

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Held on 6th December 2018 in the Council Chamber at 7.15 pm

Present :

Councillor P Batstone

Councillor L Chater

Councillor A Donaldson

Councillor C Fraser

Councillor H Lacey (Mayor)

Councillor G Rose

Councillor C Spackman

Councillor R Taylor

Absent: Councillor V Fox, Councillor M Jones (Deputy Mayor), Councillor H Reed

In attendance: Mrs Emma Lindsay (Town Clerk), Miss Kate Squire,
3 members of the public were present.

Minute No. COMMENTS

RESOLUTION

for each item the proposer is named first followed by the seconder

18/313 PUBLIC SESSION

Richard Brown, representing the project to get Dorset and East Devon nominated as a National Park, presented the Glover Review. A discussion took place – Mr Brown answered questions and encouraged the Town Council to respond to the on-line consultation. Councillors Lacey and Spackman volunteered to complete the questionnaire on behalf of the Town Council.

18/314 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fox, Jones and Reed. These apologies were accepted by the Members present.

18/315 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

No interests were declared and consequently no written requests for dispensation had been received.

18/316 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st November 2018, having been circulated and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Cllr Rose
Cllr Taylor

18/317 APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS

i Planning and Environment – The minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 15th November 2018 had been circulated and publicised in draft form.

There were no recommendations to approve.

ii. Finance and Personnel – The minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee held on 22nd November 2018 had been circulated and publicised in draft form.

The Council RESOLVED to approve the recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Rose
Cllr Taylor

Chair's initials



18/318 FINANCIAL MATTERS

i. Approval of Payments

The list of payments detailed below and checked by Cllrs Fraser and Taylor were **APPROVED**.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Taylor

ii. Budget Comparison as at 1st December 2018

The Budget Comparison as at 1st December 2018 was noted.

iii. Budget Virements

There were no budget virements to consider.

18/319 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1	<i>Plan Number</i> 2018/11/06	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2018/1678/HOUSE	<i>Site Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> Mrs A Hicks Kimber	<i>House Name</i> 4 Chivrick Close	<i>Road</i>
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT101QJ

Erect single storey extension

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections

Cllr Spackman
Cllr Donaldson

2	<i>Plan Number</i> 2018/11/06	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2018/1388/HOUSE	<i>Site Reference</i>
	<i>Other Reference</i>		
	<i>Applicant</i> Mrs Carpenter	<i>House Name</i> Second Floor Flat	<i>Road</i> 36 Market Place
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT101AR

Remove and replace some windows to South and West elevations.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: Objection on the grounds of inappropriate materials proposed for window frames for a building in a conservation area.

Cllr Spackman
Cllr Fraser

3	<i>Plan Number</i> 2018/11/06	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2018/1389/LBC	<i>Site Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> Mrs Carpenter	<i>House Name</i> Second Floor Flat	<i>Road</i> 36 Market Place
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT101AR

Remove and replace some windows to South and West elevations and carry out associated internal/external alterations.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: Objection on the grounds of inappropriate materials proposed for window frames for a building in a conservation area.

Cllr Spackman
Cllr Fraser

Chair's initials



4 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference*
 2018/11/07

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>
Lt Col E W David and Lady Bill	Stourcastle Lodge	Goughs Close
<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>
Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101BU

Erect single storey extension to form garden room and porch extension and carry out

internal and external alterations associated to this.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Rose

5 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference*
 2018/11/08

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>
Lt Col E W David and Lady Bill	Stourcastle Lodge	Goughs Close
<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>
Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101BU

Erect single storey extension to form garden room and porch extension.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Rose

6 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference*
 2018/11/09 2/2018/1511/LBC

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
Christian Eyres	30 Church Street		
<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	
Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101DB	

Regularisation of structural works undertaken to prevent roof collapse and carry out any

other associated internal alterations.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Spackman

7 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference*
 2018/11/10 2/2018/1560

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>
Mr Gary Mullins	Boscobel	Manston Road
<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>
Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101FH

Erect 1 no. dwelling, form vehicular access (from Bull Ground Lane) and parking spaces.

Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections but the Council would make the comment: Would like the materials

used for the garage to comply with the requirements of the Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Spackman
Cllr Rose

Chair's initials



8	<i>Plan Number</i> 2018/11/11	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2018/1645/FUL	<i>Site Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> A & K Autos	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i> A357
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT102HP

Erect extension to workshop.**Sturminster Newton Town Council Comment: No Objections**Cllr Taylor
Cllr Spackman

- 18/320 DECIDE WHAT COMMENT TO MAKE TO THE GLOVER REVIEW REGARDING NATIONAL PARKS
Cllrs Lacey and Spackman were delegated to make comment to the Glover Review on behalf of the Council. It was made clear that Councillors could also submit their own comments individually.
- 18/321 APPROVE THE REVISED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN TIMETABLE
The Council resolved to ACCEPT the revised Neighbourhood Plan Timetable.
- 18/322 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
District Councillor Fox's report, having been previously circulated, is included at the end of these minutes.
- 18/323 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
County Councillor Batstone's report, having been previously circulated, is included at the end of these minutes.
- 18/324 TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT
Cllr Lacey reported that the Remembrance Service and Beacon Lighting had gone very well, as had the recent Santa Stride with around 320 entrants. She had also visited the Stour Castle site with the Town Clerk, Grounds Manager and the Community Highways Team Leader to review the parking situation there.
- 18/325 DAPTC AND NALC
No reports for Members' attention had been received.
- 18/326 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
The Town Clerk confirmed that the budget had now been finalised. She reported that the Station Road enhancements are due to start on the 7th January. The Planning and Environment committee meeting scheduled for the 20th December 2018 has been cancelled. The Town Council office will be closed from 12.30 Friday 21st December and will re-open on 0930 Wednesday 2nd January 2019. The Grounds staff has a phased work schedule over the festive period.
- 18/327 CORRESPONDENCE
The Town Clerk reported that she had received correspondence regarding permission to hold a Circus in the Town. The Town Council will consider suitable locations and respond to the organiser as appropriate. There was also a letter from the Community Building Trust regarding the Frink Head. The Town Clerk suggested this be considered as a future agenda item. A Planning Workshop is being run by the DAPTC. The Councillors felt that it would be useful to have clarification on a number of issues. The Assistant Town Clerk will look into availability and book spaces.

Cllr Batstone
Cllr Rose

Chair's initials



18/328 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Batstone advised she is still working with the Youth Parliamentarian on ways to engage with the youth in Sturminster Newton. She explained that the Town Teams Christmas event had been affected by the threatened bad weather, meaning a number of market stalls did not attend.

Cllr Fraser commented that the flow of traffic at Glue Hill was much improved.

Cllr Chater shared concerns regarding an issue with the hedge at Northfields. The Town Clerk suggested this be put on the agenda for consideration at the next Amenities Committee meeting.

Cllr Donaldson reported that the School Development subcommittee for William Barnes Primary had been disbanded due to information received that a new Multi Academy Trust would not be possible. He also voiced concern over a land slip on the North Dorset Business Park. *Cllr Batstone* advised this was being dealt with by the County Council.

Cllr Spackman advised that he was working several projects regarding the towns Economic Development Plan and that the Car Event was growing steadily.

Cllr Lacey advised that the Atom Club had unfortunately closed which was a great shame. She added that the road works signs for Rivers Corner should be removed on Friday.

18/329 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FOR CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

In exercise of the power conferred by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1(2) the Committee RESOLVED that members of the public and press be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted being of a confidential nature it is likely that personal and/or exempt information would otherwise be improperly disclosed and members would feel unable to discuss the matter freely.

Cllr Taylor
Cllr Rose

18/330 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The confidential matter of the Town Council Meeting held on the 1st November 2018 having been circulated prior to the meeting was taken as read and APPROVED for signature by the Chair as a true and correct record.

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Taylor

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Sturminster Newton Town Council

BACS Payments 06/12/18 - approval list

year 01/04/18

Start of

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1918BACS1812	£2,640.00 12A	£440.00	£2,200.00	30/11/18	Maverick Industries - 2.5% Retention Release end of DLP	£2,640.00

