

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
THE TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2015**

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 8.49 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Raymond Armstrong (Town Mayor), Clive Webb (Leader of the Town Council), Roger Bailey, Mark Canniford, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, John Crockford-Hawley, Peter Crew, Clive Darke, James Davis, Peter Fox, Catherine Gibbons, David Hitchins, Jos Holder, Jan Holloway, Michal Kus, Michael Lyall, Derek Mead, Richard Nightingale, Frederick Parsons, Robert Payne, Alan Peak, Lisa Pilgrim, Anita Spencer-Johns, Richard Tucker and Martin Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Tricia Brabham (Committee Officer), Chris Millard (Mayor's Civic Officer), Neil Woollard and Joe Frampton (Tidal Lagoon Power), Garry Hawkes (North Somerset Council), Mandy Bishop (North Somerset Council), Richard Knowles (Weston In Bloom), and Sarah Robinson (Weston & Somerset Mercury).

The Town Mayor invited members to hold a one minute's silence for the victims of the Paris attacks.

The Town Mayor invited questions and observations from parishioners present. There were no questions raised.

197	<p>To receive Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors James Clayton, Ian Porter, Len Purnell and Roz Willis.</p>
198	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
199	<p>To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 14th September 2015.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed and approved.</p>
200	<p>To receive announcements and communications from the Town Mayor</p> <p>The Town Mayor informed members that due to high winds over the weekend the Christmas tree in the Town Centre had been damaged and had been taken down.</p> <p>Between the 14th September and the 15th November 2015 the Mayor had attended 45 engagements and the Deputy Mayor 12. 124 engagements had been attended so far this year. Significant events included the Macmillan Coffee Morning which raised £240.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor John Crockford-Hawley SECONDED BY: Councillor David Hitchins</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That a Christmas tree be planted in the Town Centre</p>

	<i>Father Andrew Hughes joined the meeting 7.20pm</i>
201	<p>Presentation from Neil Woollard, Tidal Lagoon Power</p> <p>Neil Woollard informed members that Tidal Lagoon Power had identified 15 sites around the UK with potential for a lagoon. Swansea Bay, the first site identified had been in development for 4 years. The lagoon would last 120 years and provide 90% of Swansea's domestic use. The presentation included information on how a tidal lagoon works, the benefits to UK industry, the economic impact of a tidal lagoon and the multi-purpose infrastructure. Future lagoons would be developed at Cardiff and other locations in the Severn Estuary and elsewhere.</p> <p>The Mayor invited questions from councillors.</p> <p>In answer to questions, members were advised that with continual investments the technology could last longer than the initial 120 years' prediction. On the environmental impact members were informed that a tidal lagoon would not block the estuary so the impact was different to that of a barrage. Tidal Lagoon Power was working with environmental groups to mitigate potential impacts although much of it was still unknown.</p> <p>Funding and public subsidy was raised, and members were advised that the technology was cheaper than nuclear, comparable to wind. A strike price would be set for 30 years and then unsubsidised energy would be generated for the next 60 years. When questioned, Mr Woollard advised that a Chinese company had been appointed to build the harbour wall.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked Neil Woollard for his presentation.</p> <p><i>Councillor Lyall left the meeting at 7.34pm and rejoined the meeting at 7.37pm.</i></p>
202	<p>Armed Forces Project</p> <p>Information on the Armed Forces Covenant had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Garry Hawkes, Armed Forces Co-ordinator for North Somerset Council, provided members with a summary of his experience within the fire service and armed forces. Members were advised on how issues identified in the Armed Forces Covenant would be addressed.</p> <p>Public events that had raised awareness of the armed forces in Weston-super-Mare were highlighted as was the need for networking and relationship building, the 'Train to Build' initiative which encouraged veterans to help build their houses and the importance of identifying the veterans and the support they needed.</p> <p>When questioned on what issues were specific to Weston-super-Mare, members were advised that some ex-armed forces personnel were sleeping rough and needed support. A member suggested the job centre could have a dedicated officer specifically to provide support and mentoring to ex-armed forces.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked Garry Hawkes for his presentation.</p> <p><i>Councillor Mark Canniford left the meeting at 7.53pm and rejoined the meeting at 7.54pm.</i></p>

