



# GILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

## FULL COUNCIL

The Town Hall, School Road, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QR  
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Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on **Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018** in the Jubilee Room at the Town Hall, School Road, Gillingham commencing at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs S Hunt (Mayor)  
Cllr B Von Clemens (Deputy Mayor)  
Cllr Mrs A Beckley, Cllr Mrs S Cullingford,  
Cllr R Evill, Cllr A Frith, Cllr M Gould,  
Cllr P Harris, Cllr M Hill,  
Cllr S Joyce, Cllr Mrs V Potheary,  
Cllr Miss N Purkis, Cllr Mrs B Ridout, Cllr J Robinson,  
Cllr Mrs D Toye and Cllr D Walsh.

**Members of the Public** There were seven members of the public present.

**Members of the Press:** There was one member of the Press present.

**In attendance:** Town Clerk, Mrs S Dobie.  
Assistant Town Clerk, Mrs C Ratcliffe.

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Prior to the start of the meeting there was a presentation on the work of Dorset Community Action by Paula Bennetts, Operations Manager.

Dorset Community Action has over fifty years of experience in community development and their staff are trained to deliver professional support to communities. They can help set up grass roots clubs and organisations and have the capacity to help town and parish councils to plan and deliver new projects and initiatives.

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs Hunt, thanked Ms Bennetts for her comprehensive presentation. There were no questions by members.

As there were two representatives from Gillingham School Sixth Form Council, the Chairman asked members if they had any objections to agenda item no. 8 – Primary Youth Councils – being moved up the agenda ahead of agenda item no. 5 – To receive written reports from outside bodies.

Cllr Von Clemens proposed that **“Agenda item no. 8 – Primary Youth Councils – was moved up the agenda ahead of agenda item no. 5 – To receive reports from outside bodies”**. Cllr Evill seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.**

## **Full Council Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (continued):**

### **530. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Monksummers due to illness.

### **531. To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018.**

Cllr Mrs Potheary proposed that “**the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were approved as a correct record of that meeting**”. Cllr Mrs Cullingford seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.** The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

### **532. Questions.** There were no questions.

### **533. Declarations of Interest: Members are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, section 27 disclosable pecuniary interests.**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

### **534. Primary Youth Councils**

Cllr Von Clemens reported that Wyke Primary School and St Mary the Virgin Primary School had both held school council meetings in the Town Hall and that the other primary schools are being encouraged to join the Youth Council in September.

Cllr Von Clemens recently visited Gillingham School where the Sixth Form Council had expressed an interest to join the Youth Council, which was very encouraging to hear. In future this agenda item will be referred to as: ‘To receive a report on the activities of the Youth Council’ rather than just referring to ‘Primary Youth Councils’.

Cllr Von Clemens introduced representatives from the Sixth Form Council, notably: the Head Boy, David Simkins and the Head Girl, Ella Stevens. The Sixth Form Council had recently held a fundraiser at Gillingham School selling ice creams at break times to raise funds to go towards the replacement of a damaged Oak tree at Upper Lodden - one of the trees planted to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gillingham School - and duly presented a cheque to the Mayor for £88.

### **535. To receive written reports from outside bodies, if available, for consideration and approval:**

#### **a) Three Rivers Partnership (3RP) and Three Rivers Community Partnership Board of Trustees, the Gillingham Community Leisure Trust (GCLT)**

Cllr Von Clemens reported that no meeting had taken place to-date but a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

#### **b) Town Meadow Group**

Cllr Joyce reported that no meeting had taken place this month and there was nothing to report apart from the constant watering of shrubs and trees during the current heatwave.

#### **c) Gillingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Cllr Von Clemens referred to a report that had been circulated prior to the meeting with the agenda. Please refer to Appendix A.

#### **d) DAPTC (Larger Towns and Smaller Towns)**

Cllr Mrs Hunt and Cllr Von Clemens had nothing to report from the larger towns meeting. Cllr Walsh had nothing to report from the smaller towns meeting.

## **Full Council Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (continued):**

### **535. To receive written reports from outside bodies (continued):**

#### **e) Transport Forum**

Cllr Mrs Ridout had attended the Blackmore Vale Community Rail Partnership AGM and a written report of that meeting was tabled. Please refer to Appendix B.

