

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOURISM, COMMUNITY AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2019

Present

Chairman: Cllr Mrs C. Reynolds

Members: Cllr J. Broom, Cllr R. Doney, Cllr S. Larcombe, Cllr J. Scowen, Cllr G. Turner, Cllr S. Williams

Officers: Mr M. Green (deputy town clerk), Mrs A. Mullins (administrative officer)

Other members: Cllr B. Larcombe, Cllr S. Miller

Absent: Cllr D. Hallett, Cllr P. Ridley

18/69/TCP Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

18/70/TCP Apologies

Cllr Mrs M. Ellis – civic duties
Cllr P. Hicks

18/71/TCP Minutes

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2019 were **ADOPTED**.

18/72/TCP Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

18/73/TCP Dispensations

There was no grant of dispensations made by the town clerk in relation to the business of this meeting.

18/74/TCP Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 January 2019

Footgolf proposal for Strawberry Field

Cllr J. Scowen asked when the footgolf would open.

The deputy town clerk said he was aware the leaseholder had done some preparatory work but he did not know the opening date.

Cllr J. Broom reported that the freeholder of Strawberry Field had not given permission for a shipping container to be sited on the land as alternative storage for the council.

It was agreed the freeholder would be approached about putting another hut on the land, similar to the one already there.

Cllr S. Williams also suggested there was land behind the allotments which could be used for storage.

Dorset Street Food Festival

Members were pleased local traders had been offered the opportunity to take part in the festival.

18/75/TCP Update Report

Working with Visit Dorset

Cllr B. Larcombe requested that the image that would appear on the homepage of Visit Dorset was not an atmospheric image which could be anywhere in the country, but something that was unique to Lyme Regis, such as the Cobb.

Lyme Regis guide

The administrative officer said in addition to the number quoted in the report, a further 3,958 guides had been sent to 94 tourist information centres (TIC). This was in addition to a local supply for the Lyme Regis TIC.

18/76/TCP Grant Agreement Review, LymeArts Community Trust

As the council's representative on LymeArts Community Trust (LACT), Cllr J. Scowen said the trustees had done very well to improve the trust's finances and he hoped the council would acknowledge this.

Cllr R. Doney said he was concerned LACT had said the lack of council funding in the last two quarters of 2019/20, due to an advance in funding, would cause them some difficulty and he asked what this realistically meant in terms of LACT's financial position. In the interests of risk management, he suggested officers asked LACT to clarify this.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if the council had received copies of the monthly management accounts, as agreed by LACT when the advance of grant payments was agreed.

Cllr J. Scowen said they had not been provided but he was hopeful they would be available by the Full Council meeting on 1 May 2019 and he would press for this.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if the amount of money the council had given to the theatre over the last 10 years could be reported to the Full Council.

Cllr R. Doney said he had supplied this information to members around two years ago, and the figure was c.£600k, but this would need to be updated.

Cllr S. Miller said there was no doubt there had been a huge improvement but it was still work-in-progress.

18/77/TCP Grant Agreement Review, B Sharp

Cllr S. Williams was concerned a member was not at the meeting between the town clerk and B Sharp as the member representative was unable to attend.

Cllr Mrs C. Reynolds said if a member representative could not attend, the details of the meeting were reported back to them by the town clerk.

Cllr J. Scowen suggested there were deputy representatives in future, and it was agreed this was something which could be considered by the next administration.

18/78/TCP Grant Agreement Review, The Hub

Members noted the report.

18/79/TCP LymeForward Grant Review Meeting

Mr C. Boothroyd, a director of LymeForward, was invited to answer members' questions.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if LymeForward had been asked by the town clerk to help the council with public consultations related to the proposed Dorset National Park and the Hydrock traffic and transport survey.

Mr C. Boothroyd said LymeForward had not been asked to help with the National Park consultation and had been informed the traffic consultation was in Hydrock's hands.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if the proposed Visit Lyme promotional material would overlap with the council's existing promotions, and he asked that the council was kept in the loop regarding the seafront railings due to planning implications.

Mr C. Boothroyd said these were both Coastal Communities Team (CCT) issues but the funding bid to the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) had not been successful.

The deputy town clerk said the railings were a council objective but it wasn't progressed while the outcome of the CCF bid was unknown. He said the council needed to look at this again and find a way to progress it.

The deputy town clerk said the promotional material would have been in addition to what the council does and would have added value. He said this would also need to be re-visited.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked why expenditure for 'Miscellaneous' items had increased so significantly in 2018/19.

Mr C. Boothroyd said he would check this. In response to a member question, he said detailed accounts were available on the LymeForward website.

Mr C. Boothroyd updated members on health and wellbeing matters. He said with the end of the Virgin contract, Dorset Healthcare had won the contract for community services. This meant Dorset Healthcare would be running all community services as they did in the rest of the county. He said this was positive for Lyme Regis because it would bring the town links to more robust services.

Mr C. Boothroyd also spoke about social prescribing. He said the contract had recently been awarded to Help and Care, who would be attending a meeting at the Woodmead Halls on 26 April 2019 at 10am to talk to the health and wellbeing group. He said members were welcome to attend.

Members agreed business engagement needed to improve, although efforts had been made by the council to establish a chamber of commerce.

Mr C. Boothroyd said LymeForward was pursuing this but had made it clear it would be led by businesses, not the council.

18/80/TCP Event Management Deposit Scheme

Cllr Mrs C. Reynolds said the concerns about events and the suggestion for a deposit scheme had been raised by only one member of the public, and there had only been a problem with one event in 2018, specifically related to traffic and access.

Cllr J. Broom said he didn't believe a deposit scheme was workable; the main issue was controlling traffic. He said this could be helped by event organisers being given specific times to go on the parade and the council having control of the barriers.

The deputy town clerk said Food Rocks had produced a plan of the parade and where the stalls should be located and this worked well. He said Dorset Street Food Festival had an access plan but it didn't work well, and this was something that needed to be improved.

Cllr Mrs C. Reynolds suggested this was referred to the Town Management and Highways Committee to create a proper plan for traffic management.

Cllr B. Larcombe said the council also needed to ensure the enforcement officers and staff on duty knew the event plan. He also requested any plan ensured stalls were only at the back of the parade and not on the edge.

Members discussed whether a deposit scheme was still required and generally agreed a proper traffic management and event plan would help control the main issues.

There was some concern there was no penalty for events which did not comply with the council's rules. However, Cllr R. Doney said the ultimate sanction would be that the council would not allow the event to take place in future.

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** not to pursue an event management deposit scheme at this point in time and refer to the Town Management and Highways Committee the events' management plan, with a view to including a plan of the parade and traffic management controls.

18/81/TCP Managing Consultation Exercises

In response to a member question, the deputy town clerk said there was no update on Natural England's Coastal Margin proposals.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if there was any idea if Dorset Council was going to adopt the West Dorset District Council draft Local Plan.

The deputy town clerk said there was a suggestion Dorset Council might want to re-visit this with a view to introducing a Dorset-wide Local Plan.

The meeting closed at 8.13pm.