



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS 7PM

11 MARCH, 2019

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Tony Marvin (Chair), Leigh Geddes, Jason Mack, Brian Lucas, Dave Logan, Stephen Cockett, Ian Bond, Colm Watling

## NO. SUBJECT

### PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present at this time. The County Councillor for Ventnor West Gary Peace was present.

The Chair thanked PCSO Chris Urry for his written Report that had been tabled for the meeting.

### 23/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor and Councillor Leigh Geddes.

### 24/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair declared an interest in Agenda Item 11 and took no part in the vote on it.

### 25/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 11 February 2019, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meetings of 19 February 2019 were noted.
- c) The Minutes of the Ventnor Partnership Library Steering Group meeting of 12 February 2019 were noted.

### 26/19 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (18/19) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 28 February 2019 and a list of all payments made during February 2019.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first ten months of the financial year.

**It was proposed by Councillor Stephen Cockett, seconded by Councillor Colm Watling and unanimously resolved that:**  
the Finance Report be accepted.

### 27/19 BANK ACCOUNT SIGNATORIES

Report 19/19 proposed an addition to the number of Councillors authorised as signatories to the Town Councils accounts.

**It was proposed by Councillor Tony Martin, seconded by Councillor Ian Bond and unanimously resolved that:**

Councillor Brian Lucas be added to the list of authorised signatories on the Town Council's HSBC Bank Accounts.

### 28/19 BONIFACE FIELDS LEASE

The Isle of Wight Council has provided a Heads of Terms document for a lease of Boniface

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Fields to the Town Council.

**t was proposed by Councillor Tony Martin, seconded by Councillor Jason Mack and unanimously resolved that:**

subject to detailed scrutiny by the next meeting of the Town Council's Assets and Services Working Group the Heads of Terms be agreed.

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### **29/19 VENTNOR CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT**

Report 21/19 recorded the receipt of the ERMFC Feasibility Study for the proposed development of the Ventnor Central site and requested authority for the development of Stage 3 funding application to the Community Led Housing Programme.

**It was proposed by Councillor Colm Watling, seconded by Councillor Dave Logan and unanimously resolved to:**

- i) ask the Clerks to make arrangements for Members to read the ERMFC Feasibility Study at the Town Council's offices to protect the document's confidentiality as commercially sensitive;
  - ii) authorise the Town Clerk, advised by the Assets and Services Working Group, to develop, complete and submit a Stage 3 application to the Island Community Led Housing Programme by 31 May with progress reporting to the April and May Town Council meetings;
  - iii) ask the Community Development Working Group to make arrangements for a public consultation meeting on the project in the week commencing 8 April; and
  - iv) commit a sum of up to £1,000 for necessary activity related to the preparation of the application, including the public consultation and pre-planning permission advice application.
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### **30/19 UPPER VENTNOR LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Report 22/19 recorded the receipt of the ERMFC Feasibility Study for the proposed development of the land behind the Island Free School inn Upper Ventnor and requested authority for the development of Stage 3 funding application to the Community Led Housing Programme.

**It was proposed by Councillor Stephen Cockett, seconded by Councillor Ian Bond and unanimously resolved to:**

- i) ask the Clerks to make arrangements for Members to read the ERMFC Feasibility Study at the Town Council's offices to protect the document's confidentiality as commercially sensitive;
  - ii) authorise the Town Clerk, advised by the Assets and Services Working Group, to develop, complete and submit a Stage 3 application to the Island Community Led Housing Programme by 31 May with progress reporting to the April and May Town Council meetings;
  - iii) ask the Community Development Working Group to make arrangements for a public consultation meeting on the project in the week commencing 8 April; and
  - iv) commit a sum of up to £1,000 for necessary activity related to the preparation of the application, including the public consultation and pre-planning permission advice application.
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### **31/19 VENTNOR WEST BY-ELECTION**

Members noted the unopposed election of James MaCaulay to the vacancy for a Town Councillor to represent the Ventnor West Parish Ward.

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### **32/19 REFILL ISLE OF WIGHT**

- a) A request from the Refill Isle of Wight campaign for the Town Council's support in allowing ceremony at the Esplanade Water Fountain and endorsing the campaigns objectives was attached to Report 24/19 for this meeting.
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b) Councillor Brian Lucas asked if the Fountain could be cleaned before the event.

**It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor Dave Logan and unanimously resolved to:**

support the planned event and formally endorse the work of the campaign.

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### 33/19 ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONIES

- a) The Town Council has been informed by the Ventnor Branch of the Royal British Legion that, in compliance with instructions from its national organisation, it was now expected that local Councils would take responsibility for the Annual Remembrance Ceremonies with the support of the Branch.
- b) The Chair explained the background to the change of arrangements.
- c) Councillor Brian Lucas asked if there would be significant cost implications and whether the Ventnor Branch would continue to its volunteer support?
- d) Councillor Stephen Cockett asked if the decision to take on responsibility for the Ceremonies would commit the Town Council in perpetuity and the Chair assured that it would not do so.
- e) The Town Clerk added that he had been assured of the ongoing support of the local Branch in the organisation of the Ceremonies.

**It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Jason Mack and unanimously resolved to:**

accept formal responsibility for the organisation of the two traditional Annual Remembrance Ceremonies from this year onwards;

**It was proposed by Councillor Stephen Cockett, seconded by Councillor Colm Watling and unanimously resolved to:**

appoint a small group of Members to advise the Clerks on the arrangements that need to be made for them including the Mayor and Councillor Dave Logan.

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### 34/19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (LGBCE) RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) The latest recommendations from the LGBCE on the consequential adjustments for Parish Wards and their representation following its preferred adjustment to the Electoral Divisions for the Ventnor Wroxall area were set out in a letter to the Isle of Wight Council's Chief Executive with an invitation for the Town Council to respond by 1 April 2019.
- b) Councillor Ian Bond reminded the meeting of its previous discussion of the value of combining the proposed Bonchurch and Ventnor East Parish Wards.

**It was proposed by Councillor Ian Bond, seconded by Councillor Brian Lucas and unanimously resolved to:**

ask the Local Government Boundary Commission to consider combining the two proposed single-member parish wards of Bonchurch and Ventnor East into a single two-member ward because the size and geography of the proposed Ventnor East Ward make it difficult to represent effectively.

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### 35/19 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 27/19 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
  - b) It included information on Salisbury Gardens, Upper Ventnor Community Association, War Memorials, Southern Housing Group, Friends of Ventnor Library, South Wight Parishes Health & Wellbeing Forum, dates of Working Group meetings and the annual Wallgate contract.
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### PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

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The Meeting closed at 7:57pm

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SIGNED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

| DATE

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