Cllr Mrs Ridout added that there has been significant confusion over designated bus stops following the change of service provider and some bus stops that had been in place for many years are no longer classed as designated bus stops. South West Coach drivers have been told only to stop at designated stops. The residents of St Edmund Court presented a petition to ask for the reinstatement of the bus stop outside the cemetery in Cemetery Road, which had been a bus stop for the last eighteen years. A representation was made to the DCC Transport Department and the bus stop is now a designated stop and marked with a flag and timetable.

A resident of Laburnum Way has been collecting signatures to petition about the reliability of the X2 service – Gillingham to Shaftesbury, especially in the Wyke area. The service is sometimes abandoned altogether when schedules are behind. This issue is being raised by Cllr Mrs Ridout, the local public transport champion.

### **536. To receive the following Committee reports for consideration and adoption:**

#### **a) General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018.**

Cllr Mrs Ridout proposed that **“the report of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 should be agreed and adopted”**. Cllr Mrs Cullingford seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.**

#### **b) Planning Committee meeting held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018.**

Cllr Walsh proposed that **“the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 should be agreed and adopted”**. Cllr Mrs Potheary seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.**

#### **c) Staff and Salaries Committee meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018.**

Cllr Frith proposed that **“the report of the Staff and Salaries Committee meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 should be agreed and adopted”**. Cllr Harris seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.**

#### **d) Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018.**

Cllr Mrs Hunt reported that the draft minutes have been amended at the request of Cllr Harris so that under minute no. 379(b) Staff Award Ceremony, paragraph 13 on page 4, the word ‘concurred’ has been removed from the first sentence.

Cllr Mrs Hunt proposed that **“the report of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018, with the above amendment should be agreed and adopted”**. Cllr Harris seconded and the vote was unanimous. **RESOLVED.**

### **537. To receive an update from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) regarding Shaftesbury Memorial Hospital (Cllr Von Clemens to lead).**

Cllr Von Clemens referred to a report that he had tabled at the meeting regarding community and mental health services in North Dorset. Please refer to Appendix C. Cllr Von Clemens apologised if the report appeared vague but the CCG will be issuing a Press Release regarding future healthcare provision in North Dorset in shortly.

## **Full Council Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (continued):**

### **538. To receive a report on the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's activities for the last month (attached).**

A copy of the Mayor's report had been circulated prior to the meeting with the agenda. Please refer to Appendix D.

The Mayor took the opportunity to report that she had attended the 150 year celebration of the Mere Clock Tower.

### **539. Matters Pertinent.**

The newly formed Gillingham Litter Pickers group has received a donation of £348 from the Waitrose Community Matters Scheme (green tokens). The money will be spent on the purchase of more litter pickers and hi-viz jackets for the increasing number of volunteers. The group has supported the Town Council during the judging of the open spaces for Green Flag accreditation, the South West in Bloom Pride in Parks Award and very recent South West in Bloom Pennant Award.

The meeting closed at 7.59pm.

#### **1. County Councillors' Reports, as follows:**

##### **a) County Councillor, Andrew Cattaway**

Cllr Cattaway did not attend the meeting; no report was submitted.

##### **b) County Councillor, David Walsh**

Cllr Walsh attended the meeting and gave a brief verbal report, as follows:

- Cllr Walsh had previously supplied members with web links to all county council meetings.
- As a County Councillor, Cllr Walsh had attended a district council meeting to discuss the transfer of assets to Town and Parish Councils. Most of the assets belonging to the district council in Gillingham have already been transferred the Town Council and there are few assets remaining.
- Cllr Walsh reported that he had been made lead member for Planning. The status of local plans will be known in due course.

Cllr Von Clemens asked if the Transfer to Assets report had been approved. Cllr Walsh confirmed that the report has been approved.

#### **2. District Councillors' Reports, as follows:**

##### **a) District Councillor, Alexander Chase**

Cllr Chase was not present at the meeting; no report was submitted.

##### **b) District Councillor, Michael Gould**

Cllr Gould was present at the meeting and reported that he had attended a meeting regarding opportunities available under the new unitary authority. Cllr Gould was impressed by how the changes were being led and managed. There are challenges ahead but overall there will be many advantages and benefits for the residents of Dorset.

