



GILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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FULL COUNCIL

The minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on **Monday, 16th December 2019**, at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Gillingham, Dorset.

Present

Cllr Barry Von Clemens, Mayor	Cllr Dennis Griffin
Cllr Paul Harris, Deputy Mayor	Cllr Mick Hill
Cllr Fiona Cullen	Cllr John Kilcourse
Cllr Sharon Cullingford	Cllr Val Potheary
Cllr Rupert Evill	Cllr John Robinson
Cllr Alan Frith	Cllr Donna Toye
	Cllr Roger Weeks

In Attendance

Town Clerk, Julie Hawkins
Deputy Town Clerk, Clare Ratcliffe
Dorset Councillor(s), Cllr Val Potheary (see above)

Press and Public

Press: Michael Streeter, Gillingham and Shaftesbury News
Public: 5 members of the public

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor welcomed a Year 10 student from Gillingham School as part of their work observation day.

Minute no.	
160.	Public Participation. Please note: a period up to a maximum of fifteen minutes will be allowed for public comments and questions restricted to items listed on the following agenda.
	A member of the public present at the meeting thanked the Town Council for all its hard work over the last year.
161.	To receive apologies for absence.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED to accept the apologies received from: Cllr Gale, Cllr Poulter, Cllr Gould and Cllr Wareham as they were unable to attend the meeting due to personal reasons.
162.	To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday, 25th November 2019.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday, 25 th November 2019, were agreed and approved. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

163.	To receive any questions pertaining to the previous minutes.
	There were no questions pertaining to the previous minutes.
164.	To receive declarations of interest. <u>Please note:</u> members are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, section 27 disclosable pecuniary interests.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following declared a disclosable pecuniary interest regarding agenda item no. 12 – ‘Sustainable Transport Schemes’: Cllr Toye, owns a property very close to the proposed new road layout. The following declared a personal interest regarding agenda item no. 14 – ‘To consider applications for free room hire’: Cllr Von Clemens, a member of Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury Lions Cllr Cullen, a member of the Green Gillingham Climate Emergency Group.
165.	To receive and consider reports from the Schools Councils, if available.
	There were no reports this month.
166.	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).
	There was no report this month.
	b) Town Meadow Group (Cllr Cullingford).
	Cllr Cullingford gave a verbal report. The street lights on the town meadow have now been fixed thanks to the efforts of a volunteer and a local electrical contractor. The bollards between the Town Meadow and the Red Lion car park will be erected in February.
	c) Gillingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cllr Von Clemens).
	There was no report this month.
	d) DAPTC (Larger Towns: Cllr Von Clemens, Northern Area: Cllr Toye / Cllr Weeks).
	Minutes of meetings were not available. These will be circulated on receipt.
	e) Shaftesbury and District Transport Forum (Cllr Von Clemens).
	There was no report this month.
	f) Gillingham Town Team (Cllr Gould/Cllr Frith).
	Cllr Gould was not present at the meeting. A report was tabled at the meeting. Please refer to Appendix A.

167.	To receive, consider and adopt the following standing committee reports:
	a) General Purposes Committee (no meeting held in December).
	There was no report this month.
	b) Planning Committee interim meeting held on Monday, 25th November 2019 and the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday, 2nd December 2019.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED that the reports of the Planning Committee interim meeting held on Monday, 25 th November 2019 and the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday, 2 nd December 2019 are adopted.
	c) Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, 9th December 2019.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED that the report of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, 9 th December 2019 is adopted.
168.	To receive and consider reports from the following, if available:
	a) Greener Gillingham Task and Finish Group (Cllr Fiona Cullen)
	Cllr Cullen reported that she had met with the new Project Administrator to decide on an action plan template. The green audit of the council offices undertaken by Cllr Cullen and Cllr Gate was complete. A report will be available next month.
	b) Woodwater Farm Sports Facility Task and Finish Group (Cllr Graham Poulter)
	Cllr Poulter was absent from the meeting. A report had been tabled. Please refer to Appendix B .
169.	To approve and authorise any payments over £10,000, if any.
	There were no payments over £10,000.
170.	To consider and receive a report following a review of the Local Council Risk Management undertaken by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.
	The Town Clerk explained that it had not been possible to complete the local council risk management this month but that it should be complete by the end of January 2020.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED that the Local Council Risk Management was deferred until January 2020.
171.	To receive and consider an application by Dorset Council for Gillingham Sustainable Transport Schemes and Junction Improvements Newbury (High Street)/ Le Neubourg Way/Shaftesbury Road Junction – Toucan Crossing
	Cllr Von Clemens referred to the letter and plan submitted by Dorset Council that had been circulated prior to the meeting. Please refer to Appendix C .
	Cllr Toye was not present while this item was discussed and only returned after a vote had been taken.
	It was agreed and RESOLVED that the application by Dorset Council for Gillingham Sustainable Transport Schemes and Junction Improvements Newbury (High Street) / Le Neubourg Way / Shaftesbury Road Junction – Toucan Crossing – is advertised as per the letter and map submitted by Dorset Council.

