

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of an **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** via video link held on **FRIDAY, 29 JANUARY 2021** at **11.00 am**

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEO LINK

Cllr S K Bartlett – Town Mayor & Chairman of the Council
Cllr K F Webb – Deputy Town Mayor & Vice-Chairman of the Council

Cllr D Burt
Cllr C L Butter
Cllr C A Chedgy
Cllr L C Hinks
Cllr M J Hopkins
Cllr D J March
Cllr W J Richmond
Cllr A E Roberts
Cllr F Shirley
Cllr M R Tidd
Cllr S Wheeler

OFFICERS PRESENT VIA VIDEO LINK

Town Clerk
Assistant Town Clerk

354 **CONSULTATION ON THE DORSET COUNCIL DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

The Town Clerk submitted a report, 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.

Given the tight timeframe for commenting on the draft Local Plan and the enormity and complexity of the document, the Town Clerk had suggested in his report that a Task and Finish Group be set up to prepare a draft response to the Town Council at its meeting on 12 March 2021 (Dorset Council's deadline for comments was 15 March 2021).

RESOLVED

- a) that a Task and Finish Group be set up to prepare a draft response to the Draft Local Plan comprising Cllrs Burt, Butter, Chedgy, Hinks, Hopkins, March, Richmond, Shirley and Wheeler;**
- b) that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Group be agreed by Members at its first meeting;**

- c) **that the Group decide at its first meeting whether to co-opt any residents from the local community to assist with formulating a draft response.**

(Note: Cllr Bartlett advised that as he was Vice-Chairman of Dorset Council's Eastern Area Planning Committee, he would not sit on the Task and Finish Group. He has since indicated that he might join meetings as an observer.)

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DORSET COUNCIL – FREE PARKING ALLOCATION

The Town Clerk submitted an email dated 19 January 2021 from the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment of Dorset Council, 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.

The email, which was addressed to all town and parish councils, advised that, henceforward, only 6 days free of charge parking would be allowed by Dorset Council as follows:

- At the request of the Town or Parish Council free parking in all Dorset Council car parks for four days each year, for events which generate valuable footfall for that town. These four days cannot be used in December.
- At the request of the Town or Parish Council free parking in all Dorset Council Town Centre car parks for that town on one weekday in December.
- Free parking in all Dorset Council Town Centre car parks on Small Business Saturday in December.

In response to the offer, Members felt that free parking on event days was unnecessary and that to support businesses during the important Christmas period Dorset Council should be asked to exchange those four days with two free parking Saturdays in December.

RESOLVED that Dorset Council be asked to seriously consider the exchange of days referred to in the preceding paragraph.

(Note: The Town Clerk would confer with his colleagues in other towns to establish the reaction of their councils to this offer.)

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PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) – ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS

The Town Clerk submitted an email dated 19 January 2021 from the Community Safety Team Leader of Dorset Council, 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 email advised the Town Council that the PSPO restricting the consumption of alcohol in public spaces had expired in October 2020 and that the Police had not been able to provide sufficient evidence to justify the Order being renewed.

Whilst Members were disappointed and surprised about the lack of evidence to enable the Order to be renewed it was

RESOLVED that the situation regarding the PSPO in relation to alcohol be noted but Dorset Council be asked to keep the matter under review.

The meeting closed at 11.59 a.m. .

SignedDate.....
Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council

Wimborne Minster Town Council
EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL

Subject: Appendix A – Consultation on the Draft Dorset Council
Date: Local Plan 29 January 2021
Author: Town Clerk/Assistant Town Clerk

1. Overview

Dorset Council commenced the period of consultation for the draft Local Plan on Monday 18 January 2021. The consultation will run for 8 weeks and close on Monday 15 March 2021.

Dorset Council's planning policies are set out in the draft Local Plan and it is the legal starting point in determining planning applications.

The draft Local Plan contains proposals for guiding future development in the Dorset Council area up to 2038.

Further information can be found on the Dorset Council website or by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/dorset-council-local-plan.aspx>

Paper copies of the consultation document are available locally in the Wimborne Library.

2. Drafting a response from the Town Council to the Consultation

It has been suggested that a Task and Finish Group is established with those Councillors who would like to be involved in drafting a response on behalf of the Town Council. Some Councillors have already been working on the proposal in the draft Local Plan to allocate land for building in the Green Belt between Colehill and Wimborne.

Membership of the Task and Finish Group needs to be determined. Unless this Committee wishes to appoint a Chairman of the Tsk and Finish Group, the Group can decide this at its first meeting. Virtual meetings could be held to facilitate initial discussion and to start drafting a summary of comments on the consultation document.

