

Minutes of a meeting of **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL** held at Bridport Town Hall on Tuesday 26 March 2024 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Dave Bolwell – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Cllr Geoffrey Ackerman Gill Massey
Rose Allwork Anne Rickard
Kelvin Clayton Dave Rickard
Karen Hunt Steve Williams
Julian Jones

ALSO PRESENT: Paul Fuszard (Finance & Office Manager), Daryl Chambers (Town Surveyor), Caroline Pearce (Project Manager), Will Austin (Town Clerk), and four members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

The members of the public present did not wish to speak, and in accordance with a resolution at the previous meeting, there was no set topic tabled for discussion.

52. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Ian Bark, Sandra Brown, Sarah Carney, Barry Irvine, Ros Kayes, Maggie Ray, Martin Ray and Sarah Williams.

53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by councillors, and interests declared at committee meetings were noted in the minutes of those meetings.

54. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2024 be confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Town Mayor.

55. STANDING ORDER 14(b)

There were no questions pursuant to Standing Order 14(b).

56. COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 January 2024 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Dave Bolwell.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 January 2024 be received and adopted.

(b) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18 March 2024 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Dave Bolwell.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18 March 2024 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

(c) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7 March 2024 were presented by the Committee Vice-Chairman, Councillor Gill Massey.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7 March 2024 be received and adopted.

(d) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 6 March 2024 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Kelvin Clayton.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee held on 6 March 2024 be received and adopted.

57. END OF THE COUNCIL TERM 2019 TO 2024

The Town Mayor addressed all members, thanking them for their service over the course of the council term, reflecting on their achievements, and paying tribute to retiring councillors. He also thanked officers for their work over the previous five years.

The Town Clerk presented a video highlighting the achievements over the past five years.

58. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Dave Rickard reported that he and Cllr Dave Bolwell had attended a meeting of the Arts Centre, meeting the new director and four new trustees. He advised that ticket sales for the 'Page to Screen' events were selling well, and that a further 50th anniversary event was planned for later in the year. The Mayor added that the Arts Centre was leading the Town of Culture initiative.

59. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were reported for information:

- (1) The Town Mayor reported his list of engagements, ENCL: 3896.

- (2) The Town Clerk reported that a) discussions were ongoing relating to a tenancy at The Grove, b) developers of the JC Phillips site would attend either the planning Committee of either 22 April, or preferably, 3 June 2024, and c) that the Town Council would be 50 years old on 1 April 2024 and that this milestone would be recognised at some point later this year.

The meeting closed at **7:34pm**.

The next meeting of Bridport Town Council will be held on 25 June 2024

The provisional date for the Mayor Making ceremony is 27 June 2024