

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY 2009

Present

Chairman: Cllr Mrs. M. Ellis (Mayor)

Councillors: Mrs. B. Austin, Mrs. A. Bradbury, D. Cozens, Dr. S. Hogg, Ms. S. Holman, K. Hitchcock, O. Lovell, P. Williams and S. Williams

Officers: Mr. M. Lewis (Town Clerk) and Miss V. Stickler (Admin. Officer)

Prayers

A prayer was offered by the Revd. R. Bragg.

09/24/C

Public Forum

Cllr Col. G. Brierley – Dorset County Council (DCC)

Cllr Col. G. Brierley reported:

- The residents' parking scheme for King's Way and the double yellow lines for Pine Ridge were in place.
- The meeting to discuss the possibility of registering Teneriffe footpath as a public right of way had been held and the request had been refused. However, Cllr Col. G. Brierley felt that there was a good case for an appeal.
- A speed tube device would be installed to Timber Hill in August to monitor traffic usage in order for the Traffic Management team to discuss possible ways of dealing with the traffic issue in the area.

Cllr Col. G. Brierley advised that his request for double yellow lines outside of Umbrella Cottage on Sidmouth Road was due to visitors parking on the single yellow lines currently in place there. These parked vehicles were causing traffic problems and although the police used cones to prevent parking, this was not suitable. Cllr Col. G. Brierley felt that changing the lines to double yellows (for approximately 100 yards), would help to solve the problem.

Mrs. F. Williams – B Sharp

Mrs. F. Williams advised that the B Sharp youth music project had recently held an event in the Marine Parade Shelters which had been a success. Mrs. F. Williams asked for the Council's permission to:

- Hold regular music events in the Shelters on Saturday afternoons between 1pm and 5pm and Thursday evenings between 6pm and 9pm
- Hold a B Sharp celebration, showcasing a range of music, on Friday 28th August and Saturday 29th August, either on a stage in the gardens, the beach or if the weather was bad, in the Shelters
- Perform in the Shelters and busk along the sea front during Carnival and Regatta week (by arrangement with the Carnival and Regatta organisers)

Mr. A. Gray

Mr. A. Gray wished to clarify that he had been invited to take part in the Fossil Festival. He advised that the stone balancing had generated substantial media interest and visitors to see the art. Mr. A. Gray felt that his offer of £250 for the stone balancing concession was a fair

price. The Mayor, Cllr Mrs. M. Ellis informed members that 37 emails had been received in support of Mr. A. Gray.

Mr. D. Hallett

Mr. D. Hallett felt that more grant given by the Town Council should be ringfenced for spending on specific items. He felt that the Marine Theatre was being given too much funding by the Town Council and believed that the money should instead be given to LymeNet and the Woodmead Halls.

09/25/C Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Miss L. Campbell, Cllr Mrs. L. Jenkin, Cllr K. Meech, Cllr K. Whetlor and Cllr D. Turner (WDDC).

09/26/C Declarations of Interest

Cllr D. Cozens declared a personal interest in minute no. 09/14/CP (a) – ‘Club for Young People Update’ as he was the Chairman of the Club for Young People.

Cllr Ms. S. Holman declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute no. 09/08/P (g) – ‘To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens’ as she was a member of the Twinning Association. She would leave the room for any discussion of this item. Cllr Ms. S. Holman also declared a personal interest in minute no. 09/06/CP (a) – ‘Three Cups Hotel’ as she was Chairman of the ‘Save the Three Cups’ group and minute no. 09/15/CP – ‘To consider the Local Area Partnership Action Plan and agree related LRTC Plan for 2009/10’ as she was Chairman of LymeForward, the local area partnership.

Cllr Mrs. A. Bradbury declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute no. 09/08/P (g) – ‘To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens’ as she was a member of the Twinning Association and minute no. 09/12/P (b) – ‘Tourism & Advertising Sub-Committee – 8th June 2009’ as she was the owner of guest accommodation in the town. She would leave the room for any discussion of these items.

Cllr Mrs. B. Austin declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute no. 09/08/P (g) – ‘To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens’ as she was a member of the Twinning Association. She would leave the room for any discussion of this item.

Cllr O. Lovell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute no. 09/08/P (g) – ‘To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens’ as he was a member of the Twinning Association, and cheque no. 2713 in the list of payments as this was a payment made to his son. He would leave the room for any discussion of these items.

Cllr S. Williams declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute no. 09/08/P (g) – ‘To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens’ as he was a member of the Twinning Association. He would leave the room for any discussion of this item.

09/27/C To approve the signature by the Chairman of the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 21st May 2009 together with those of the adjourned meeting held on the 27th May 2009 and those of the special meeting held on the 23rd June 2009

Corrections to minutes:

The Mayor Making Ceremony was held on Thursday 21st May 2009.

Cllr Mrs. L. Jenkin attended the meeting on the 26th May 2009 with the Mayor and not Cllr O. Lovell as stated in the Mayor's Announcements.

The minutes of the previous meetings held on the 21st May 2009, 27th May 2009 and 23rd June 2009, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the amendments as above.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs. A. Bradbury and seconded by Cllr P. Williams, the minutes were **ADOPTED**.

09/28/C To receive 'Mayor's Announcements'

Members **NOTED** the Mayor's Announcements.

09/29/C Planning Committee

The Planning Committee's recommendations on planning applications forwarded directly to the planning authority and also the minutes of the meetings held on the 10th June 2009 and then 1st July 2009, having previously been circulated to all members, were **NOTED**.

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs. M. Ellis commented that the first meetings held with the electronic presentation of plans had been a success.

09/30/C Policy Committee

The minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on the 17th June 2009 having previously been circulated were presented for adoption by the Chairman, Cllr Ms. S. Holman, seconded by Cllr Mrs. A. Bradbury.