Officer support will be available to coordinate the meetings and to help finalise the Town Council's response.

3. Planning Surgeries for Town and Parish Councils

As part of the consultation exercise, Dorset Council is hosting a series of virtual planning surgeries for Town and Parish Councils to attend in small groups via Microsoft Teams to discuss any queries with the Planning Officers. Dorset Council

has advised that limited spaces are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday from 10am until 2pm.

The Town Council has provisionally booked a 1-hour session on Wednesday 10 February at 10.00am, time TBA.

It is suggested that the members of the Task and Finish Group attend this surgery, to speak with the Planning Officers and gather further information to help draft a response to the consultation for submission to the Town Council.

4. Timeframes

It is also suggested that the Task and Finish Group drafts a response to the consultation by Wednesday 3rd March 2021 which can then be considered at an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council on Friday 12 March 2021.

The Committee is asked for its decision on the matters contained within this report.

Wimborne Minster Town Council

Extraordinary Meeting

Subject: Appendix B – Dorset Council – Free Parking
Date: Allocation 29 January 2021

From: Elizabeth Murray <elizabeth.murray@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>

Sent: 19 January 2021 08:56

Subject: Dorset Council Free Parking Policy

Dear Town and Parish Councils,

You may recall that prior to Christmas we wrote to you about our planned changes for our Free Parking Policy. It is Dorset Council's intention to standardise and set a clear framework for Town and Parish Councils when applying for 'free' parking days'. Historically these have been used differently in each local area, leading to ongoing perceptions of inequity, and difficulty for officers in trying to make consistent and fair decisions across the county.

The new policy:

To support local economy, Dorset Council will give a total of **six free parking days** in Dorset Council car parks. This is made up of the following:

- At the request of the Town or Parish Council free parking in all Dorset Council car parks for **four** days each year, for events which generate valuable footfall for that town. These four days cannot be used in December
- At the request of the Town or Parish Council free parking in all Dorset Council Town Centre car parks for that town on **one** weekday in December
- Free parking in all Dorset Council Town Centre car parks on **Small Business Saturday** in December

No other days in December will be considered unless the Town Council, Local BID or other organisation(s) are willing to meet the cost of the lost income at an amount to be calculated by the Council's parking team based on average weekend costs for that time of year.

We would like to implement this policy as soon as possible so that you can start planning your free parking days for 2021. Please could you send any queries or comments regarding the new policy to elizabeth.murray@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by **19th February 2021**.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Bryan
Portfolio holder for Highways, Travel and Environment

Wimborne Minster Town Council Extraordinary Meeting

Subject: Appendix C – Dorset Council – Free Parking
Date: Allocation 29 January 2021

From: Ian Cooke <ian.cooke@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 January 2021 11:58
To: Wimborne Minster Town Council <office@wimborne.gov.uk>
Cc: Karen Graham <karen.graham@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>; simon.perry@dorset.pnn.police.uk
Subject: Attn: Laurence Hewitt

Dear Mr Hewitt,

I am writing following a review of all anti-social behaviour (ASB) related Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) within the Dorset Council area. As part of the review I am contacting relevant Town Councils, Town Councillors and Dorset Councillors to ask for their views.

We currently have active PSPOs in Weymouth, Portland, Lyme Regis, Bridport, West Bay and Dorchester. All expire this year and are currently under review.

These PSPOs can be viewed at:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-community/community-safety/anti-social-behaviour/pspos/weymouth-public-space-protection-order-pspo-2017.aspx>

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-community/community-safety/anti-social-behaviour/anti-social-behaviour-in-the-west-dorset-area.aspx>

The Wimborne PSPO expired on the 20th October 2020 and concerned alcohol related ASB.

As a result any signage advertising this Order or its predecessor the Designated Public Place Order, or any reference to alcohol restrictions need to be removed.

Dorset Police cannot provide Dorset Council with sufficient evidence of ASB that would enable us to replace the Order with a new one. Without substantial evidence of persistent ASB we cannot legally put an application to our Councillors for approval. This is actually positive news that the quality of life for Wimborne's residents, businesses and visitors has improved and is a testament to the sound partnership working in the area.

If there is an increase in ASB or alcohol related ASB that is persistent and harmful, and that Dorset Police can evidence we can revisit the need for a PSPO in the future.

I will be sending a similar email to the relevant Dorset Councillors for the Wimborne area and to the Town Councillors.

If you have any comments I would be glad to hear from you.

Regards

Ian

Ian Cooke

Community Safety Team Leader

Community Safety

Community and Public Protection

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