172.	<p>To receive information from the Town Clerk regarding the eligibility criteria as set out in The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012 No.965) to allow Gillingham Town Council the power as a local authority to do anything that individuals generally may do (Localism Act 2011, s. 1).</p>
	<p>The Town Clerk explained that it has now been confirmed by the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Council that Gillingham Town Council does not meet all the eligibility criteria for the General Power of Competence. Unfortunately, the town council does not have the required number of elected members.</p> <p>It was agreed and RESOLVED that Gillingham Town Council does not, at this time, meet the eligibility criteria as set out in The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012.</p>
173.	<p>To receive and consider applications for Free Room Hire.</p>
	<p>Applications for Free Room Hire has been received from the following groups:</p> <p>a) Lip Reading (not for profit organisation) Aims and Objectives: to enable people with significant hearing loss to learn to lip read so that they can continue to communicate with other members of the community. Room: Council Chamber Room hire: weekly during term time (Jan to Mar 2020) Value of room hire: 11 weeks x £25 per session = £275</p> <p>b) Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury Lions Club (not for profit organisation) Aims and Objectives: to discuss Lions Club business and fundraising. Room: Council Chamber Room hire: Twice a month Value of Room hire: 24 weeks x £25 per session = £600</p> <p>c) Green Gillingham - a community Climate Emergency group (not for profit) Aims and Objectives: to promote recycling initiatives and a recycling point for crisp packets, toothpaste tubes etc. Room: Chantry Fields office Room hire: Once a fortnight Value of Room hire: 26 weeks x £10 per session = £260</p> <p>It was agreed and RESOLVED that the Lip-Reading group, the Lions Club and the Green Gillingham climate emergency group are permitted free room hire as detailed above.</p> <p>Cllr Cullen and Cllr Von Clemens abstained from voting.</p>
174.	<p>To receive and approve the Quarterly Newsletter prior to circulation.</p>
	<p>It was agreed and RESOLVED to approve the Winter edition of the Quarterly Newsletter for circulation.</p>
175.	<p>To receive details from the Home Office regarding a consultation on Strengthening Police Powers to tackle Unauthorised Encampments. https://bit.ly/2P6WHrM</p>
	<p>The consultation regarding Police Powers is open for comment from now up until Thursday, 5th March 2020. If members wish to comment on this consultation, please contact the Town Clerk.</p>
176.	<p>To receive a report on the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's civic activities.</p>
	<p>Cllr Von Clemens referred to a list of civic activities that he had attended during the last month. Please refer to Appendix D.</p>

177.	To receive matters pertinent to this meeting. Please note: Members are advised that inclusion of any item is at the Chairman's discretion and that a council cannot lawfully decide upon any matter which is not specified in the summons (agenda).
	a) Gillingham Town Council's Five-Year Action Plan: A Five-year Action Plan Workshop has been scheduled for Thursday, 16 th January at 7.30pm. All councillors are encouraged to attend.
	b) Correspondence: 'Thank you' letters have been received from Hipp!!Bones and the Duke of Edinburgh Open Award Centre in respect of the grants that they had recently received from the Town Council.
	c) Long Service Award: The Mayor congratulated Simon Dobie, the Works Manager, on completion of 25 years' service. A Long Service Certificate and gift from staff was presented earlier in the day during a staff meeting.
There being no other business on the agenda, the meeting closed at 8.10pm	
Signed: _____ Date: 27 th January 2020	

The following reports were submitted by Dorset Councillors:

- Dorset Councillor, Val Potheary, gave a verbal report

Town Team

Update Report – December 2019

Author: Cllr Mike Gould

1. Gillingham Business Improvement District

We have had a second positive meeting for Gillingham's BID. It was agreed to hold a meeting for the Chamber of Commerce. We have been offered additional support from Dorset Council. Further meetings will be held to agree detailed procedures and a time scale for a successful outcome.

2. Bournemouth University

We held a further meeting with the three business studies students from Bournemouth University. The University has confirmed that these students will give three months' worth of consultancy support, amounting to 600 hours. The results of this consultancy will form part of each student's degree assessment, which means that the consultation is governed by the university's criteria.