##### **c) District Councillor, Mrs Valerie Potheary**

Cllr Mrs Potheary was present at the meeting; she thanked the many people who had worked towards the success of Gillingham Neighbourhood Plan.



## **Full Council Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (continued):**

### **2. District Councillors' Reports, as follows (continued):**

#### **d) District Councillor, Mrs Belinda Ridout**

Cllr Mrs Ridout was present at the meeting but had nothing to report this month.

#### **e) District Councillor, David Walsh (Deputy Leader of NDDC and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development) and a member of the Shadow Dorset Executive Committee.**

Cllr Walsh was present at the meeting but had nothing to report at district level (see county councillor verbal report above).

### **3. Public Questions**

Mr Stone spoke about his long-standing concerns regarding speeding traffic along Shaftesbury Road. He had made several calls to Dorset Police but without success.

Mr Stone asked whether the Town Council had considered the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device (SID).

Mr Stone was informed that the Town Council has one mobile device that is deployed on a rota basis to five specific locations around the town. There is also a static device at Bay and Milton-on-Stour. The locations have been agreed with DCC Highway Safety Team. The locations are currently being reviewed to improve the effectiveness of the SID. The Town Council is looking for volunteers to deploy the SID.

The traffic lights along Shaftesbury Road are speed sensitive and will stay green only if the traffic is travelling within the speed limit, otherwise they will turn to red (only noticeable at night when there is little traffic).

Cllr Mrs Ridout informed Mr Stone that she would take his concerns to the Traffic Management Working Party meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August where the DCC Highway Liaison Officer and PCSO Nicky Fear will also be present. Cllr Mrs Ridout will report back direct to Mr Stone.

Mr Light who was also present commented that he had witnessed vehicles going through red lights along Shaftesbury Road.

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**Notes of Blackmore Vale Community Rail Partnership AGM Board Meeting  
held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Castle Gardens, Sherborne**

**Author: Cllr Mrs Belinda Ridout**

1. **Update from Community Rail Manager for South Western Railway, Richard Kempton.** Unfortunately, Richard is leaving SWT for the HS2 project and a replacement will be in post soon. Phil Dominey will be in charge in the interim.  
**Continuing projects:** Tisbury – to extend the loop and platform, redevelop industrial estate opposite for additional parking. Sherborne, Gillingham and Crewkerne: investigate additional space for parking. Yeovil – access for all – investigating low cost stair lift option. **Corfe Castle link** has been very popular, which links with the Swanage Railway, providing onward service to Swanage and Weymouth.  
Six Community Rail Partnerships have entered **South West in Bloom**, including the Blackmore Vale CRP.  
SWR have launched a **Community Ambassador Scheme**, with 28 community ambassadors enrolled currently, their role being to work with the community through the CRP, encouraging more use of trains, e.g. by students, job seekers, vulnerable people and promoting special fares, e.g. children travel for £1.  
**Community Rail Strategy** (Department of Transport) has recently consulted on the future of CRP's. A revised strategy, Government Policy Document, sets out the way forward. The last CR Strategy was set 10 years ago. There has been a significant increase in rail use over the period, so the emphasis has shifted to the social element of railways, with more about the difference Community Rail makes to local communities and encouraging use of the railways for work, leisure, etc. There are also plans to train all SWR staff in Dementia Awareness.  
DofT looking to make all CRP's equitable in terms of funding. The BVCRP to be put forward as a 'designated route'. DofT to award each CRP an accreditation if the partnership is run well, rewarding the structure of the CRP rather than the train service itself. Funding would be available if accreditation is achieved.
2. **ACORP, Association of Community Rail Partnerships – Paul Webster, Operations Manager.** ACORP is expanding into the south west, giving support and advice to CRP's and funding can be applied for. There is a list of station property available for community use but none on the Blackmore Vale CRP line.  
**Funding:**
  - for individual station adoption groups to join ACORP for free
  - Small projects up to £250 per application, e.g. bee friendly planters.
  - General funding nationally increased for individual station groups: up to £1000 (no match funding) and for CRP's, up to £2,500, with match funding.
  - CRP Website development fund – e.g. developing a combined website for BVCRP, so all six stations could link into one CRP website.
3. **WW1 Commemorations** going well and much research has already taken place on railway employees who lost their lives in WW1.
4. **Line Guide for each station** to go ahead in October after the WW1 Commemorations. Each station to provide photographs and text.

