

## **Minutes of General Meeting**

**1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, St Nicholas Church, Broadway BH6 4EN**

**Number of people present including Chair, Secretary 48 + Councilors Lawton, Davies and Coope**

### **Police Report**

Police not in attendance.

No issues raised.

Members reminded in particular to lock up cars also sheds.

### **Councilor's report by Councilor Lawton**

Councilor Lawton apologized on behalf of all three councilors for not being in attendance at last month's meeting due to attendance at the Manchester Party Conference and Councilor Coope being called away at the last minute on deputy Mayor duties.

### **Re Tuckton Roundabout Proposed Works**

Richard Pearson has confirmed they are still evaluating the public consultation.

Upon completion they will meet with all three local councilors.

The main issue for Henra residents is concern over the proposed reduction of Wick Lane from two to one lane entering the roundabout and the more than likely consequential congestion at peak times in particular.

### **Re Broadwaters**

The sale is nearing completion with the successful bidder, McCarthy & Stone

Q. Will the development be higher than existing?

A. The proposal will be subject to the normal planning process.

### **Hengist Caravan Park**

Councilors have no legal right but nevertheless are trying to help re the evicted tenants

Q. Some of the residents have been there 30 years. Surely there is a moral issue.

A. Yes, the eviction is unethical and not moral but the period of notice is extended and the council is trying to help. Councilor Coope tried to assist in August but new owner and his representatives refused to meet.

Q. Mr Buckle raised that the relevant "lot 19" was sold by Bournemouth Council and that the original covenant from Selfridge namely "no mobile homes" should have been relevant.

A. Councilor Lawton was not aware. Councilor Davies regretted that covenants usually count for nothing after 50 years or more.

Q. Is Roscrea Drive to be opened up for access?

A. Councillor Coope said it has the facility for direct access but any developer would have to pay.

Q. Can the council be proactive in what they would like to see for this site?

A. Councillor Davies said any developer, if this were the way forward for the site, would have the right to submit a Pre Application and to discuss with the Planners but ultimately will have to comply with Planning Law. Any development, if this were the way forward, would have to be in keeping.

Q. If it is retained as a caravan park, can the new owner put in more? There are 49 at present.

A. Councillor Lawton confirmed that rules apply in particular re safety and separation distances.

Q. Does license prescribe a density?

A. Caravan parks are almost feudal and can almost do what they like. It is understood there are six with concrete bases and like for like (i.e. new for old) would likely be in order but controls over any change would need to be checked.

**John Lambon (Secretary for the Evening) added the following re the above topics:-**

#### **Tuckton Roundabout**

The committee had formally written to the council by the deadline and on behalf of members views raised at last month's meeting.

Q. Can this be uploaded onto the website? A. Yes

#### **Broadwaters**

The committee formally wrote to the Leader of the Council cc. to the Head of Planning prior to the council letting the contract. This was to protect member's interests as the council seemed to be prioritizing income arising potentially compromising planning controls. With any bid supposedly submitted with a proposal in principle, a successful bidder may bring inappropriate pressure to bear on the formal planning process thereafter with expectations consequential to their accepted bid.

Henra's submission comprised:-

- a plan showing existing mature trees on site which by nature of being within the conservation area will likely be protected;
- a plan showing the surroundings including listed buildings immediately on three sides and also at Wick Green and identifying their scale and character;
- a covering statement.

Q. Can these be uploaded onto the website? A. Yes

The councillors reconfirmed that bidders would be aware, planning rules are tight, and in particular that McCarthy & Stone are responsible also that they (excepting Councillor Davies would sits on the Planning Board) would be meeting the successful bidder.

A member raised that even Mc Carthy & Stone can be rogues.

Another member noted that McCarthy & Stone's business plan is for more upmarket retirement homes.

**Other Matters**

**Tuckton Tea Gardens**

Q. Mr Buckle requested councilor’s views on the fresh application submitted by Tuckton Tea Gardens.

A. The new plans including replacement toilets are on the website for all to inspect.

**Travelers on Hengistbury Head**

Q. The chairman asked for an update of actions to prevent annual recurrence.

- A. The councilors confirmed:-
- o This year the travelers found a loophole and it became a highways issue;
  - o Generally barriers exists but protecting roads is a new issue;
  - o Security guards are put in place once there is a problem;
  - o Travelers generally appear when there is money to be made in the summer season. e.g. during the air show. They move on thereafter. But of course there is the clear up and costs incurred;
  - o There is shared intelligence when a traveler threat exists;
  - o Yes, the concerns are the abuse of laws and in particular, unhealthy and irresponsible littering.

Q. Mr Average has to pay parking penalties but travelers ignore. Why not clamp?

A. Councilor Lawton confirmed the possibility but can’t clamp on private land. The problem with moving travelers on is the time and frustration in the assessment and court process even getting a court slot. In fact it cost 40 – 50,000 pounds each time. (The secretary jokingly added that to avoid one incursion could more than pay for a raised table at the end of Wick Lane allowing the retention of two lanes.)

Q. Can height barriers be added to the Hengistbury Head access.

A. This would prohibit buses, delivery and emergency vehicles.

**Local Government Reorganization**

Q. The chairman requested an update.

- A. Councilor Lawton stated:-
- o Savid Javid’s ‘minded’ decision is anticipated next week;
  - o Then it would be referred to parliament;
  - o Locally there is a committee on bringing the three councils together. Christchurch is currently under Dorset and are attending meetings to avoid decisions being made on their behalf;
  - o There is a tax disharmonisation which will likely mean Bournemouth and Poole council tax will gradually increase over 10 years to bring into line with Christchurch;
  - o There is a huge amount of work to do.

**Next Meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Social .. please bring some goodies, drinks will be provided

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**With cancellation by the evening’s planned speaker, Councilor Coope, currently Deputy Mayor, stepped up to the plate to give an enlightening talk:-**

**MY TIME AS MAYOR**

These following very briefly summarizes his fascinating talk and a very very busy year .....

## MY TIME AS MAYOR

Perhaps most amusing was, I recall, his talk to 11 year olds on National Government and one child asking .... "Are you Mr Mayor or Eddie the gardener?". The child added that "You do my Grandma's garden" to which another young girl said, "You do my Auntie's garden".

Anyway, following nomination and election by fellow councilors, Eddie hit the ground running as it was the Queen's Jubilee Year with many extra functions besides those normal to the Mayoral duties.

Highlights included meeting residents over 100 years old, one at 107 years old and honouring four ex veterans.

Whilst there were wine and dine functions, by far the majority of duties were day to day and so very rewarding.

Of course another highlight was the air festival and despite two days of rain, meeting members of the respective forces, army, navy and air force.

(We must not forget Eddie did a wing walk himself to raise money for charity during his term).

He emphasized the amount of work done by volunteers in and around Bournemouth .. so very important .. and without the help of these volunteers, Bournemouth couldn't do half of what it does.

At the South East in Bloom awards, Bournemouth came home with 24 awards including one for Hengistbury Head, also Tuckton Tea Gardens. The repeated call of Bournemouth's representatives to the stage was verging on embarrassing at the awards ceremony.

There are 450 charities in Bournemouth alone.

There are nearly 600 events in the year and he gave credit to his wife for support throughout his year as Mayor.

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I think we must all give thanks to Eddie indeed all our councilors who do so much more behind the scenes that we can ever imagine.

Thanks again Eddie, Mr Deputy Mayor.