Chair's initials



Minute Book Number 2761

1928BACS1812£375.00 12B	£0.00	£375.00	04/12/18	Fair Account - Internal Audit and Initial Financial Risk Assesment	£375.00
1929BACS1812 £90.72 12C	£15.12	£75.60	06/12/18	Sturminster Newton Building Supplies - Post Installation Materials	
1930BACS1812 £39.95 12C	£6.66	£33.29	14/11/18	Sturminster Newton Building Supplies - Safety Trainer - N Curtis	
1931BACS1812 £30.46 12C	£5.08	£25.38	15/11/18	Sturminster Newton Building Supplies - Maintenance Sundries	
1932BACS1812 £15.59 12C	£2.60	£12.99	20/11/18	Sturminster Newton Building Supplies - Vehicle and Maintenance Sundries	£176.72
1933BACS1812 £19.00 12D	£3.17	£15.83	23/11/18	DCM Tyres (Wessex) Ltd - Puncture Repair	£19.00
1934BACS1812 £66.00 12E	£11.00	£55.00	01/12/18	Vision ICT Ltd - Biennial fee for .gov.uk domain renewal Feb 19 to Jan 21	£66.00
1935BACS1812£132.56 12F	£15.75	£116.81	30/11/18	The Exchange - Recharges November 2018	£132.56
1 £58.69	£9.78	£48.91	OA	Electricity	
2 £5.81	£0.97	£4.84	OA	Alarms	
3 £20.79	£0.00	£20.79	OA	Water	
4 £27.41	£4.57	£22.84	OA	Gas	
5 £2.60	£0.43	£2.17	OA	Refuse	
6 £17.26	£0.00	£17.26	OA	Insurance	
1936BACS1812£816.00 12G	£136.00	£680.00	20/11/18	Dorset County Council - Removal of Conifer Hedge	£816.00
1937BACS1812£196.00 12H	£0.00	£196.00	21/11/18	Society Of Local Council Clerks - Subscription 2019	£196.00
1938BACS1812£135.10 12J	£22.52	£112.58	03/12/18	DC Garden Machinery - Service to Echo Blower	£135.10
1939BACS1812 £87.72 12K	£14.62	£73.10	19/11/18	Northover G & Sons Ltd - Fuel	
1940BACS1812 £22.16 12K	£1.06	£21.10	04/12/18	Northover G & Sons Ltd - Fuel	£109.88
1941BACS1812£180.41 12L	£30.07	£150.34	30/11/18	Lyreco Uk Ltd - Stationery	£180.41
1942BACS1812 £68.57 12M	£11.43	£57.14	30/11/18	Hart & Sons (Dorset) Ltd - Vehicle and Maintenance Sundries	£68.57
1943BACS1812 £85.19 12N	£4.05	£81.14	04/12/18	Southern Electric - Electricity Street Lighting	
1944BACS1812 £16.73 12N	£0.80	£15.93	06/12/18	Southern Electric - Electricity Street Lighting	£101.92
1945BACS1812£575.00 12P	£0.00	£575.00	06/12/18	Bournemouth & Poole College - IOSH training course	£575.00
1946BACS1812£9,089.10 12Q	£1,514.85	£7,574.25	13/11/18	Philip Hughes Associates - SN Mill Project 75% of fee	£9,089.10

Chair's initials



Total £14,681.26 £2,234.78 £12,446.48

Sturminster Newton Town Council

Direct Debits November 2018

Start of

year 01/04/18

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1903DD181101E	£332.94 A	£55.49	£277.45	15/11/18	Prodigy PC - Monthly billing for November	£332.94
1904DD181101B	£427.00	£0.00	£427.00	03/12/18	North Dorset District Council - Office Business Rates	£427.00
1905DD181101C	£149.00	£0.00	£149.00	03/12/18	North Dorset District Council - Cemetery Business Rates	£149.00
1906DD181115D	£15.60	£0.00	£15.60	15/11/18	Bankline - Bank Charges	£15.60
1907DD181115E	£240.00	£0.00	£240.00	03/12/18	North Dorset District Council - Public Toilets Business Rates	£240.00
1908DD181119F	£58.94	£2.81	£56.13	04/11/18	Total Gas & Power Ltd - Fuel	£58.94
1909DD181121G	£140.76	£23.46	£117.30	07/11/18	British Telecommunications Plc - Workshop Phone	£140.76
1910DD181121H	£24.62	£1.17	£23.45	06/11/18	Total Gas & Power Ltd - Public Toilets Electricity	£24.62
1911DD181121I	£32.46	£1.54	£30.92	06/11/18	Total Gas & Power Ltd - The Mill Electricity	£32.46
1912DD181121J	£76.62	£3.64	£72.98	06/11/18	Total Gas & Power Ltd - The Pavilion Electricity	£76.62
1913DD181121K	£16.65	£0.79	£15.86	06/11/18	Total Gas & Power Ltd - Town Clock Electricity	£16.65
1914DD181127L	£126.08	£21.01	£105.07	20/11/18	Harvest Energy - Fuel	£126.08
1915DD181130M	£15.73	£0.00	£15.73	03/11/18	Natwest Bank Plc - Bank Charges	£15.73
1917DD181130N	£7,708.76	£0.00	£7,708.76	30/11/18	Public Works Loan Board - Loan Repayments	£7,708.76
1E2,642.99		£0.00	£2,642.99	OA	Former Offices	
2E5,065.77		£0.00	£5,065.77	OA	Workshop Refurbishment	
1916DD181130P	£654.78	£109.13	£545.65	01/11/18	Isuzu Contract Hire - Monthly Lease Hire	£654.78
Total		£10,019.94	£219.04			£9,800.90