203	<p>Community Response Initiative</p> <p>Information on Community Response had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The presentation from Mandy Bishop from North Somerset Council had been requested by Councillor Peter Crew at the Town Council meeting on the 14th September 2015. Councillor Crew was also a North Somerset Councillor and Chairman of the North Somerset Response Group.</p> <p>Mandy Bishop advised members that there was a team of 3 community officers working closely with Police Community Support Officers, the police, various council teams and specialist police teams to deal with issues such as dog fouling, school parking, anti-social behaviour, vulnerable residents, and rogue traders.</p> <p>Members were advised that town councillors could contact the Community Response Team directly, but that the public would need to go through the North Somerset Council switchboard or use the online forms.</p> <p>When questioned on dog fouling, dog on dog attacks, fly tipping and graffiti, members were informed that there had been prosecutions in all these areas except graffiti. Civil enforcement had been increased around dog-fouling and litter. Fixed penalties and enforcements would be issued to repeat offenders.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked Mandy Bishop for her presentation.</p>
204	<p>Public Space Protection Orders</p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that North Somerset Council were keen to find out what problems Town and Parish Councils had in their areas that needed addressing and to introduce Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) to deal with them.</p> <p>The Town Clerk suggested dog fouling, alcohol and anti-social behaviour in Weston Museum needed to be addressed. The museum would be free admission when it reopens and the possibility of anti-social behaviour was a concern to staff.</p> <p>A member suggested that anti-social behaviour in parks and toilets also needed to be addressed with PSPOs. Debate ensued regarding enforcement of the orders and it was hoped that the Community Response Team would ensure better enforcement than in the past.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Sarah Codling</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the Town Clerk respond to the consultation in line with his recommendation that dog fouling control, alcohol control, and anti-social behaviour in Weston Museum need addressing b) That anti-social behaviour in parks and toilets be included in the response.

205	<p>Weston in Bloom, South West in Bloom and National Awards</p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Weston in Bloom had had an outstandingly successful year with a Silver Gilt award for the first time ever at Britain in Bloom, and not only a Gold award at South West in Bloom but also winning the Tesco Cup for the best large floral town in the region.</p> <p>The Mayor presented Richard Knowles, Chair of the Weston-in-Bloom Working Party, with the Tesco Cup. The Tesco Cup was awarded to Weston for being the overall winner or the 'Large Town' category.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: The Mayor SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Council give thanks to Bert and Cynthia Filer together with the volunteers and everyone involved in Weston in Bloom for their outstanding work in providing excellent floral displays in the town.</p>
206	<p>Motion to Council under Standing Order 11 – Tropicana</p> <p>A motion to Council by Councillor Derek Mead had been previously circulated on the agenda as follows:</p> <p>“North Somerset Council be requested to engage with the Town Council by setting up a project team of District and Town councillors to lead in discussion, planning and delivery of any future temporary or permanent use of the site”.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Derek Mead SECONDED BY: Councillor Anita Spencer-Johns</p> <p>Members debated the potential of the Tropicana becoming a swimming pool once again, and whether the Town Council’s involvement would hinder the process.</p> <p>AMENDMENT:</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Martin Williams SECONDED BY: Councillor Sarah Codling</p> <p>“Weston Town Council offers its full support to North Somerset Council (NSC) in relation to their positive future plans to bring the Tropicana back in to use as a major events venue for Weston and the surrounding areas. We also offer to provide any help we can to NSC during this process as we all feel that the time for progress is now and the days of ‘big egos’ and personal publicity stunts are over. Now is the time for action”.</p> <p>Further debate ensued.</p> <p>Members expressed concern that discussions were not moving forwards but in fact going back to where they had been several years ago.</p> <p>A vote was taken and the amendment was lost (3 in favour and 16 against).</p> <p>A vote was taken on the original motion and it was carried (19 for and 0 against).</p>

	<p>Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: “North Somerset Council be requested to engage with the Town Council by setting up a project team of District and Town councillors to lead in discussion, planning and delivery of any future temporary or permanent use of the site”.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.49 p.m.</p> <p>Signed: Dated: Town Mayor</p>