



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

9 JANUARY 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Jason Mack (Chair), Leigh Geddes, Tony Marvin, Delian Backhouse-Fry, Ken Knapman, Ed Gouge, Stewart Blackmore.

No. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There were four members of the public present.
- b) Judy Ballinger raised issues about the performance of Island Roads and the Mayor responded with details of recent approaches the Town Council has made to them and that further information is expected soon.
- c) She went on to ask about developments with the Ventnor Central site and the Mayor said that there is a multi-agency site meeting on 17 January to discuss progress.

1/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Lucas, Jim Toogood, Harry Rees and Steve Stubbings.

2/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor Declared an Interest in respect of Agenda item 8.

3/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 12 December 2016, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 20 December 2016 were noted.

4/17 POLICE REPORT

- a) Sergeant Richard Hindle attended the meeting partly in response to recent events of concern to the town and partly to introduce himself as the Ventnor-based Sergeant.
- b) He told the meeting that the team is developing a strategy to address some recent behaviours that have gained a high profile as he and his colleagues are committed to maintaining a safe environment and will feed back to a future meeting on progress.
- c) Councillor Stewart Blackmore asked about the relevance of CCTV and whose responsibility any use of that technology would be. Sergeant Hindle said that it is hoped that all licensed premises will soon have high quality CCTV in place and that the available temporary deployable cameras would be used from time to time.
- d) Councillor Ken Knapman said that everyone had been devastated by the recent death and he thought the Town Council should consider its own installations.

5/17 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (1/17) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 December 2016 and a list of all payments made during December 2016.

b) Also included was a listing of budget variances for the first nine months of the financial year.

It was unanimously proposed by Councillor Ken Knapman, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that:
the Finance Report be accepted.

6/17 PUBLIC TOILETS EXPENDITURE

- a) Report 2/17 for this meeting identified the costs for the first year of the Town Council's management of the Esplanade, Ventnor Park and Marlborough Road Toilets as the basis for discussion of the required Budget provision for 2017/18.
- b) Councillor Ed Gouge welcomed the improvement in standards since the Town Council took on direct responsibility for their maintenance.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:
agrees a Budget Provision for the management of the Town's Public Toilets of £40,000 for 2017/18.

7/17 YOUTH OFFER APPLICATION

- a) The Isle of Wight Council's decision to extend its Youth Offer provision with a grant fund of £185k for a 2017/18 programme is based on a Prospectus inviting bids of up to £20k that include match funding. A copy of the Prospectus is attached to Report 3/17.
- b) The importance of sustaining the range of youth opportunities that has been established to date by the Youth Offer programme was widely acknowledged.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Ed Gouge and unanimously resolved that the Town Council agrees to:

- i) submit an application in response to the Prospectus for Youth Offer funding for 2017/18; and
 - ii) commit an element of match funding in kind or cash up to a maximum of £5,000.
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8/17 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL BUDGET 2017/18

- a) The Town Clerk reported on his attendance earlier today at a consultation meeting on the Isle of Wight Council's Budget proposals for 2017/18 for Town and Parish Council Clerks at County Hall, expressing his disappointment that no detail of the proposals for achieving the £7.5M of cuts required to balance the Budget had been made available,
- b) Councillor Stewart Blackmore said the absence of figures is disgraceful.

It was unanimously resolved that the Town Council:
responds to the current public consultation once the detail of the cuts is made available.

9/17 PRIMARY CARE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

- a) A copy of the Draft Primary Care Strategy issued for consultation by the Island's Clinical Commissioning Group had been previously circulated to Members with Report 5/17 for this meeting.
- b) It was noted that the impact of the Strategy would be more significant for the surrounding rural towns and villages than for Ventnor itself.

It was proposed by Councillor Stewart Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Delian Backhouse-Fry and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:

- i) asks the Parish Councils of Niton & Whitwell and Wroxall for their views on the proposals;
 - ii) asks the town's General Practitioner Surgeries for their views on the proposals;
 - iii) invites the Strategy's author to attend the Town Council meeting of 13 February; and
 - iv) agrees to confirm its response to the consultation at that meeting.
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10/17 ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (IWALC)

In the absence of Councillor Harry Rees there was no report available at this time.

11/17 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' report – 6/17 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
 - b) It included information on the first meeting of the South Locality Health and Wellbeing Advocates meeting, the successful bid for improving the reporting of Hate Crime, meetings of the Working Groups, the Christmas Lights and the Town Council's Pension Scheme.
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PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments or questions at this time.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.10PM

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE

DRAFT