

**BOVEY TRACEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH,
BOVEY TRACEY ON MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM**

Present:

The Town Mayor, Cllr G J Gribble**/*

Cllr A Allen	Cllr D Fletcher
Cllr J Arnold	Cllr E Kelly
Cllr R Bradshaw	Cllr A J Kerswell*
Cllr S Brooke	Cllr S Light
Cllr J Cole	Cllr O Mills
Cllr D K Elphick	Cllr K Morgan-West

**County Cllr

*District Cllr

In attendance:

Mr M Wells – Town Clerk
Rev M Godbeer
One member of the press
14 members of the public

The Town Mayor, Cllr Gribble, invited the new Baptist Church minister, Reverend Mark Godbeer, to lead prayers for those who wished to take part before the meeting opened.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Cllr Allen referred to the recent premature death of Toby Wright and advised that a Go Fund page has been set up to raise funds for his family.

Cllr Gribble advised that an audio recording of the meeting was being made for minute taking purposes. Following the completion of the minutes the recording will be deleted.

FC.19/53. Apologies for absence:

Cllr U Arnold – Personal commitment
District Cllr S Morgan – Personal commitment
Reverend K Hooke
PCSO P Wilson

FC.19/54. Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations:

None

FC.19/55. Minutes:

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 1.7.19 (*copy previously circulated) were confirmed as a true record and were duly signed by the Town Mayor.

FC.19/56. Standing Item – Climate Emergency:

Members noted the Council Declaration and to embed the climate emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans and other relevant work,

considering the impact (emissions and biodiversity etc) of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated and systematic approach to the Council's own response to this challenge.

The meeting went out of session

FC.19/57. Report of the Mayor's Chaplain:

No report available.

FC.19/58. Report of the Police:

A copy of the Neighbourhood Police report for the period 1st July to 16th September 2019 was circulated.

FC.19/59. Questions and Statements by the Public:

Mr P Beecher (Residents' Association):

- i) Thanked Cllr Gribble for his assistance in trying to resolve the problem of speeding traffic on Le Molay-Littry Way. He noted that following meetings and speed investigations the Highway Authority is not going to take any action regarding this matter.
- ii) With reference to the proposed diversion of Footpath 8, west of Blenheim Terrace, he considered that the footpath should be preserved.
- iii) Referred to a planning application regarding proposed increased distribution activity at a commercial vehicle repair site. He advised that a number of residents in the area wish to ensure that their views are taken into account before any decision is made.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the following items raised at the Full Council Meeting held on 1st July 2019:

Monitoring of parking in TDC's car parks and advised that there are no free 20 minute time slots in the car parks.

National Trust land near Bonds Meadow – it is hoped that an update will be available at the next Full Council meeting.

Proposed governance restructure at South Dartmoor Community College – a letter was sent to the principal expressing concerns. A response was received which has been circulated to Councillors and is available for members of the public. Cllr Brooke also referred to serious concerns at South Dartmoor Community College and noted that there has been a fall in intake. However, there has been progress and the Multi Academy Trust will takeover in the new year.

Grounds maintenance of areas in Rendells Meadows – following unsuccessful enquiries to TDC and DCC the Town Council has arranged for its grounds maintenance contractor to cut the areas. Funding will be sourced from Cllr Gribble's TDC Community Fund.

Road surface at Brimley Vale – following enquiries it was noted that the developer is responsible for repairing the road surface and it has been requested that DCC corresponds with them.

On street electric vehicle charging points – TDC's Environmental Control Team is introducing a new policy which includes pledges for action.

Graffiti – The Town Clerk referred to PCSO Wilson’s report which advised that two suspects have been identified.

FC.19/60. County, District and Town Councillor Reports:

DCC, TDC & Town Cllr Gribble noted that he had been involved in various meetings and site visits. He advised that TDC’s Enforcement Officer is progressing matters with the owner of an unkempt property in De Tracey Park where the fence is in a potentially dangerous state.

TDC Cllr Kerswell noted that she had attended various meetings and events. She also provided an update on the De Tracey Park property.

Cllr Brooke advised that the “Life on the Verge” Working Group has identified four areas for planting and it is hoped that, subject to funding, planting will be undertaken during the coming months.

Cllr Allen noted that he had attended the Teignbridge Community Climate Change meeting and various Council related meetings. He had also met with a parishioner concerning a water leak in Fore Street.

