



Brixham Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Brixham Town Council

held in the Scala Hall, Brixham Town Hall; 31st August 2017 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs P Addison, I Carr, V Campbell, R Clarke, S Clutterbuck, D Giles, J Regan, J Stockman, J Stock and J Wilbraham.

Attending: Tracy Hallett, Town Clerk, Cllrs R Haddock, V Ellery & and 7 members of the public.

A member of the public addressed members on the subject of Torbay Council's borrowing.

17114. Apologies for absence through the Clerk.

Apologies received from Cllr M Morey.

17115. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

None.

17116. To consider any requests for dispensation.

None.

17117. To confirm and sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 27.07.17.

The minutes of 27.07.17 were **resolved** and signed as a correct record.

17118. To receive written applications for the office of Town Councillor and to Co-opt a Candidate to fill the existing vacancy

Cllr Clarke introduced the candidates that were in attendance. Each candidate was given an opportunity to address the council about themselves and give reasons why they wanted to be a Councillor.

The Council then asked a series of tailored questions to the candidates. The candidates not in attendance had been given an opportunity to answer these questions prior to the meeting.

Candidates were asked to leave the room in order that members could discuss the candidate options in more detail and take part in a ballot. Christopher Mark Day received the majority vote.

The Candidates were asked to return to the room where a ballot took place and Cllr Day was invited to join the table as the newly appointed co-opted member.

All candidates were thanked for their interest in Brixham Town Council.

Cllr Day signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Day was asked which committees he would like to join and it was agreed that he would join the Planning & Regeneration Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

17119. To discuss and consider the Local Partnerships proposals presented to Torbay Council

Torbay Ward Councillors were asked to speak to the Council about the proposals given to Torbay Council by Local Partnerships.

The Clerk advised that the Council that any decision should be an in principle decision.

A debate took place where concerns were raised with the option to work in partnership with Plymouth City Council with members commenting that they do not believe this to be the best outcome for Brixham.

Whilst members were minded that their preferred option would be Tier 1 to go to Devon County Council and Tier 2 working in partnership with South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council, Members agreed it was difficult to make a decision based on the information currently available. They were keen to have more in depth information, including financial and it was therefore agreed to hold an extra Full Council meeting once more information becomes available.

It was **resolved** that Brixham Town Council will write to Torbay Council to formally request that Torbay Council includes Brixham Town Council as part of the consultation as a Statutory Consultee prior to a decision being made by Torbay Council.

17120. To agree to adopt the Keeping Hens on Allotments Policy

It was **resolved** to adopt the Keeping Hens on Allotments Policy.

17121. To consider a request to re-designate the Neighbourhood Forum for a further 5 years

It was **resolved** to suspend standing orders to allow the Vice-Chair of the Forum to address members.

The Vice-Chair advised that there are four remaining key jobs still to do:

- (1) Agree an assessor
- (2) Defend the plan during the assessment
- (3) Explain to the community after the assessment about the plan when it comes to the referendum
- (4) Ensure that Torbay Council adopt the plan

The Vice Chair asked that the forum continue as it is to act on behalf of the community. The plan is a complicated plan because it represents an area of more than 20,000 people and also includes habitats regulations (BATS, Grasslands & Waters). It was reported that the forum is in a good place to continue with the plan with a wide range of skill sets across Torbay.

The Vice Chair reported that he would like to work with the Town Council to clarify the wording of the constitution after the redesignation of the Neighbourhood Forum and Plan.

It was **resolved** to reinstate standing orders.

It was **resolved** that Brixham Town Council applies to Torbay Council in accordance with Part 2 and 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), for re-designation of: (a) a 'neighbourhood area'; and (b) a

'neighbourhood forum'. This application would not include any changes to the boundaries of the existing Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Forum area.

17122. To discuss and consider the problems with the Town Centre Car Park Toilets

Cllr Stockman reported the complaints she has been receiving regarding the condition of the Town Centre Toilets. Other members also reported that they receive regular complaints from visitors and locals about the condition of the toilets.

Cllr Stock reported that since Shoalstone Pool CIC Ltd took responsibility of the cleaning they have been deep cleaned once followed by regular cleaning and the toilets have remained clean for the duration of the height of the season.

It was reported that Torbay Council had promised that they would clean the toilets and whilst the toilets have been cleaned it is believed that whilst the job had been carried out it was not completed to a satisfactory standard.

It was **resolved** that the Town Council would write to Torbay Council requesting that the toilets are deep cleaned within the next 14 days, that the two broken ladies toilets are repaired, that a supervisor checks the toilets have been cleaned and evidence of the supervisors report is given to Brixham Town Council.

It was further **resolved** that the appropriate committee of the Town Council investigates the feasibility of taking on the responsibility of running the town centre toilets.

Thanks were given to local businesses for allowing visitors to use their toilets due to the poor condition of the public toilets.

17123. To hear an update from the Health Working Group

Cllr Stockman reported that she is the interim chair and they are currently working on Mental Health. A subcommittee was held today and the next meeting will be held on 20th September in the Function Room. Smaller groups have been formed to (1) looking at various apps (2) training to help businesses identify people with mental health (3) to help people that are struggling with issues to become mentors themselves.

17124. To hear a report from Shoalstone Pool CIC

It was reported that:

Car Park

Overflow car park licence received and is ready to sign.

The pool will close on Sunday 3rd September with the toilets opening at weekends only for the duration of September timed with 'The Tale' weekend events. There is a consultation on Thursday 7th September in the Scala Hall for the ideas on the future of the pool.

It was reported that they are still waiting for permission from Torbay Council to install CCTV. Cllr Haddock advised that he believed this been agreed and will investigate why official notification had not been sent to SPL CIC.

During the recent pool cleaning Lifeguards had been busy having a street collection in aid of the pool. An old mine has been donated from Torquay harbour and has been installed as a donation box.

It was reported that Lifeguards have been experiencing problems with swimmers diving into the pool dangerously close to other swimmers, and SPL CIC have therefore decided that in the event this happens again, the pool should be evacuated immediately to ensure everyone's safety.

It was request that the Town Council accepted Mr T Sturch as Director to SPL CIC. It was **resolved** to accept the new Director.

*The meeting reached the agreed 2 hour maximum time for a meeting. It was **resolved** to extend the time limit for a further half an hour.*

17125. To hear a report from the Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Forum
Nothing further to add following agenda item 8.

17126. To hear any Torbay Council Ward Councillor reports

Cllr Haddock

Nothing further to add.

Members asked if a response could be given to the question by the member of the public prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Haddock reported that he is also concerned about the amount of borrowing by Torbay Council and explained his reasons.

Cllr Ellery

Reported that he is part of another Health Group – South Devon Health Alliance who have asked the Herald Express to carry out a survey on residents views on the care in the community. The South Devon Health Alliance are working with Sarah Wollaston MP and asked that if anyone is having problems with the care in the community to get in touch. South Devon Health Alliance are keen to provide case evidence proving the current service is not satisfactory.

Cllr Stockman

Reported that she is, along with other Torbay Councillors doing a watching brief over the amount of borrowing and questions why Torbay Council are not borrowing to invest in the Town Centres.

It was **resolved** to suspend standing orders to allow the member of the public to speak on the subject he instigated.

It was resolved to reinstate Standing Orders.

17127. To present items for the next agenda.

- Public Transport to Torbay Hospital (DG)
- Outcome for the request re Toilets
- Update on Town Centre and Harbour Regeneration (J Stockman)

The meeting closed at 9.24pm.

Chairperson

Date.....