Sturminster Newton Town Council

Salaries November 2018

Total: £10,739.02

Chair's initials

Financial Budget Comparison

Comparison between 01/04/18 and 30/11/18 inclusive.
Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/18

	2018/2019	Actual Net	Balance	
INCOME				
Office & Administration				
100	Precept	£277,182.00	£277,182.00	£0.00
105	Contributions to Expenditure	£970.00	£0.00	-£970.00
110	Interest - Public Sector Deposit Fund	£150.00	£241.70	£91.70
115	Interest - Bath Building Society	£150.00	£0.00	-£150.00
120	Chamber hire	£800.00	£105.00	-£695.00
125	Grants received	£0.00	£788.00	£788.00
130	Photocopying, printing, etc.	£5.00	£0.00	-£5.00
135	Insurance Settlements	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
140	VAT reclaimed	£0.00	£3,298.49	£3,298.49
199	Other	£0.00	£184.20	£184.20
Total Office & Administration		£279,257.00	£281,799.39	-£2,542.39
Amenities & Services				
200	Recreation Grounds	£4,250.00	£1,491.28	-£2,758.72
205	Cemetery	£4,500.00	£2,515.00	-£1,985.00
210	Agency Agreements	£6,200.00	£240.00	-£5,960.00
215	Street cleansing	£9,000.00	£0.00	-£9,000.00
220	Contributions	£625.00	£10,466.29	£9,841.29
225	Allotments	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
299	Other	£0.00	£4,770.00	£4,770.00
Total Amenities & Services		£24,575.00	£19,482.57	£5,092.43
Capital Projects				
300	Developer Contributions	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
399	Other contributions, grants & donations	£0.00	£1,650.05	£1,650.05
Total Capital Projects		£0.00	£1,650.05	-£1,650.05
Total Income		£303,832.00	£302,932.01	-£899.99
EXPENDITURE				
Office & Administration				
1000	Office staff payroll	£91,938.00	£63,926.92	£28,011.08
1010	Office premises	£8,446.00	£5,370.01	£3,075.99
1020	Office facilities & operations	£13,390.00	£6,196.53	£7,193.47
1030	Insurance	£7,004.00	£7,505.44	-£501.44
1040	Bank Charges	£515.00	£198.08	£316.92
1045	Professional fees	£5,150.00	£3,775.00	£1,375.00
1050	Civic & ceremonial	£1,700.00	£374.98	£1,325.02
1060	Training	£3,090.00	£1,780.01	£1,309.99
1070	Subscriptions	£1,227.00	£1,043.74	£183.26
1080	Loan repayments	£15,418.00	£15,417.52	£0.48
1090	VAT paid	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
1999	Other	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Chair's initials



3050	Petty Cash	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Office & Administration		£147,878.00	£105,588.23	-£42,289.77
Amenities & Services				
2000	Grounds staff payroll	£116,826.00	£70,530.33	£46,295.67
2010	Workshop premises	£2,652.00	£1,866.70	£785.30
2020	Grounds operations	£10,249.00	£11,560.33	-£1,311.33
2030	Sports pavilion & facilities	£2,395.00	£1,918.60	£476.40
2040	Town Clock	£546.00	£123.99	£422.01
2050	Play facilities	£8,652.00	£350.00	£8,302.00
2060	Gardens & ornamental	£1,251.00	£737.92	£513.08
2070	Car Parks	£103.00	£0.00	£103.00
2080	Public toilets	£10,197.00	£3,420.19	£6,776.81
2090	Allotments	£52.00	£59.58	-£7.58
2100	Cemetery	£1,906.00	£1,245.05	£660.95
2110	Sturminster Mill	£3,502.00	£3,074.16	£427.84
2120	Footway lighting	£4,069.00	£4,272.80	-£203.80
2130	Town Centre	£412.00	£114.90	£297.10
2140	Open Spaces	£2,163.00	£0.00	£2,163.00
2150	Benches & Other Infrastructure	£206.00	£0.00	£206.00
2160	Events & Festivals	£309.00	£472.00	-£163.00
2170	Rights of Way	£1,288.00	£0.00	£1,288.00
2180	Traffic management	£515.00	£0.00	£515.00
2190	Tree management	£1,545.00	£0.00	£1,545.00
2999	Other	£0.00	£1.00	-£1.00
Total Amenities & Services		£168,838.00	£99,747.55	-£69,090.45
Capital Projects				
3000	Section 137	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
3010	Grants	£4,481.00	£1,250.00	£3,231.00
3020	Skate Bowl Project	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
3030	Neighbourhood Development Plan	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
3035	WW1 Centenary Commemoration	£0.00	£982.00	-£982.00
3040	Economic Development Plan	£0.00	£10,000.00	-£10,000.00
3045	Community Resource Support	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Capital Projects		£4,481.00	£12,232.00	£7,751.00
Total Expenditure		£321,197.00	£217,567.78	£103,629.22
Total Income		£303,832.00	£302,932.01	-£899.99
Total Expenditure		£321,197.00	£217,567.78	£103,629.22
Funded by reserves			£0.00	
Total Net Balance		-£17,365.00	£85,364.23	

Approved on

3/1/19.