Cllr J Arnold also noted that the planting of wildflowers on the verges was progressing. He commented on the success of the Nourish Festival.

Cllr Bradshaw noted that he had attended various meetings and had chaired two Neighbourhood Development Plan meetings.

Cllr Cole extended thanks to the members of Brimley WI for their contribution to Bovey Tracey in Bloom.

Cllr Elphick had attended a recent Heritage Trust meeting and noted that more volunteers are required. He noted the new arrangements with the Heathfield youth facility and advised that any support would be appreciated.

Cllr Fletcher noted that she had chaired the Finance, Resources and General Purposes Committee meeting and had been involved on climate emergency and community centre matters.

Cllr Kelly, due to work commitments, had only been able to attend a few meetings.

Cllr Light referred to the new arrangements with the Heathfield youth facility. He advised that the local Beaver Group had disbanded. Fortunately members have been able to join other groups. He noted the progress of the planting of wildflowers.

Cllr Mills advised that he had been involved in climate emergency matters pertaining to the Community Centre.

Cllr Morgan-West advised that she had attended a Repair Café meeting at TDC.

One member of the public joined the meeting.

FC.19/61. Reports of any Outside Bodies:

Devon Association of Local Councils – No matters reported

Teignbridge Association of Local Councils – No matters reported

Teignbridge Rural Aid Committee – Cllr Gribble noted that an application made by the Town Council had not been approved as it was advised that funding was available from another source. Unfortunately this was not the case.

Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust – Cllr Elphick referred to his earlier report.

Bovey Tracey Exhibition Foundation Trust – Cllr Cole advised that a meeting will take place on 24th September.

Bovey Tracey Information Centre Trust – Cllr Allen advised that the former Information Centre building will be removed on 17th September. He noted that Ms J Blair has become a trustee.

Police & Crime Commissioner Council Advocate Scheme – No matters reported

Plastic Free Bovey – Cllr Allen advised that Ms N Wilson, the current co-ordinator, is considering resigning from the position. He noted that a community clean-up event is being held on 20th October with two check points in the town and one at Heathfield. Cllrs Allen and Light will be assisting.

Teignbridge Dementia Action Alliance – No matters reported

Business for Bovey – No matters reported.

The meeting returned to session

FC.19/62. Business Raised by the Public:

Following reference to:

- i) Speeding on Le Molay-Littry Way. It was noted that this has been considered by the Highways Authority.
- ii) Proposed footpath diversion at Challabrook. It was noted that the Planning Committee had objected to the proposal. The matter may be passed to the Secretary of State.
- iii) An application for change of use for a commercial property in Pottery Road. It was noted that this will be considered by the Planning Committee on 30th September.

FC.19/63. Recreation, Parks & Property Committee (RP&P) Committee:

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 15.7.19 (**draft copy previously circulated*) were received and adopted.

ii) Members received and noted the feedback following the neighbouring landowners consultation (**copy previously circulated*). (RP&P.19/43)

FC.19/64. Finance, Resources & General Purposes (FR&GP) Committee:

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 2.9.19 (**draft copy previously circulated*) were received and adopted.

ii) Members considered a recommendation to approve the Stage II tender (**copy previously circulated*) in accordance with budget Option 2 (**copy previously circulated*) for the Community Centre development. (FR&GP19/60)

Cllr Fletcher referred to the de-carbonising of the building and suggested that further enquiries should be made to support this. She proposed that that following the receipt of relevant details these should be referred to the Recreation, Parks and Property Committee for consideration.

Resolved:

To approve the Stage II tender in accordance with budget Option 2 for the Community Centre development. To refer details relating to de-carbonising the building to the Recreation, Parks and Property Committee for consideration at the meeting on 14th October.

iii) Members considered a recommendation to extend the current Public Sector Works Loan borrowing approval for 12 months.

Resolved:

To extend the current Public Sector Works Loan borrowing approval for 12 months.

FC.19/65. Planning Committee:

i) The minutes of the meetings held on 15.7.19 (**copy previously circulated*) & 2.9.19 & recess report (**draft copy previously circulated*) were received and adopted.

FC.19/66. Annual Meeting – Deferred Item:

Members considered a Committee recommendation to approve the Option Agreement Draft Heads of Terms for Brimley Field (**copy previously circulated*). (AM.19/15 iii)
Cllr Allen provided a summary.