**Post Script:** At 15.00 hours on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018 the RDG announced that SWR would not be making any changes to its timetable in December.

<https://www.raildeliverygroup.com/media-centre/press-releases/2018/469774201-2018-07-09.html>

## **FRIENDS OF GILLINGHAM STATION - ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2018**

**Author: Cllr Mrs Belinda Ridout**

FOGS have continued to flourish as a group, gaining more members during the year, bringing the total to 17. We meet quarterly, primarily to plan the seasonal changeover of planting. Sub-groups have met to tackle specific jobs such as the construction and installation of two additional window tubs to the rear of the station (facing platform 1), part funded by a National Garden Voucher donated by station staff for their recycling efforts. The window tubs have looked very good throughout the year, despite unfortunately being vandalised twice. We were very pleased that our summer planting of churns, buckets and window boxes earned us an 'It's Your Neighbourhood' Level 4, 'Thriving', award by Britain in Bloom, South West. We have plans for a 'bug hotel' and additional planters at the station, including a raised herb border. 1000 plus purple crocus corms were donated by Gillingham Rotary and planted last autumn around the Gillingham sign on Platform 2, part of the Rotary's campaign to eradicate polio globally. Together with the primroses, they looked quite a spectacle. The bird table has been very popular, particularly with a local feline! We are still progressing the idea of a bee/butterfly garden behind Platform 2 and discussions are ongoing with Network Rail, the County Council and the Gillingham Brick, Tile & Pottery Company to upgrade the footpath which leads from Platform 2 onto the Brickfields Industrial Estate.

The Waiting Room now contains a table as well as the existing bench which now has cushions kindly made and donated by a local resident. The book swap has been popular and donations of books is very buoyant. Unfortunately, we have had to abandon the jigsaw for people to complete whilst waiting, due to it continually being broken up and scattered. The Comments Books has also unfortunately been misused. The Museum noticeboard is changed on a semi-regular basis.

The Booking Hall has a table with a plant and FOGS leaflets and the FOGS noticeboard is now in place with lots of useful information for commuters, including bus connections and a 'thank-you' list of all past and present sponsors of FOGS.

With funding of £200 from the BVCRP, two poly-carb clear tubes have been fitted by our volunteers over two bins on platform 1, which has the effect of tidy them up. Two further tubes are to be fitted to the two bins to the front of the station, funded by the Southern Co-op Community Fund, 'Love Your Neighbourhood Scheme'. Waitrose Green Token Community Scheme raised £394 and the Town Council has pledged up to £250 for seasonal planting, which will be purchased in accordance with the Town Council's Pollinator Friendly Scheme.

On the advice of Lesley Jellyman, last year's 'It's Your Neighbourhood' judge, an additional local Railway churn has been purchased for Platform 1, which sits quite nicely in a dark corner near the old bicycle racks. Unfortunately, this has been the subject of vandalism, but replanted. A stall at the local Town Meadow Fete last July provide extremely popular and signed up more volunteers.

Our local newspaper the Gillingham & Shaftesbury News has run articles on FOGS, particularly with regard to Paul Blowfield's comment about our bridge being "a fine example of a product of the now long-closed Southern Railway Concrete Works at Exmouth Junction", our achievements with 'It's Your Neighbourhood' and steam trains passing through.

Decorating the station at Christmas and offering free mince pies was well supported and daffodils in the Booking Hall at Easter were appreciated. We were delighted to receive an award from the BVCRP for our Christmas tree.

FOGS members have lots of idea for the station for additional planting and looking forward to a busy season getting ready for 'It's Your Neighbourhood' judging with the Community Rail Partnership and inclusion in the 'Pennant Award' judging with the Town Council.



**AGM - June 2018**  
**Blackmore Vale Line Community Rail Partnership**

**Author: Caroline Rowland, Partnership Officer**  
**Blackmore Vale Line Community Rail Partnership**

The work for the first two quarters of 2018 has been focusing on preparing for our spring/summer plantings, planning for 'Stations in Bloom' campaign and initial proposals for the big campaign of 2018 concentrating on First World War commemorations. Publicity includes newsletter, updating our information leaflet and working on a new one on how to get involved in the Community Rail Partnership and with station groups.

