

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2009 at 6.30 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr M J Hodkinson (Chairman)
Cllr D G L Packer (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr R W Booth
Cllr R D Cook
Cllr A K Oliver, MBE
Cllr J Burden – Ex-Officio – Chairman of the Council
Cllr T F Wheeler – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

117 **POST OFFICE CLOSURE & HIGH STREET FIRE**
(Min 84 - 25.08.09)

The Chairman referred to the portakabin which had been delivered the previous evening to its King Street site to become a temporary Post Office. Mrs Liz Vadgama of 9 King Street had attended this meeting and had asked to speak.

Whilst acknowledging that Wimborne Minster needs a temporary Post Office, she voiced her concerns about the lack of consultation with residents over the road closure to enable the building to be delivered as well as the proposed site which was opposite her house. She was of the opinion that the building was unappealing in design and damaged the view from her house.

One of her main worries was the detrimental effect that the proposal would have on road safety and traffic flows. She felt that the proposal would result in indiscriminate parking in King Street which had a history of cars driving too fast in a relatively narrow carriageway which also accommodated a cycleway. She thought the proposal had not been completely thought through and that there were likely to be road traffic accidents because of the increase in vehicle movements and parking.

Members, whilst understanding her concerns, were of the view that there was no practical alternative site and which met the requirements of all parties.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Vadgama for her comments and stated that although the Town Council had been actively campaigning for a temporary Post Office, it had not been party to the final decision or the planning process.

He said that the Town Council would keep a watching brief on the road safety concerns and alert the appropriate authorities if action needed to be taken.

Cllr Cook added that he had been told that Martins McColl were hoping to commence trading by July 2010 from its fire damaged premises in the High Street and that, as a result, the temporary Post Office would only be needed for a few months.

118 **BROOK ROAD DISTRICT RECYCLING FACILITY**
(Min 106A - 15.09.09)

The Town Clerk submitted correspondence which he had had with the Chief Executive of the District Council following the Council Meeting on 15 September 2009, copies of which had been circulated to each Member and copies of which appear as **Appendix A** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

As requested by the Town Council, the Town Clerk had made strong representation to the District Council about the loss of the recycling facility following the sale of its site on which the recycling bins were placed.

However, despite the Town Council's protests, he reported that on 30 September 2009 the District Council's Policy & Resources Committee had decided to proceed with the sale.

119 **HOUSING STRATEGY 2010/2012**

The Town Clerk submitted for information a letter dated 23 September 2009 from the District Council's Housing Strategy Officer, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and copies of which appear as **Appendix B** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The letter advised Members that the District Council was preparing its Housing Strategy for 2010-2012 to replace the 2004-2009 document.

120 **DRAFT BUDGET 2010/2011**

The Town Clerk submitted a report, 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.

The Committee considered its draft budget for next year. It included a proposal by Cllr Booth to promote recycling by supporting a recycling competition to be run by the District Council.

RESOLVED

- (a) that Cllr Booth's proposals be approved;
- (b) that the draft budget, as submitted, be forwarded to Policy & Review Committee for approval.

121 COMMUNITY FLOOD ARCHIVE PROJECT

The Town Clerk submitted for information a letter dated 22 September 2009 from the Environment Agency, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The letter advised the Town Council of the completion of this project.

**122 RELOCATION OF PUFFIN CROSSING - ROWLANDS HILL
(Min 83 - 25.08.09)**

Cllr Cook reported that a site visit had been held earlier that day with interested parties including the Town Council, the County Council, Waitrose and objectors to discuss the proposed relocation of this crossing.

Provisional agreement had been reached to resite the Puffin Crossing to the north of Parkwood Road although further procedures would need to be followed by the County Council before that could be confirmed.

No decision had been made yet about the proposed bus stops referred to at the meeting of this Committee in August 2009.

123 PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk submitted for information a schedule of planning decisions made by East Dorset District Council, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix E** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMENTS

The Town Clerk submitted for information a schedule of comments on planning applications from 1 September to 28 September 2009, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix F** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The meeting closed at 7.37 pm

Signed Dated
Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council