Resolved:

To approve the Option Agreement Draft Heads of Terms for Brimley Field.

FC.19/67. The Town Mayor's Interests:

A copy of the Town Mayor's engagements/announcements (**copy previously circulated*) was noted.

7 th July	Tennis Club Pavilion Official Opening	Bovey Tracey Tennis Club Recreation Ground
16 th July	South West In Bloom Judging Tour	Heritage Centre St John's Lane
3 rd August	Carnival Procession	Various
11 th August	Dawlish Carnival Opening Ceremony	The Lawn Dawlish
17 th August	Bovey Garden Club Annual Show & Awards	Parke View Bovey Tracey

26 th August	New Park Community Fete & Summer Show	New Park Bovey Tracey
31 st August	Nourish Festival	Fore Street Bovey Tracey
3 rd Sept	Merchant Navy Day Raising of Red Ensign	Old Forde House Newton Abbot

The Town Mayor, Cllr Gribble, thanked the Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Brooke for standing-in for him on occasions.

FC.19/68. Operation London Bridge:

Members considered adopting the draft protocol (**copy previously circulated*) to be put in place on the announcement of the death of the Sovereign or member of the Royal Family. The Town Clerk provided an update

Resolved:

To adopt the draft protocol as set out above.

FC.19/69. Climate Emergency:

Cllr Fletcher provided an update in relation to the Climate Emergency Declaration. She noted some gaps where additional volunteers are sought. Cycling facilities and cycle storage can be improved. Householders and businesses should be encouraged to switch to green tariffs to increase energy efficiency. She noted the potential implementation of repair shops. It is planned to hold future community events.

FC.19/70. Neighbourhood Development Plan:

Cllr Bradshaw provided an update. He explained the principals of the plan and thanked Cllr Kelly who had been the founder Chairman of the group. Cllr Bradshaw outlined the timescales for the production of the plan and stated that it is hoped that the plan will be implemented at the end of August 2020.

FC.19/71. Strategic Plan – Town Council:

Members considered the development of a Strategic Plan (**report previously circulated*). Cllr Brooke provided an update.

Resolved:

- i) To progress the development of a Strategic Plan covering the period of the current term of office.
- ii) To appoint the Town Mayor (Ex Officio), Deputy Town Mayor, Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairman to a Strategic Plan working group to lead the development of the plan.

FC.19/72. Communications Strategy:

Item brought forward by Cllr Morgan-West. Members considered forming a Working Group (**copy draft Terms of Reference previously circulated*) to develop a Communications Strategy for the Council. Council Morgan-West provided an update.

Resolved:

- i) To progress the development of a draft Communications Strategy.
- ii) To form a working group comprising Cllrs Brooke (Ex Officio), U Arnold, Allen, Bradshaw, Kelly and Morgan West.

FC.19/73. Community Events:

Members considered Council involvement in forthcoming parish events (**report previously circulated*). The Town Clerk provided an update.

Resolved:

- i) To continue joint responsibility for arrangements for: Remembrance Day Service, Christmas Lights Switch-On and the Civic Carols by Candlelight Service.
- ii) To continue to arrange the Green Man Festival having overall responsibility for the arrangements. To appoint Cllr Kelly to lead assisted by Cllr Brooke.
- iii) To host a Civic Service at the Parish Church on Sunday 10th May 2020 to mark the 75th anniversary of the VE Day Celebrations.

FC.19/74. Community Awards:

Members considered the continuation of existing awards and the introduction of further awards (**report previously circulated*). Cllr Allen provided a summary. Cllr Fletcher raised concerns that the Honorary Representative of the Lord of the Manor title could be discriminative. A discussion took place regarding the introduction of further awards.

Resolved:

- i) To approve the existing schemes. To further discuss the **title** of the Honorary Representative of the Lord of the Manor.
- ii) To introduce the following further awards:
Volunteer or Voluntary Group of the Year
Business of the Year
Environmental Champion Award
Good Neighbour of the Year
- iii) To nominate the following Councillors to formulate the draft criteria and process:
Volunteer or Voluntary Group of the Year – Cllr Allen
Business of the Year – Cllr U Arnold
Environmental Champion Award – Cllrs Fletcher and Mills
Good Neighbour of the Year – Cllr Cole

Cllr Gribble advised that the next Full Council meeting on 11th November 2019 will take place at Heathfield Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.34pm.