

**Notes of a Meeting of the West Bay Ward held
in the meeting room at Mountfield on Thursday 30th May 2024 at 2:00pm**

Membership:

Councillors: Dave Bolwell and Ann Langridge

Also present: Will Austin (Town Clerk)

1. Election of Chair

Councillor Ann Langridge was elected as Chair of the Ward meeting for the municipal year 2024/25.

2. Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Working Group name and remit

Following discussion it was

AGREED: that the name of the working group should be “West Bay Ward Matters”.

AGREED: that the working group remit should be:

Encourage community engagement in order to:

- develop a vision statement for the ward;
- consider ward-specific issues, services, and projects and make decisions and/or recommendations for actions by the Town Council;
- recommend comments on planning applications and other planning consultations, and highlight other ward-related planning, highways, and transport matters to the Planning Committee;
- consider council-wide policy and other matters from a ward perspective;
- highlight matters for action or reporting;
- include non-councillor stakeholders in ward meetings; and
- establish and maintain links with appropriate community groups and organisations within the ward.

5. External Group membership

Members considered the stakeholders to be invited to future meetings, and it was

AGREED: that standing invitations be issued to future meetings, to West Bay Community Forum, West Bay Harbour Master, Bridport & West Bay Business Chamber, West Bay WI, 1st West Bay Sea Scouts, West Bay Discovery Centre, Bridport Gig Rowing Club, and West Bay Days.

6. Future meeting format/frequency

Members considered options for future meetings, including in less formal settings, and it was

AGREED: that fortnightly surgeries be held, alternating between West Bay Discovery Centre, the Salt House, and West Bay WI Hall, comprising both ward members, and alternating between daytime and evening.

AGREED: that ward meetings be held bi-monthly on a Wednesday, to include a public forum, a set topic for discussion, and any other business guided by a list of current/general issues.

7. Public participation/community engagement arrangements

Following discussion it was

AGREED: that the following be pursued:

- Advertisement of surgeries via the Bridport Banter and Bridport Community Support Facebook pages, and publication of a press release;
- A website page for West Bay incorporating ward councillor details, to be linked to from the Bridport & West Bay website;
- A report in The Bridge magazine;
- Virtual attendance at meetings available if requested in advance, and/or for any person/organisation invited to present at the meeting.

8. Ward issues, including planning applications

Members considered that ward issues had been covered in earlier business, and in respect of planning applications it was

AGREED: that no comments on current planning applications be forwarded to the Planning Committee.

9. Any other matters, including date of next meeting

Cllr Ann Langridge reported that a cyclist had reported overgrowth along the Old Railway Line. The Town Clerk advised he would raise this with the Town Surveyor.

Members considered the timing of future meetings and surgeries, and it was

AGREED: that the next meeting be held in July, with the set topic to be 'boy racers' with Insp Ged Want invited.

AGREED: that the first surgery should also be held in July.

The meeting closed at **4.14pm**.