Signature



Chair's initials



18/322` District Councillor's report November 2018.

Early in the month I attended the Planning Committee and although there were no local issues, we had to debate a speculative application on the edge of Hazelbury Bryan where the deciding factor became the Neighbourhood Plan which was in its late stages and members took the decision to refuse as the site was not included in the plan.

There was a short meeting of the full Council to adopt the Fontmell Magna Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr V Fox. NDDC.

18/323 County Councillor's report November 2018.

The month began with me having to give my apologies to the Dorset Community Action Board in order to attend an Appeal against Dismissal at the County Council – I am one of I think four people who have been trained to do this. As a Committee Chairman I am also required to take part in the selection of the second tier officers for the new authority and attended training for this early in the month.

I attended a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board when all Board Members were invited to sign DCC's Pledge to our children in care. In particular the Board required to be reassured that children coming into care receive a health assessment at the earliest possible point, although this is not always easy for reasons of distance and priority – there may well be a lot else going on for a young person and their foster parents at that time. We also received an update on the auditing of child care cases which the Department are undertaking to ensure standards are maintained.

Unfortunately I was not able to attend the Trailway Group AGM but I did meet members of the Shillingstone Railway Trust early in the month to hear more of their hopes to extend the railway, ultimately to Sturminster Newton. I also understand negotiations are continuing to fund the trailway on the recently purchased land on the west side of Stur.

I undertook two Councillor's Surgeries in the month - one in Pulham where the Parish Clerk and members of the Parochial Church Council came to update me on events in the village relating to the on going sewage problems and also that the church has been closed because of safety fears. The following week was the Pulham six monthly Meeting when a speaker from Stonewater Housing Association and a colleague came to update residents on how they plan to resolve the sewage problems. The residents remain sceptical of both what is to be done and the cost given the 20 year history of the problem. The church meanwhile can be used providing the dangerous section is avoided. The second surgery was our usual Stur. Town Councillors surgery in The Exchange with my colleagues. I also attended the Mud Pie Café in Okeford Fitzpaine which is a chance to meet residents there, and similarly the Hilton Church Coffee morning. I was not able to make the Ansty Coffee morning again, unfortunately. I also had to send my apologies to four Parish Councils this

Chair's initials



month as they three meet on the same night when I had to chair a meeting elsewhere and similarly one other clashed with a meeting I had to report to.

I chaired a meeting of the Dorset Race Equality Council Board and am very relieved at the progress the Chief Executive and staff are making at getting the Council back on track after a difficult two years. We are currently advertising for someone to take over from me as Chairman which I have done for two years. We are also looking for more Board Members as we have lost some for various reasons. I was not able to attend the Dorset Forum for Equality and Diversity this time due to other commitments, but normally I am expected to chair that in my role as Equality and Diversity Champion for DCC. I have also attended one meeting of the Diocesan Gypsy and Traveller Chaplain's Support Group and one meeting of the Diocesan Social Responsibility Committee.

I have attended one Shadow Executive Council Meeting to receive an update on progress to setting up the new authority and also to support Weymouth's bid to develop the Peninsula (the quay) with a hotel and cafes, and one Informal Shadow Executive. I will also have attended two Organisational Transformation Boards by the end of the month. Discussions about the transfer of assets and the setting up of the Weymouth Town Council have taken up quite a bit of the agenda. I note that we are to receive a report on the library service this coming Tuesday. I have been in discussion with the local Library Area Manager about their failure to recruit to the Part-time Manager post left vacant when Sandy Roberts retired. It seems we will have a temporary Manager shared with another library until March and I fear this may become a permanent arrangement. The library service have said they aim for the libraries to become rather more of resource centres for the local community and places where meetings can be held, rather than just a place to borrow books, although that remains of vital importance. The County Council itself met earlier this month and this was an occasion to say goodbye to Chief Executive Debbie Ward who leaves at the end of November. The Chief Executive of the Dorset Council Matt Prosser is increasingly taking up the reins to move the new Council forward.

Pauline Batstone

County Councillor for the Blackmore Vale Division.



3/1/19

Chair's initials