Working with Gillingham Town Team, who's vision is to reinstate the town centre as the dynamic heart of the community, the consultation's aim is to engage with local community groups, supported by extensive research and workshops promoting the town.

It's aims are:

1. To provide critical evaluation of Gillingham Town's local development plans through researching campaigns from other similar local councils and present the findings to the Town Team with suggestions and recommendations.
2. To conduct primary and secondary research to define the community image, the desires of its stakeholders and reviewing various town council's campaigns. These findings and recommendations will be presented to the Town Team by March 2020.
3. By April 2020 the consultation will have designed and engagement opportunity and platform for local businesses and schools to work together based around Champions of Business Enterprise event.
4. By April 2020 it will have created 3 active social media platforms to be run by dedicated users, who will be trained via workshops arranged by the consultation.

5. Meeting with Dorset Council

Town Team had a constructive meeting with Dorset Council, chaired by Dorset Council's Director of Place, John Sellgren. At this meeting Town Team explained its aims and objectives and its constraints. It discussed potential development around Station Road, the High Street and surrounds, and the support levels that can be expected from Dorset Unitary. It was agreed to form a steering committee as soon as possible in the New Year to plan action for agreed support.

6. Planned meeting to wild Chantry Fields

Town Team has agreed a meeting in early January with estate representatives of Sherborne School to look at wilding Chantry Fields and to offer maintenance of its neglected ransom strip of land by the footbridge leading from the Town Meadow to the back of Waitrose.

Minute no. 168 (b)

Gillingham Town Council

Woodwater Farm Sports Facility Task and Finish Group

Author: Cllr Graham Poulter

Council will recall that a joint response from the Football Club and the Council to the Football Foundation's request for clarification regarding the failure to comply with the terms of its grant was to be put before Council for its approval prior to submitting it to the Foundation.

A plan had been prepared by the Club but since then there has been a change in circumstances which means there are several issues which need to be clarified as they may have a bearing on the Foundations requirements and the need for the Football Club to meet them.

Basically, and briefly, the Club sought a voluntary demotion to a lower level (level 7) as it was unable to satisfy the Football Associations requirements (lighting and grandstand).

The Club is currently performing well on the field which, together with a proposed change in the league structure enabling more than one club from the same level 7 league to apply to move up to level 6 provided it finishes in the top 5, puts the Club in a position where it can apply to move to level 6.

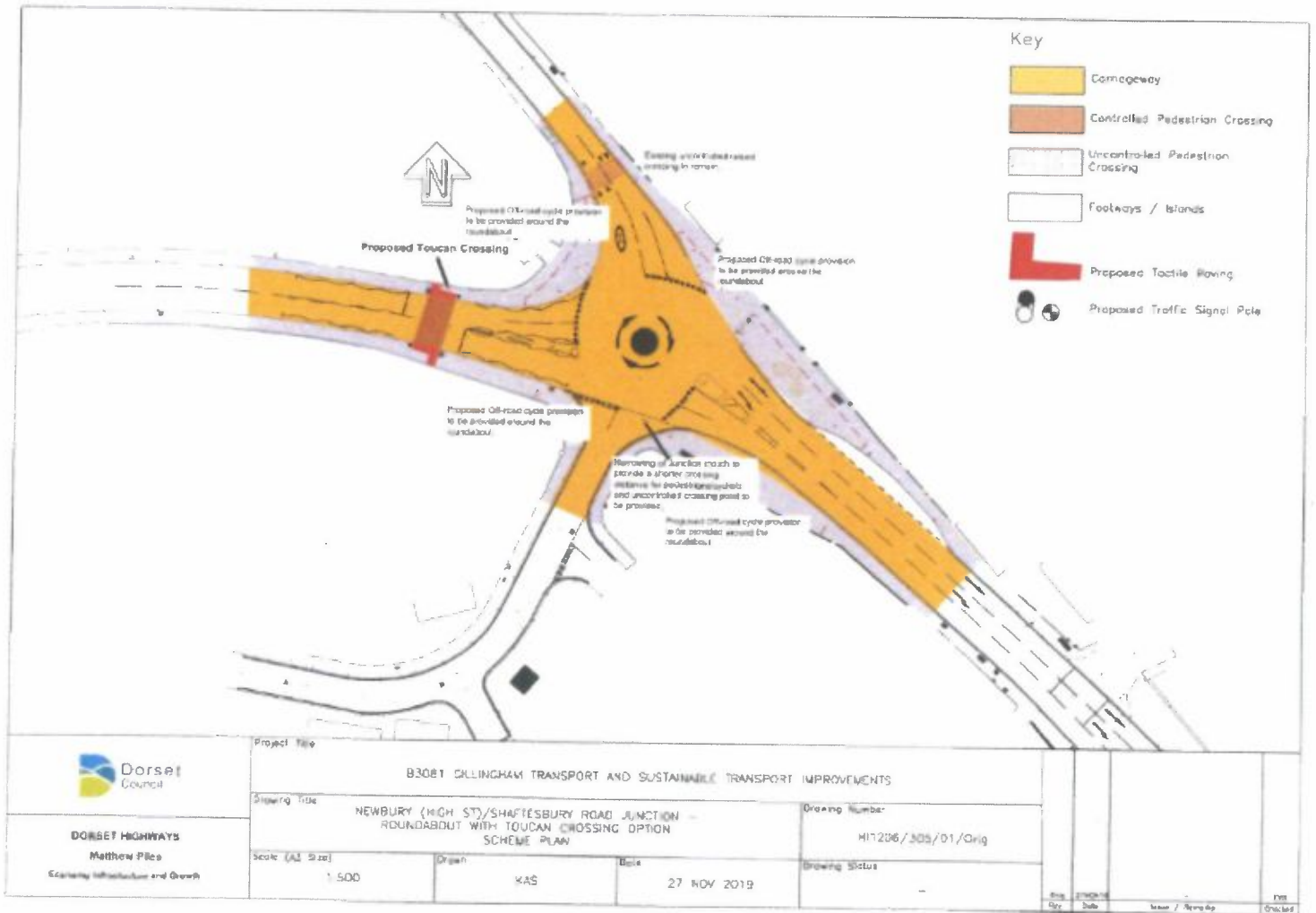
The Club submitted its application last Saturday. As part of the application the ground and its facilities must be inspected and meet certain criteria, which includes the provision of lighting, which as we know is missing, but it may be that there will be no requirement for a covered seated stand. If this turns out to be the case, then it will need to be determined what effect, if any, this will have on the Football Foundations grant and the need to comply with the conditions of the grant or the repayment of any part of it. It is understood the inspection will take place in the New Year.

