

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TOILET WORKING GROUP AT CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL,
44 OLD STREET, CLEVEDON, BS21 6BU ON MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2015 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT

Councillor D. Shopland Chairman;
Councillors: - S. Hale, L. Little, G. Watkins, J. West
In Attendance Cllrs C. Blades, T.Morgan
Paula Heath Town Clerk

Proposed by the Chairman and AGREED by the Committee members to start the meeting at 7.24pm

PTWG15/32 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs D. Flint & J. Geldart

PTWG15/33 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no disclosable or personal interests declared for items on the agenda.

PTWG15/34 RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members received and agreed the minutes of the last meeting of the working group held on 13th July 2015, which had been deferred for ratification at the Council meeting held on 26th August and would be presented at the 21st October meeting. These were signed by the Chairman as a true record

PTWG 15/35 RECEIVE AND NOTE THE DRAFT REPORT TO COUNCIL (ON MEMBERS AREA ON THE WEB SITE)

Members received, accepted and noted the report which had been circulated with the agenda which was available on the member's area of the web site.

Cllr Morgan and Cllr Blades arrived during the following discussion

PTWG 15/36 TO DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION ON THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS IN THE REPORT

Agenda items 5 a-j was discussed by agreement as single agenda item

The Chairman explained that as there was a new Council it would be good to take a fresh look at the whole toilet discussion and agree a way forward. The only decision and recommendation that the working group can make tonight was in respect of Station Road Toilets as there were legal and ownership issues with the other toilets that need to be resolved before any decisions could be made.

15/36.1 Station Road

Members discussed the options in the report at length.

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL by 3 votes to 0** that:-

- 1) Healthmatic be requested to cost up an option to place a unisex toilet in the former disabled unit and reset up the gents toilet for two cubical and a trough urinal.
- 2) That the door to the gent's and new unisex toilets be a charged entry
- 3) That the Council seeks the funding for the additional toilets from the Public Works Loan Board.
- 4) That due to the above St Andrew House charity is informed that the area is not available for a take-away café.

15/36.2 Pier Copse Ladies

Members were informed by the Chairman that there were issues concerning the handing over of the site, although NSC have written to confirm that the site was reserved for Clevedon Town Council for public toilets. The Chairman suggested that Cllr Garner a former town councillor and a current NS councillor should work with the Chairman at North Somerset Council to negotiate conditions for the handing over of the site or relocation of the site of the toilets to a more accessible location for the disabled toilets. The Town Clerk reminded members that there would need to be a formal resolution by the Committee, ratified by Council to enable Cllr Garner to undertake this role. It was suggested that if the toilets were to remain in the current location the path from Copse Road entrance would need to be upgraded so that the disabled toilet could be accessed via the Copse Road park entrance as the access path from Alexandra Road was too steep for some wheelchairs.

The current toilet building would need a structural survey to establish the state of the building following the comments made in the NSC structural survey included in the report.

15/36.3 Alexandra Road – Gents

Members noted that the front privacy wall was in a poor state and would need demolition and rebuild. Members felt that this should be a 24/7 available gents urinal.

Members were minded that the Pier visitors centre is due to be completed at the end of the year and therefore they would cease their licence with NSC to maintain the toilets at that time. It was noted that written confirmation had been received from the Pier that the toilets would only be accessible from the Pier. A question was raised as to the access to the café and whether this also would only be from the Pier or if there would be access from the street. [note: planning drawings show only pier access].

In response to a question it was explained that the Council had tried to set up a scheme to allow access by the public to shop and café toilets in the area but even with a financial incentive there was no take up.

15/36.4 Sixways

The report had explained the current situation as to the lease. The Chairman was working with NSC legal team in respect of transferring the lease to the Town Council either in entirety or as a sub-let. The interior of the toilets had been stripped and would need complete redesign and refit.

15/36.5 Sailing Club

Members discussed the sighting of complete new toilet block adjacent to the Sailing Club, giving additional facilities.

Members decided on several options, future actions and ideas that they would like to investigate in more detail, subject to Council's decisions, taking into consideration the future proofing of the provision in the town.

Pier Copse Ladies

- Commission an up to date structural survey on the current toilet building.
- discuss the co-opting of Cllr Garner to the working group and safeguarding the Council and Councillors from conflict of interest problems.
- Cllr Shopland & Cllr Garner to discuss and negotiate the transfer of the current toilet site with NSC
- Cllr Shopland & Cllr Garner to discuss and negotiate the possible excavation and relocating of the toilets to a lower level.
- Obtain prices to either reuse current building or new building on current location

- Obtain prices to excavate and build a new toilet block at road level

Alexander Road Gents

- Obtain prices to refit for a 24/7 available urinal.

Sixways

- Cllr Shopland to investigate with NSC Lawyers possible challenge to the non-transfer of the lease.
- Obtain prices to install a unisex and urinal in the current building.

Sailing Club

- Establish what local services exist
- Discuss with NSC the possibility of building a new purpose built toilet adjacent to the Sailing Club
- Obtain prices for a new build.

It was **AGREED** that the above options, actions, and ideas would be investigated by the working group and reported back to the Council for a final decision prior to any funding being raised to enable a comprehensive plan being drawn up of public toilet provision in the town.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Chairman Date