

Burnham-on-Sea & Highbridge Town Council

Town Projects Committee

Minutes of meeting held at 7pm on Monday 10th July 2017 in the Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea

Present: Cllrs: Clarke (Chair), Keen (Vice-Chair), Cox, Harvey and Tolley.
Tatiana Cant: Town Clerk, Lorna Williams: Deputy Town Clerk, 5 members of the public

88/17/TPC Apologies and Declarations of Interest:
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Burridge-Clayton (prior engagement) and Weavell (family commitment).

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations granted.

Public Speaking

Members NOTED the following comments from residents:

1. On street parking and parking charges

A resident asked if parking charges in Sedgemoor could be reduced:

- The high charges were discouraging visitors
- People who work locally are deterred from parking in car parks and inevitably look for free parking on local side roads
- Congestion and inconsiderate parking was a problem for the residents of these roads
- Attractive priced season ticket parking for workers would be an incentive to use car parks
- Car park charges were inconsistent

Members appreciated the concerns and suggested a copy of the resident's letter was sent to the Somerset County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways.

ACTION The Clerk was asked to pass on the letter and members' concerns to Cllr John Woodman (Cabinet Member for Highways).

2. Wi-Fi in the Town Centre

A resident sought clarification on the free use of Wi-Fi project and was concerned this may have been shelved. Smart phones are used everywhere including accessing apps when walking a High Street, such as Google maps and shop offers.

The Clerk informed members that it was her understanding that the Town Centre Manager had reported some initial research on the possibility of bringing free Wi-Fi to the town centre, but the project had not been progressed since her leaving.

ACTION The Clerk to include this on the agenda to be discussed at the next meeting.

89/17/TPC Action List

The Clerk gave a verbal update to members on several ongoing actions:

- **Ownership of Shelters** – these were all owned by Sedgemoor District Council.

Cllr Clarke commented that he was dismayed to find out during his investigations that the shelters on the North Esplanade were accessible for those with disabilities but the Southern Esplanade had no disability access for wheelchair users.

- **Victorian Quarter Street Sign** – installation is expected in September.
- **Brown Tourist Signs** – Brown tourist signs can only be requested to advertise an attraction. A suggestion of Burnham Beach or Burnham Lighthouse may be accepted.

ACTION The Clerk will continue to follow this up.

90/17/TPC Provision of Flags and Bunting

Members NOTED the e-mail from Alex Turco. Mr Turco was invited to discuss further at the meeting.

- **Flags.** The Chamber of Trade would like to arrange for holes to be drilled into the poles and were looking to add weights to the flags so that they were prevented from wrapping around the poles and hang better. Members agreed that holes could be drilled into the flag poles.
- **Bunting.** The bunting had been used for 2 years, and this had been discarded as it was dirty and frayed. Members agreed that a decision was needed as to whether or not hanging baskets, banners and flags were sufficient as summer decoration in the High Street and if not, how to devise a sustainable way of providing bunting.

ACTION The Clerk was asked to include this on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

91/17/TPC Highbridge History Panels

The Clerk informed members that Mike Murphy had been pursuing these panels, but there was no further information at this time.

92/17/TPC Criteria for nominations for Civic Awards

Members AGREED to adopt the criteria for nominations for Civic Awards. The Clerk informed members that the closing date for nominations was 31st July.

93/17/TPC Street lighting in Victoria Street

Members NOTED the report on street lighting in Victoria Street and that the outstanding work was progressing well.

94/17/TPC Footfall Statistics

Members NOTED the report including the period 26th June to 2nd July.

95/17/TPC Tesco Project

Members received and NOTED the tabled report from the Clerk. There were 5 areas still to be finalised including flags and bunting that had been discussed on this agenda.

ACTION The Clerk to continue to complete the identified outstanding items

96/17/TPC Correspondence and items of information

- Battle's Over** – A Nation's Tribute: national event on 11 November 2018
Members agreed to support this event.
- Plant a Tree Charter Legacy Tree** – Members agreed to support this event.
- Weston Hospice Care – Bubble event** on Saturday 5th August at the Apex Park. Members agreed to support this event.

97/17/TPC Next Meeting Date

Members NOTED the next meeting date for this committee: Monday 21st August

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.45hrs.