

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 23 April 2021 at 6.00pm via
Zoom conferencing facilities

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr F F T Neale

Present: Cllr Mrs S Bungey, Cllr A E Coulton, Cllr C A Gardiner, Cllr G R Jarvis, Cllr S J McCormack, Cllr G E E Polson, and Cllr Mrs S Spittle.

Also in attendance: Cllr V Charrett

Officers present: Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk and Susan Roxby, Administrative Support Officer.

Members of the Public present: 4

Members of the Press present: None present

293. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jarvis declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 296 (Druitt Hall Survey) due to the appearance of bias as she is a voting member of the Druitt Hall Committee and remained present, but took no part in the voting thereon.

294. Public Participation

A member of the Friends of Druitt Hall spoke regarding minute No. 296 (Druitt Hall Survey).

295. Public Questions

An elector asked the following Question: "Is the community Committee aware that BCP Council and Dorset Council have received a grant from MHCLG of £70,000 to create a local Heritage list containing information to be gathered in a consultation with local residents and groups on what sites they consider needing protection.

Can I ask that the Town Council engages directly with BCP and our local BCP Councillors in this project to ensure that our residents and the three local societies concerned with our rich local Heritage are fully consulted.”

The Chairman thanked the elector for his question and confirmed that the Town Council would consult with BCP Council.

Cllr McCormack proposed a motion that the Town Clerk write to BCP Council to enquire on the costs involved and the funds allocated to Christchurch and to report back to a future Community Committee meeting, this motion was seconded by Cllr Neale.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be delegated to write to BCP Council regarding the local Heritage list to enquire on the costs involved and the funds allocated to Christchurch and to report back to a future Community Committee meeting.

Voting: unanimous

296. DrUITT Hall Survey

Members considered the survey report undertaken by Elcock Associates Ltd on DrUITT Hall, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix ‘A’ to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members’ views were divided as to whether the Council should consider replacing the windows. Some Members felt that there was not enough information and that a building appraisal was required to ascertain much a new building would cost.

A representative from DrUITT Hall advised that DrUITT Hall’s annual gross income from hall bookings was approximately £15,000 to £20,000. He stated that building consent had been granted for a replacement building in 2013. Members felt that spending £40,000 to replace the windows was a lot of money for a small return.

Members discussed the expected life and usability of the building and the defects which required immediate attention, and whether the replacement of the windows which could exceed the practicable usable life of the hall itself would be a cost-effective solution given the estimate received.

The Town Clerk updated Members that further information had been received from the surveyor advising that it was feasible for the building to last a further 30 years if the work outlined was undertaken for the windows and roof, subject to the building being maintained. The new windows, upgrades to the roof and insulation as well as any upgrades to internal walls would see the building occupiable into

the future. There would undoubtedly be rolling repairs and maintenance, typical to many buildings, but on the basis this is in place, then he foresees no issues in the short to medium term for the building.

Cllr McCormack stated that Public Loan money could be available, and the building could be replaced within 2- 3 years. He felt that presently there was no information on the timeline ahead and what could be achieved in the future. He further stated that it was hard to justified spending £40,000 on replacement windows when a new build could be considered.

The Town Clerk informed Members there was the possibility of utilising Community Infrastructure Levy funds to be used over 4 years together with additional funds from a PWLB loan.

Cllr McCormack considered that the design and build of the Hall should be for future generations and proposed a motion that the Town Clerk instructs a Quantity Surveyor to undertake a building appraisal and to consult with planners and look at funding and loan options of how much a new building would cost. Cllr Coulton seconded this proposal.

Cllr McCormack proposed a further motion that up to £5,000 expenditure be authorised for professional fees. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Bungey.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- a) delegates to the Town Clerk to instruct a Quantity Surveyor to undertake a building appraisal, consult with planners, and look at funding and loan options of how much a new building would cost; and**
- b) authorises expenditure of up to £5,000 for professional fees.**

Voting: unanimous

Cllr Jarvis declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item due to the appearance of bias as she is a voting member of the Druitt Hall Committee and remained present, but took no part in the voting thereon.

