

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TOILET WORKING GROUP AT CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL,  
44 OLD STREET, CLEVEDON, BS21 6BU ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016 @ 7.30PM**

**PRESENT**

Councillor D. Shopland Chairman;  
Councillors: - J. Geldart, S. Hale, L. Little, T. Morgan, G. Watkins J. West  
In attendance Paula Heath Town Clerk. Cllr N. Barton

**PTWG16/60 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies given

**PTWG16/61 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

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

*The Chairman proposed taking agenda item 4 first*

**PTWG 16/62 DISCUSS THE COST OF MAKING STATION ROAD TOILETS FREE AT THE POINT OF USE AND COUNCIL RESOLUTION 16/653 FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF FURTHER INFORMATION; DECIDE IF AN AMENDED RESOLUTION SHOULD BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL.**

Members discussed at length the figures circulated with the agenda in respect of the cost to provide toilets free at the point of use. The Town Clerk explained in detail to members the figures circulated. Concern was expressed at the cost to provide new gents toilets in Queen Square and the ongoing costs to maintain them and make them free at the point of use.. It was noted that the charge of 20p had been in place for 2 years and that residents were aware and use to the charge. it was expressed that the majority of the users of the Station Road toilets were local people who use them whilst doing their shopping and banking but it was unknown if more people would use the town centre if the toilets were "free".

A motion was proposed and seconded that the Station Road toilets should be made free at the point of use. Vote 3 for and 3 against with 1 abstention; the Chairman refused to use his casting vote.

Members proposed that the Council should make the decision as to whether Station Road toilets should be free at the point of use.

**PTWG 16/63 DISCUSS THE TENDERS AND AMENDED COSTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TOILETS IN STATION ROAD; TO CONFIRM PREFERRED CONTRACTOR AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL.**

The costs for the additional gents' toilets in Station Road and the estimated ongoing yearly cost had been circulated with the agenda. There was considerable concern at the cost of the project and future cost that would fall on the taxpayers. Members noted that there was not a high demand in respect of Station Road toilets as the residents who attended the Council meeting and signed the petition had been in respect of the seafront toilets. Concern was also expressed at the inequality of the service with gentlemen having 2 cubicles and 3 urinals plus use of the unisex disabled and ladies only having the use of

one dedicated toilet (if the current unisex was changed to ladies) and the unisex disabled toilet. Members were reminded by the Chairman that they could only discuss Station Road Toilets and that a recommendation to Council was required. Members discussed whether the proposal could be amended to just install 1 urinal in the former disabled toilet; they were informed, by the Chairman, that the proposal was as stood and that any adjustments could only be made by the Council. Without cost members felt they could not make a recommendation to Council. Members felt that a direction by Council was needed before any future costs were obtained

The option to have a "free" urinal whilst charging for the unisex/ladies and unisex disabled was questioned. The Town Clerk explained that council could decide on the charging schedule but that option, as detailed, would be in breach of the Equalities and Disability Acts.

A motion was proposed that due to the cost and the inequality of the service being provided that the Council does not go ahead with the alterations and retains the toilets as they are with a view to relook at the total provision when the current maintenance contract ends; this was defeated by 2 votes for and 3 against.

Proposed, seconded and **RECOMMENDED to COUNCIL** by 5 votes to 0 with Cllr Morgan abstaining that the Council accepts company D's quotation to provide 2 cubicles and 3 urinals in the former gents toilets at Station Road Toilets.

The Town Clerk informed members that there was an issue in respect of the disabled toilets in the Chalet; it was agreed this would go on a future agenda.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman ..... Date .....