



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

10 APRIL 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

No. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There was one member of the public present.
- b) There were no comments or questions at this time.

24/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Steve Stubbings

25/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

26/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 13 March 2017, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 28 March 2017 were noted.

27/17 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (24/17) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 March 2017 and a list of all payments made during March 2017.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances for the full financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that:

the Finance Report be accepted.

28/17 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2016/17

- a) The Receipts and Payments based accounts for the financial year 2017/18 were attached to Report 25/17.
- b) The Clerk said that he expected to have completed the work with the assistance of Mike Cox needed to adjust the format of the Accounts to an Income and Expenditure basis, as required for all Town and Parish Councils with turnover in excess of £200,000 for presentation to the 22 May meeting of the Town Council.
- c) Members considered the proposal in the Report for an allocation from reserves to fund Ventnor Day 2017 on 1 July.

It was proposed by The Mayor, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved:

to note the attached Receipts and Payments Accounts for 2016/17 and agree a budget provision of up to £3,000 for Ventnor Day 2017 to be held on 1 July.

29/17 MARLBOROUGH ROAD PUBLIC TOILETS

- a) Following renewed discussions with the Isle of Wight Council about the options for the transfer of the Marlborough Road Public Toilets, they were summarised in Report 26/17.
- b) The choice between a freehold transfer including the flat above and a long lease for the toilet only is not a simple one.

It was proposed by Councillor Stewart Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Jim Toogood and unanimously resolved to:

authorise the Clerk to refer the matter to the Town Council's Solicitor for advice on the relative merits and risks of each of the two options in time for the Public Buildings Working Group to assess the advice in advance of a decision at the Town Council meeting of 22 May 2017.

30/17 VENTNOR CENTRAL LEASE

A draft for the new lease for Ventnor Central had been provided by the Isle of Wight Council based on the previously agreed Heads of Terms and been circulated to Members in advance of this meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:

accepts the draft lease as circulated with Report 27/7 and authorises its signature.

31/17 SPRING HILL GARDENS LEASE

The draft lease for Springhill Gardens and the adjacent paved area was circulated to Members with the papers for this meeting attached to Report 28/17.

It was proposed by Councillor Ken Knapman, seconded by Councillor Jim Toogood and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:

accepts the draft lease as circulated with Report 27/7 and authorises its signature.

32/17 ESPLANADE LOADING BAY

- a) The latest proposal from the Isle of Wight Council for resolving the alleged misuse of the Esplanade Loading Bay is to limit its use to 15 minutes with no return in 5 hours.
- b) The proposal was welcomed.

It was proposed by Councillor Jim Toogood, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:

agrees to ask the Isle of Wight Council to amend the restrictions on the Esplanade Parking Bay to 15 minutes with no return within five hours.

33/17 LOCAL ELECTIONS

Report 30/17 for this meeting identified the candidates now known to be standing for election to the Town Council.

34/17 ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (IWALC)

- a) In the absence of Councillor Harry Rees there was no report from IWALC.
 - b) The Clerk asked Members to note that the proposed changes to the Constitution had been agreed at its March Executive and would now be presented for adoption at the Annual General Meeting in July.
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TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' report – 31/17 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
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- b) It included information on our new Maintenance Manager, Library Signage and Open Day, Regeneration, Student visits, My Life a Full Life and our Working Groups.
 - c) The Mayor took the opportunity to thank Councillor Knapman for his four years of committed and effective service and Members agreed that the same appreciation should be expressed to Councillors Steve Stubbings and Harry Rees.
 - d) Councillor Stewart Blackmore said that the work of this Town Council had clearly been effective and the improvements it had championed were obvious and a strong basis for the new Council to build on.
 - e) The Clerk thanked Members and staff for the fact that he had reached the seventh anniversary of his appointment as the Town Council's temporary Clerk in April 2017.
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PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comments at this time.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.40PM

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE

Draft