The Club still must finish in the top 5 in its current League, the Football Association still has to make its final decision as to whether it will allow 2 teams to be promoted and, of course, the ground is to be inspected.

The Football Foundation is not currently pressing for a response and it is proposed, therefore, to delay submitting a joint response until it becomes necessary to do so and to allow the Clubs application to be determined. Once determined the Clubs obligations and the way forward will be clearer.

The Club will still need to increase its fundraising activities to enable it to fund the lighting (and the stand if still required), it has agreed to report on a quarterly basis and the first report will be due in January.

Gillingham Transport and Sustainable Transport Improvements



Gillingham Town Council

Mayor's Report November – December 2019

Date	Event	Comments
27 Nov	Judging Gillingham High Street lights	It was great to see all the Fabulous windows. My fellow judges and I found it very hard to decide the winner. It is great to see this returning to the Chamber of Commerce.
28 Nov	Weldmar's Lite up a Life Service	It is always a very moving occasion as we light a tree to remember those we have lost.
29 Nov	Gillingham's Festive Lights Event	Another fabulous evening enjoyed by all.
30 Nov	Thornegrove festive parade	A lovely event as always great to meet up with everyone at Thornegrove.
30 Nov	Wyke School Christmas Bazar	A busy event with the lovely children's choir keeping us all festive with their singing.
30 Nov	Yeovil's Mayor's Charity Ball	A great evening with some of my fellow mayors from Wiltshire and Somerset. A huge amount of money was raised for charity.
1 Dec	Verwood's Christmas Reception	As always this is a great day with the town band playing for us. We also met the photographer who won the Mayors Christmas card competition and a local potter.
3 Dec	The Vale Network Development	Some interesting things are happening within our local health practices with health champions and much more.
6 Dec	Gillingham Twinning Assoc. Christmas Dinner	Great to join the twinners for their Christmas dinner and to raise some funds.
7 Dec	St Martins Grange Christmas Fayre	I always enjoy a visit to St Martins and to chat to everyone at the fayre.
8 Dec	The Spirit of Christmas	A fabulous event with a good turnout for the market.
8 Dec	Gillingham Car Link's Christmas Party	It was interesting talking to everyone and catch up on the latest news from Car Link over a nice lunch.
12 Dec	100 th Birthday at the Grange	WOW I had the great pleasure to present an amazing lady a bouquet of flowers to mark her 100 th Birthday.
13 Dec	Awards presentation at Guys Marsh	An interesting morning meeting inmates and staff at Guys Marsh and hearing all the latest developments that are happening. I also had the chance to chat to those who took part in Gillingham in Bloom. They look forward to continuing working in partnership with our local communities.