297. Inside Out Event in Christchurch

Members were provided with an overview of the Inside Out Event in Christchurch being proposed for Sunday 19th September 2021 at Christchurch Quay, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

A representative from Activate provided Members with details on the proposed event taking place on Sunday 19th September 2021 on the Quomps. This was the festival's opening weekend, the programme would bring together a high-quality selection of local, national and international circus and music work to support bringing the public back to the area's town centres, improving the visitor experience, increasing the vitality and visibility of the town, and attracting people to spend money in local businesses by creatively animating the town.

A Member questioned if there would be any damage to the surrounding green area and was informed that the Inside Out event aimed to leave no imprint and was sensitive to the environment and would have no detrimental impact.

Cllr Spittle proposed a motion that this event should go ahead, this motion was seconded by Cllr Coulton.

RESOLVED that:

- a) members agreed in principle to the use of Christchurch Quay for the Inside Out event ; and
- b) delegated to the Town Clerk to work with BCP Council, Statutory Partners and Inside Out Dorset and its contractors/agents to grant a licence for the event subject to partner agency advice following receipt of risk assessments and particulars.

Voting: unanimous

298. Town Council Notice Board

The Town Clerk informed Members that following a meeting of the Community Committee held on 31 March 2021, Members were asked to consider the potential options for a Town Council notice board.

Members made the following suggestions for possible locations for Town Council notice boards to be sited:

1. Underneath the arches of the Old Town Hall
2. Quomps
3. Mundeford Recreation
4. The shops at Jumpers and St Catherine's Hill

RESOLVED that:

- a) suitable locations for the siting of Town Council notice boards were:
 1. Underneath the arches of the Old Town Hall

2. **Quomps**
3. **Mudeford Recreation**
4. **The shops at Jumpers and St Catherine's Hill**

b) the Town Clerk be delegated to obtain quotations for providers to supply and site the Town Council notice boards.

Voting: unanimous

299. Druitt Gardens

The Town Clerk informed members that a request had been received from a member of the public to make use of the cut logs from recently felled trees to create log seating in Druitt Gardens.

Cllr McCormack proposed a motion that the Town Clerk look at the costings to provide 2 additional benches in Druitt Gardens and this to be considered at a future meeting of the Community Committee. This motion was seconded by Cllr Jarvis.

RESOLVED that that the Town Clerk be delegated to look at the costings to provide 2 additional benches in Druitt Gardens for consideration at a future meeting of the Community Committee.

Voting: 4: 0 (4 abstentions)

300. Floral Displays – Hanging Baskets

Members were asked to consider the attached quotation from Kings Park Nursery, which is owned by BCP Council, to provide Hanging Baskets displays on the Old Town Hall, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cllr Mrs Bungey proposed a motion that hanging baskets be installed on the Old Town Hall. This proposal was seconded by Cllr McCormack.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- a) **delegated to the Town Clerk to proceed with the Kings Park Nursery quotation to supply hanging baskets for the Old Town Hall;**
- b) **authorised expenditure of £35 per basket to be supplied, delivered, and installed; and**
- c) **authorised maintenance cost of £60 for an 18-week period from June to October 2021.**

Voting: unanimous

Cllr Polson left the meeting at 7.48pm.

301. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Public Engagement Launched.

Members considered the BCP Council launch of the initial engagement that will inform its emerging Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The engagement commenced on the 25th of March and lasts 4 weeks.

Members raised the following observations:

- Cycle lanes were not joined up together.
- Cycle lane at front of the quay could be split up to cycles and pedestrians.
- No cycle routes on the main routes on Barrack Road.

Cllr Neale proposed a motion that The Town Clerk email details of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan to all Members to ask for their observations, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Jarvis.

RESOLVED that:

- a) The Town Clerk be delegated to email details of BCP's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan to all Members of the Council to ask for their observations on walking and cycling infrastructure required across the Christchurch area; and**
- b) delegates to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman to write to BCP Council in response to the consultation process capturing Member's observations.**

Voting: unanimous

302. Town Clerk Update – Forthcoming Licensed Events

The Town Clerk informed members that he had used his delegation to authorise the Classic Cars on the Quay Event on the following dates:

Sunday 27th June: 0900-1800hrs

Sunday 5th September: 0900-1800hrs

Sunday 26th September: 0900-1800hrs

RESOLVED that the verbal update be noted.

Voting: unanimous

The meeting ended at 7.50pm

CHAIRMAN

DRAFT