## **1. Development of the Blackmore Vale Community Rail Partnership**

The launch of the Blackmore Vale Line Community Rail Partnership in March 2016 was something to be celebrated and embraced. A city based big business wanted to invest time, money and staff in our part of the country. The commitment opened many opportunities for local people and business to work together to promote this part of the line. The name was already decided as well as the stations to be included by train representatives Richard Kempton and Chris Loder. The rest was a blank canvas which could not have been a better brief. Straight away it became apparent that this community rail partnership was going to develop its potential by embracing the energy and enthusiasm of local people. As an ex local government officer working in the sphere of dwindling finances, resources and support, I remain highly motivated and committed, to seizing opportunities to carve out a fruitful and functional way of making the most of the potential on offer.

The core aims of BVCRP are to promote the area to prospective rail passengers and to work with local people to improve the stations belonging to the rail partnership. Operating via a management group who oversee the partnership, a protocol (*modus operandi*) was agreed and a Line Plan produced. The Line Plan, a flexible document, encompasses priorities based on research and input from all stations and includes the proposed work of the Partnership Officer. With banking facilities offered through Gillingham and Shaftesbury Transport Forum and quarterly meetings set up, the partnership has all the main official mechanisms to function as a not-for-profit volunteer led organisation.

BVCRP is a joint enterprise involving local groups, people and businesses. It is non-profit making and its membership is open to local people and representatives of commercial, statutory and voluntary organisations who are interested in promoting its core aims. Our collaborative work is overseen by a 20-strong Board who meet quarterly and review the actions in the Line Action Plan. The Line Action Plan has five main themes:

1. STATION FACILITIES (Enhancement Schemes) and  
STATION FACILITIES (Maintenance)
2. TRANSPORT & ACCESSIBILITY;
3. ENVIRONMENT;
4. CULTURE, HERTIAGE & LOCAL ECONOMY and
5. PUBLICITY, PROMOTION & PEOPLE.

The allocated officer time of two days per week continues to give the core partnership aims a tight focus. The way to manage time and marry this with the partnership aims has grown organically and is accomplished via a variety of key campaigns. BVCRP continues to progress in a different way from many other CRPs and this is something we like. It shows commitment to a local agenda, on delivering achievable results and reflects well on our main sponsor South Western Railway.



BVCRP can be cited as an example where a local transport focused partnership is working. The fact that other key groups exist is this first point to be acknowledged and is atypical rather than the norm; SERUG, (Salisbury to Exeter Rail Users Group) is a lobbying group primarily dealing with infrastructure, rolling stock and rail improvements. Two Transport Action Forums exist for the Sherborne area and the Gillingham area, both are concerned with all 'transport' issues including buses and cycling. There exists a wealth of expertise, knowledge and commitment to seek improvements. There is no doubt that BVCRP could not continue to develop this way without the existence of the transport forums and especially SERUG. The overall objectives of SERUG, summarised below, means BVCRP can focus on different areas of work while retaining close working contact with SERUG and vice versa.

- Dinton to Tisbury Station doubling – improving resilience and creating capacity for 2tph (each direction) between Salisbury and Yeovil Junction
- Long loop near Whimple – creating opportunity for up to 3tph (each direction) between Exeter and Axminster. Will allow development of Devon Metro and better resilience/capacity for GWR diversions
- Long loop east of Crewkerne – allowing 2tph (each direction) between Yeovil Junction and Axminster. Better resilience/capacity and essential for GWR diversions
- Permissive working at Yeovil Junction – better journey opportunities and improved stock utilisation
- Improved car parking at Tisbury, Gillingham, Sherborne and Crewkerne. (Crewkerne now critical following increased parking restrictions on access road)
- Ability to embark/disembark from the front doors of trains

## **2. Support from TOC**

Blackmore Vale Line CRP has an excellent Community Rail Liaison Manager in Richard Kempton who has been inspiring and steadfast in assisting the development of the partnership and its campaigns. He has supported the CRP to grow generically, cultivating an entrepreneurial and enterprising nature. Thus in a relatively short time, BVCRP has developed into a thriving CRP with a project-orientated focus that has proved an effective mechanism for promoting the line. Community rail activities (CRPs and stations) are genuinely making a difference to the communities they serve and need continued policy support from DfT through franchise agreements and other direct funding from DfT.

