**MEETING OF BOVEY TRACEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**HELD AT THE RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON**

**18TH MARCH 2024 AT 7.00PM**

**Present:**

Town Mayor, Cllr S Brooke Cllr H Mills Brown

Cllr A Allen Cllr S Oldrieve

Cllr U Arnold Cllr L Robillard Webb

Cllr C Burton Cllr S Simmons

Cllr E Kelly Cllr C West

Cllr G Kennedy

**In attendance:**

Mr M Wells – Town Clerk

Ms A Christie – Assistant Town Clerk

A member of the Residents Association

A member of the Neighbourhood Watch Association

2 members of the public

Rev K Hooke

Cllr M Smith*\**

*\* District Councillor*

\*\* County Councillor

*The meeting was chaired by the Town Mayor, Cllr Brooke.*

**FC.24/15 Apologies for absence**:

Cllr M Evans – Recovering from an operation

Cllr D Fletcher - Unwell

Cllr O Mills – Personal commitment

Cllr S Morgan*\* -* Unwell

Cllr S Webster \* - Work commitment

**FC.24/16 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations:**

There were no interests declared or requests for dispensations received.

**FC.24/17 Minutes**

i) The minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd January 2024 *(\*copy previously circulated)* were confirmed as a correct record.

ii) Cllr Kelly spoke in relation to agenda item FC.24/08 stating that parishioners have raised concerns about the level of CiL funding awarded to Bovey Paradiso at the meeting on 22.01.24. The Town Clerk confirmed that there had been no concerns raised formally.

Cllr Robilliard Webb spoke in response, confirming that the matter had followed a robust and lengthy decision-making process. Cllr Robilliard Webb further stated that Bovey Paradiso have been very engaged in the Heathfield Community.

**FC.24/18 Standing Item – Climate and Ecology Emergency:**

Members notedthe Council Declaration to embed the climate and ecology emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans and other relevant work, considering the environmental impact of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated approach to mitigating the impact of climate change.

*The meeting went out of session.*

**FC.24/19 Reports from Key Bodies on Parish related matters:**

The following reports were received (where provided) from key bodies including:

1. **Chaplain to the Council** – Rev Hooke provided a verbal update about the Easter Trail event organised by the Baptist Church. A more detailed report of activities will be available for the Annual Town Meeting on 27th March 2024.

ii) **Police** – No report received.

iii) **Cllr Gribble** - No report received from the Devon Conty Councillor.

**Cllr Morgan** – No report received from the Teignbridge District Councillor.

**Cllr Smith** referred to the written report provided (*\*copy previously circulated*).

**Cllr Webster** – No report received from the Teignbridge District Councillor.

iv) **Town Mayors Interests** – Cllr Brooke referred to a list of Town Mayor’s interests and activities/events attended since the last meeting (*\*copy previously circulated*). Cllr Brooke provided a verbal update on the Stover Park projects.

v) **Other outside bodies or interests** - No reports received.

**FC.24/20 Questions and Statements by the Public:**

i) A member of the Neighbourhood Watch Association spoke in relation to the 20mph scheme and the level of public consultation and related this to the current LTA campaign(s).

A member of the Resident’s Association thanked all councillors for the work they do in making Bovey Tracey a nice town to live in and spoke further in relation to vehicles speeding along Le Molay-Littry Way, requesting 30mph repeater signs that should be installed.

DNPA Ranger (Bill Allen) gave a verbal update about the current work of the DNPA, the Public Rights of Way Network, lambing season and ground nesting birds season and detailed the free Easter issue of the DNPA magazine. Bill gave an update on the Junior Ranger programmes and explained that volunteering opportunities can be found on the website. The DNPA have experienced issues with fly tipping (roofing materials and asbestos) and general litter on the moor, as well as misuse of four-wheel drive vehicles on the moor.

*The meeting went back into session.*

**FC.24/21 Business Raised by the Public:**

Cllr Brooke responded to the member of the Residents Association to say that it is the residents and organisations that make Bovey Tracey a nice town to live in.

Cllr Simmons responded to the member of the Neighbourhood Watch Association about the 20mph public consultation, updating them that a public consultation had been conducted and if the scheme is considered by Devon County Council that a mandatory public consultation would need to be conducted at that stage.

The Town Clerk responded to the member of the Resident’s Association’s comments, stating that the Town Council has responded to this matter previously and reported previously on site meetings held with Devon County Council Highways and confirmed that at the present time there was nothing new to add. The Town Clerk advised that Le Molay-Littry Way does not meet the criteria to have repeater speed limit signs placed along the road and that speeding is a matter that should be dealt with by the Police. The Town Clerk suggested that Cllr Smith could provide further information from his investigations after the meeting.

**FC.24/22 Recreation, Parks & Property (RP&P) Committee**:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19.02.24 (*\*copy previously circulated*) were received and adopted.Cllr Kelly provided a verbal summary of the key items considered.

**FC.24/23 Finance, Resources & General Purposes (FR&GP) Committee:**

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 04.03.24 *(\*copy previously circulated)* were received and adopted. Cllr Burton provided a verbal summary of the key items considered, including fees and charges review and the community grants that have been awarded in full now for 2024/25.

Cllr Robillard-Webb spoke in relation to Heathfield’s youth need and the requirement for future funding towards Youth service provision in Heathfield.

Cllr Simmons discussed the need to publicise openly the opportunities for grant availability.

**FC.24/24 Planning & Environment (P&E) Committee**:

The minutes of the meetings held on 05.02.24, 19.02.24 and 04.03.24 *(\*copies previously circulated)* were received and adopted.

Cllr Kelly spoke in relation to agenda item 23/01995/MAJ (Change of Use from Residential Institution (Class C2) to 15 Holiday units (including 8 caravan units) at Tracey House Retirement Home, reflecting on the engagement from the public with the Council.

Cllr Allen requested more detail within the information items, so they are beneficial to those not in attendance.

The Town Clerk advised that all councillors can attend all committee meetings and this agenda item is to adopt the actions undertaken within the meetings.

**FC.24/25 Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal Consultation:**

Members received and considered a report from the Town Clerk (*\*copy previously circulated*) about the Devolution Deal Consultation and considered the recommendations within.

Members discussed the consultation document and provided a number of individual contributions or raised concerns as appropriate.

It was proposed and approved to go out of session to receive a comment from Cllr Smith who stated that Plymouth Unitary Authority was included in the deal and pulled out. He further updated members on the view of the District Council in relation to the deal.

The meeting went back into session.

**Resolved:**

To submit a corporate response to the consultation on behalf of the Council. The Town Clerk to draft a response, incorporating comments raised by members and to circulate for amendments prior to the submission date of 24th March 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm.