to write an initial letter to Tesco to see if this could be something they would consider under the Community Champion scheme

37/15/TPC A letter from a resident regarding litter and bins

Members considered the letter and asked the Clerk to write, asking for clarification, so that consideration could be given if a new bin is required or relocation of existing bin

Action

38/15/TPC A letter from Mr Murphy (chairman) Highbridge Chamber of Trade & Commerce

Members NOTED the letter from Mr Murphy. They all agreed that Highbridge would always be given due and equal consideration for new developments and projects. The Town Council was conscious of the difficulties of funding economic development with ratepayers money and pointed out that they were not funding the Tesco projects, but would give consideration to any projects for Highbridge that were able to overcome the funding difficulties.

At this point in time the Town Council was not aware how SDC planned to use the 106 funding of £200k for Highbridge, from the planned Brue Farm housing development. The development was providing a new primary school on the land and contributions towards play and community facilities in the town.

Mr Murphy could contact SDC for the details of the 106 agreement.

39/15/TPC A petition sent to SCC regarding double yellow lines for Margaret Crescent

Members NOTED the petition.

37/15/TPC Date of the next meeting

Members NOTED the date of the next meeting of the Committee would be Monday 12th October 2015.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:50