## **3. Our Station Groups and modern volunteering**

Volunteers from our stations groups, both formally constituted and informally gathered, are the life blood of our stations. The improvements to facilities and flourishing station gardens stand as testimony to the hard work and commitment of an outstanding group of volunteers working on stations belonging to the rail partnership. Here are some observations:

(a) The modern 21st century volunteer is an essential partner in any local enterprise, especially in a time where local funding and government services are being drastically reduced and officer capacity challenged to meet the needs of the role. The motivation for volunteering is a personal thing, and it is clear from the nature of the station groups in our area, that volunteers are often members of other key local groups and give their time generously to their respective stations.

(b) A modern 21st century volunteer does not necessarily want to be committed to a constituted group, indeed this can be viewed as an unnecessary barrier to their involvement. The rural area volunteer sector has been working for years in partnership with other volunteer groups in their area. One of these groups, such as a parish council can act as a very effective umbrella organisation. They tend to be open, accountable and audited public organisations and can make a great local partner by offering bank accounts for specific projects. There appears to be a failure to recognise/understand this at an organisational level or for it to be reflected in funding requirements, especially where external groups hold key funds set aside for CR work.

Promotion of this out-dated model of requiring a group to be formally constituted before funding, etc. can be a big barrier and can be perceived as a lack of understanding, both of contemporary volunteering and the nature of volunteering in a rural area. This should be officially acknowledged as a method for groups who do not want to be told how to operate or get involved with a formal process.

**To improve** if we want to attract, nurture and retain volunteers this needs to be recognised at top organisational level (DfT) and policies update to acknowledge this so they can in turn inform other key players.

#### **4. Blackmore Vale Community Rail Partnership - First World War Commemorations**

##### **Aim**

To honour the memory of the fallen railway employees of the First World War who worked at Crewkerne, Yeovil Junction, Sherborne, Templecombe, Gillingham and Tisbury stations.

##### **Objectives**

- Research - find the employees and compile short biographies of each
- Generate a new memorial for each of the stations commemorating the employees
- Hold a series of unveiling ceremonies in November at the stations with one major event at one station
- Event at Waterloo?
- Find living relatives of employees to invite to ceremonies
- Produce booklet

##### **Background**

Waterloo Station has four Roll of Honour plaques commemorating the 527 employees of London and South Western Railway who died in the First World War. The opening Ceremony on 21 March 1922 was attended by Queen Mary. The London and South Western Railway was a very important economic and social force for the whole of the south west as well as being a major employer. The railway line stretched from London Waterloo to Padstow in Cornwall encompassing all the smaller branch lines and stations in between. The branch line of the Somerset and Dorset Railway linked Bath to Bournemouth and came through Templecombe and the surrounding villages and towns.

##### **Research**

Southampton archives hold copies of records for the railway.

Separate research for a forthcoming reference book (Blackmore Vale Soldiers - Book of Remembrance) has already been completed. This has identified over 500 known casualties for five of the towns and villages, Yeovil Junction, due to the location, being the exception. The work has found many more casualties who are not commemorated locally on any war memorials including the son of the station master at Crewkerne station.

##### **Proposal**

To work with members of the stations groups, various history groups and veterans groups and local press to complete the biographies. This may take in employees from the various towns and villages surrounding each station.

##### **Budget**

An interim figure of £9k

The kind of memorial for each station to be decided locally by members of stations groups but there is potential to use local craftsmen and local materials to produce individual memorials for each station.

Memorials £6,000 Unveiling events £1,000 Booklets £2,000

## SGSWWS meeting update

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Author Barry von Clemens

In Attendance : Simone Yule, Sara Froud, Helen Lawes, Anthony Austin, Nicola Plum, Pauline Malins, Mark Hebditch, Susan Glanfield, Melanie Costas, Ron Shields.