(a) Minute No.09/06/P (a) – To consider preliminary sketch options for proposed public conveniences in Lister Gardens

The Town Clerk reported that the initial meeting with the architect had been successful and new sketches were awaited.

(b) Minute No. 09/08/P (c) – To consider a request to renew the stone balancing concession for the 2009/10 year

The Town Clerk reported that the concessionaire had made a revised offer of £250 for the current financial year.

Cllr Ms. S. Holman made a statement supporting the stone balancing concession and the Lyme Regis arts community. The Town Clerk read a statement from Cllr Miss L. Campbell in support of the stone balancing concession.

Cllr S. Williams and Cllr P. Williams felt that as other applications to sell merchandise on the beach had been refused, it was unfair to allow the concessionaire to sell postcards of the artwork, and queried if the concessionaire should be required to pay business rates.

Proposed by the Mayor, Cllr Mrs. M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr Mrs. B. Austin, members **AGREED** to accept the offer of £250 for the stone balancing concession for the current financial year.

- (c) Minute No. 09/08/P (f) – To consider amending the commencement date in respect of the lease for the pitch and putt area at Strawberry Field

The Town Clerk reported that although the tenant of the pitch and putt area wished to have the rent-free period commence on 1st April 2010, when the facility would officially open, the lease itself needed to be operative now as the tenant was in possession of the land preparing the course for next season.

Therefore, proposed by Cllr O. Lovell and seconded by Cllr Mrs. B. Austin, members **AGREED** that the lease be issued forthwith but the rent-free period would commence on 1st April 2010 to coincide with the opening of the facility but would end on 30th September 2010.

- (d) Minute No. 09/08/P (g) – To consider granting permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers in Lister Gardens

In accordance with their earlier declarations of interest, Cllr S. Williams, Cllr Ms. S. Holman, Cllr Mrs. B. Austin, Cllr Mrs. A. Bradbury and Cllr O. Lovell left the room.

The Town Clerk showed members a plan indicating that the statue would be located in the bank at the junction between Langmoor and Lister Gardens. He advised that the statue would be formally handed over to the Town Council upon installation together with all responsibility for future maintenance and insurance. He assured members that the positioning of the statue would not inhibit vehicular movement in the gardens.

Proposed by Cllr P. Williams and seconded by Cllr D. Cozens, members **AGREED** to grant permission to the Twinning Association for the siting of a statue of Sir George Somers at the location indicated. Cllr K. Hitchcock voted against the motion.

Cllr S. Williams, Cllr Ms. S. Holman, Cllr Mrs. B. Austin, Cllr Mrs. A. Bradbury and Cllr O. Lovell returned to the meeting.

There being no further items raised for discussion, the report and recommendations were ADOPTED.

09/31/C Community Plan Implementation Committee

The minutes of the Community Plan Implementation Committee meeting held on the 24th June 2009 having previously been circulated were presented for adoption by the Chairman, Cllr S. Williams, seconded by Cllr P. Williams.

- (a) Minute No. 09/06/CP (a) – Three Cups Hotel

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs. M. Ellis reported that she had been invited to tour the building accompanied by Cllr O. Lovell, Cllr Ms. S. Holman, Cllr S. Williams and the Town Clerk. She was assured by the agent for the owners that the property would be kept watertight until developed by his clients and that the Town Council would be involved at every stage of planning the redevelopment. **NOTED.**

- (b) Minute No. 09/14/CP (a) – Club for Young People Update

Cllr D. Cozens asked Cllr Ms. S. Holman to clarify in what capacity she had written a letter regarding the Club for Young People building. Cllr Ms. S. Holman responded that she had written following a meeting in Dorchester and on behalf of a new 'Lyme Regis Youth Consortium' which had been formed under the LymeForward banner and consisted of

representatives from various providers of youth facilities in the town. This included Cllr Miss L. Campbell, representatives from LymeForward, the Lyme Regis Development Trust, the Club for Young People and the Parochial Church Council. Cllr Ms. S. Holman had been nominated as Chairman of this group. **NOTED.**

09/32/C To approve the lists of payments for the periods ending 31st May 2009 and 30th June 2009

In accordance with his declaration of interest, Cllr O. Lovell left the room.

The lists of payments for the periods ending 31st May 2009 and 30th June 2009 had previously been circulated to members.

Proposed by Cllr S. Williams and seconded by Cllr D. Cozens, members **AGREED** to approve the lists of payments in the sums of £81,753.42 for the period ending 31st May 2009 and £71,526.71 for the period ending 30th June 2009.

Cllr O. Lovell returned to the meeting.

09/33/C To consider the draft text of a citation from the Mayor, councillors and townspeople of Lyme Regis celebrating, on the 28th July 2009, the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Bermuda by Sir George Somers. Once the wording is approved a professional artist/calligrapher will be employed at a cost of £250, to be funded from the Civic Contingency budget, to transcribe the text onto a parchment scroll bearing the town crest and this document will subsequently be delivered by the Deputy Mayor of Lyme Regis to the Mayor and Corporation of Bermuda

Members had previously been circulated with the draft text of a citation regarding the anniversary of the discovery of Bermuda.

Minor amendments were made to the text of the draft citation. Members **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to consult with the representatives from Bermuda to ensure that there were no specific reasons for the choice of grammar used in the draft where amendments were proposed.

Proposed by Cllr A. Bradbury and seconded by Cllr Mrs. B. Austin, members **AGREED** to use the text as amended.

Proposed by Cllr S. Williams and seconded by D. Cozens, member **AGREED** to employ a professional artist/calligrapher to transcribe the text onto a parchment scroll.

09/34/C To note any items that the Chairman decides are urgent

There were no items raised for noting.