

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** was held on **TUESDAY** the **21 February 2023** which commenced at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

- Councillor R Griffin (in the Chair)
- Councillor Mrs M Pryor (Mayor)
- Councillor S McKell
- Councillor Mrs K Austin
- Councillor P Thompson
- Councillor R Burns
- Councillor D Wilson
- Councillor C Evans
- Councillor F H Drane
- Councillor W T Pipe

Also in attendance: Mrs K Cane, Town Clerk
Mrs K Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk

315/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no declarations of interest received. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Chase (ill-health).

316/23 CLERKS REPORT:

- a) **Minute 398/18 Provision of a municipal water fountain.** A formal opening has been set for 12 April 2023.
- b) **Minute 399/18 and 68/22 Parking Around Schools.** See Minute No 281/23.
- c) **Minute 64/22 Council's Strategy and Actions in Response to Climate Emergency.** Dorset Council has extended an invitation to elected members to attend Kingston Maurward College on 9 March 2023 for a networking event, the agenda of which contains a working together session on 'Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology' and seeks to see how Dorset Council and parish and town councils can work more closely together on this subject. It is suggested that a representative from the Environment Committee attend. Cllr Burns, McKell and Thompson have agreed to represent the Council.
- d) **Minute 171/22 Trailway Improvement Heritage Project.** No further information.
- e) **Minute 175/22 Traffic Pollution in the Town:** See Minute No 318/23
- f) **Minute 176/177/178 Highway Matters.** The meeting scheduled for 2 March has had to be postponed – details will be circulated when a new date is confirmed.

317/23 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

318/23 TO CONSIDER ACTIONS TO MITIGATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF POLLUTION IN UPTON

Members held a detailed discussion about ways in which the Town Council can help to reduce the by working with its partners and local community. It was suggested that the local schools are included to share data and deliver a consistent message. To this end the Head Teachers of all three schools will be invited to the next Town Council meeting to discuss this.

Ideas discussed included a living wall, sustainable planting, car share, walking buses and information for householders on what plants they could install in their gardens to reduce the impact of pollution. The Outside Operations Manager would investigate feasible options for planting. A news item would be included in the next edition of Lyt-Up suggesting planting ideas to households which will help reduce the impact of pollution on the local environment.

It was also requested that an approach is made to BCP Council about the continued issue with the two Poole lifting bridges, which when closed, cause all the traffic to be routed through our town, causing increased pollution levels.

319/23 TO CONSIDER A REPORT REVIEWING THE TOWN'S PLANTING SCHEMES

Members approved a report recommending a move towards more sustainable flowerbeds in the town. This new planting schemes will require less watering and maintenance, and will provide a year-round display.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED AND RECOMMENDED** to change plant supplier for the forthcoming season.

320/23 TO RECEIVE THE LATEST FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

The report was received and accepted.

321/23 ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

The following items were raised:

1. Upton Together to organise an Easter Egg Hunt on the recreation ground for Easter Sunday in the same format as last year. Volunteers will be required to assist on the day.
2. Interest was taken from members about visiting Parliament at a future date – around 8 members registered their interest.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

Chair.....

Date.....