Ron Shields *Chief Executive of Dorset Healthcare (DHC), the NHS Trust which provides community and mental health services*, attended the meeting to give the group some insight into the vision for the future of health care over the next 5-10 yrs in North Dorset. Part of this vision is to provide health care in people's homes where ever possible good example of this are virtual wards. There are other plans in development which the CCG hopes to roll out in the coming month. More details of these will be published nearer to the time of their roll out.

One of the main aims is to reduce the number of hours that patients spend in hospital. In some cases this will enable patients to be discharged from acute hospital to their homes rather than having to have an interim stay in a community hospital. Being treated in the home environment can aid a patient's recovery.

It was emphasised that these plans are only for short term health care and should not be confused with long term home care provided by adult services.

*Ron Shields told the meeting the "North Dorset is to get a share of a multi-million-pound investment being made across Dorset which will provide people with more care closer to home.*

*The investment, which will start from September, has been agreed by members of the Dorset Integrated Care System - Our Dorset.*

*It will see a total £3m be invested across Dorset in this financial year (2018/19) with £6m being invested each year thereafter.*

Future plans for the Westminster Memorial Hospital will be a slow progression over a 5+ yrs period. There are no plans for any immediate action on the site with regards to the current beds.

Ron also gave the group a brief up date on his meeting with Simon Hoare MP and Anthony Austin confirmed that he has requested a meeting with Simon Hoare and the neighbouring MPs to talk about the future for a community hospital in Shaftesbury.

Ron also indicated that there may in the future be a need for small units based in the community. But this is just an idea at the moment, Barry von Clemens suggested that the CCG could link in with Gillingham Town council to discuss such sites so that the CCG is fully aware of possibilities within Gillingham's current development plans.

The future plans for health care in North Dorset and Dorset as a whole looked very exciting and well thought out.



Anthony Austin informed the group of Shaftesbury Town Councils intention to apply for the WMH to be put on the community assets register.

Simone Yule expressed her surprise that this news was first brought to the CCGs attention through a Facebook post and that STC had not contacted the CCG before it started this action.

The Save our Beds group has now disbanded and its members have become members of the Friends group.

Quarterly news letters will continue to be publish over the coming year with the current one available online and here in Gillingham there are also hard copies available in the library, town hall and local practices.

The group will continue to look at ways for good productive public engagement with events taking place in both towns to enable good access for the general public. The make up of these events continues to be developed and so no dates have yet been set.

The SGSWWS will continue to meet with the next meeting plan in the next 3 months.

Signed

Barry von Clemens

16 July 2018

## Gillingham Town Council

### Mayor's Report 20<sup>th</sup> June to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Date	Event	Comments
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Weymouth & Portland Civic Service	Joy and I attended this special Civic Service at St Mary's Church in Weymouth.
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Gillingham Scout Group AGM	This was probably the last AGM to be held in the scout hut in Gillingham as we were informed of their successful grant application. They have a huge amount of volunteer support and the evening ended with a barbecue.
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Gillingham Primary School Summer Fayre <b>Deputy Mayor Attended</b>	On a sunny Saturday, it was great to see everyone supporting their school. We had some wonderful entries in the Princess and drawing competitions.
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Chickerell Civic Day	Edgar and I enjoyed a splendid Civic Day in Chickerell visiting the Queen Charlotte Care Home and Dave Cumber vets – a modern state of the art veterinary facility. Lunch at the Marquis of Granby and the afternoon finished with a visit to Chickerell Steam and Vintage Show. Wow what a day in brilliant sun shine!
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Swanage Civic Service	Another lovely Civic Service, meeting old friends and new.
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Weymouth & Portland Civic Day	A splendid day visiting the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, Portland Castle and a tour of Portland Bill Lighthouse.
4 <sup>th</sup> July	North Dorset Scouts AGM	An interesting AGM electing officers and receiving reports of the young people's activities. Once again, they have a huge amount of volunteer support.
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Gillingham Town FC Ground Opening	An honour to be part of the team, along with our Town Clerk, Sylvia Dobie, cutting the ribbon to open the Gillingham Town Football Club ground and presenting awards.
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Dorset Scouts Annual Review	Joy and I went down to Wimborne QE School for this review and were duly impressed with the work and dedication of the volunteers and young people.
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Duke of Edinburgh Evening	A super evening attended by numerous young people signing up for their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards and happy groups eager to share their experiences