



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

10 JUNE 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Stephen Cockett (chair), Stewart Blackmore, Tony Marvin, Jason Mack, Brian Lucas, Dave Logan, Leigh Geddes, Ian Bond, Colm Watling, Jamie Macaulay

NO. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present at this time.

PCSO Chris Urry gave his Report for the month, showing that local crime levels are still low and he added that the DDday event last week had been a tribute to Ventnor. He told the Meeting that he was Retiring on 2 July after 12 and a half years' service in the town.

County Councillor Gary Peace was not able to be present but had asked that his concern about the way Island Roads had handled the information to residents about the resurfacing of Undercliff Drive be recorded.

Councillor Stephen Cockett confirmed that a number of residents had contacted him on the same issue.

64/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Delian Fry.

65/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

66/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 20 May 2019, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
 - b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 21 May 2019 were noted.
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67/19 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (44/19) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 May 2019 and a list of all payments made during May 2019.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first two months of the 2019/20 financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Jason Mack and unanimously resolved:
that the Finance Report be accepted.

68/19 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2018/19: GOVERNANCE

- a) The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2017/18 the Town Council is required to submit to its External Auditor by 18 June 2018, had been previously circulated to Members.
- b) Members considered the Governance Statements in the Return's Section 1.

It was proposed by the Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor Colm Watling and unanimously resolved that:
the Governance Statements in Section 1 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return for

the financial year 2018/19 be endorsed as presented and the Chair be authorised to sign Section 1 accordingly.

69/19 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2018/19: ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

Members considered the Accounts Statements for the financial year 2018/19 in Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2018/19 as completed in the circulated copy.

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

- i) approves the Accounting Statements set out in Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return;
 - ii) authorises its Chair to sign Section 2 accordingly; and
 - iii) asks its Town Clerk to submit the completed return together with the required additional papers in advance of the 1 July 2019 deadline.
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70/19 VENTNOR AREA HEALTH VISITORS

- a) Report 47/19 for this meeting asked Members to consider a response to the proposal to move the local Health Visitor team from its current base in Salisbury Gardens to Sandown.
- b) Councillor Tony Marvin said that he saw no rational case for this proposal as staff need to be in the area in which they work.
- c) Councillor Jason Mack pointed out that in addition to Ventnor the team also serves areas further to the West.
- d) He added that it made even less sense as the proposed Sandown Hub for the South Wight Locality had still not been developed.
- e) The Mayor said he agreed with both Members and wondered how the localised integration of services had been allowed to disappear into the background alongside the cutting of Mental Health services by 75%.
- f) No business case would support the move given the additional cost of travel and travel time.
- g) Councillor Brian Lucas said that the Town Council should challenge the loss of service and increased costs.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Brian Lucas and unanimously resolved that:

a letter composed by Councillor Jason Mack and the Clerk and agreed by the Mayor setting out these concerns be delivered to those responsible for the decision.

71/19N FUTURE OF THE NETWORK PROJECT

- a) The Network Project has provided a drop-in advice and guidance session on Thursday mornings at Ventnor Library for the last seven years; Report 48/19 proposed moving the community volunteer member of the team to the Town Council's payroll with effect from 1 July 2019.
 - b) Councillor Jason Mack introduced this item having been central to the Project's initiation in April 2012 as an open drop-in service equipped to signpost residents to appropriate services, working with Southern Housing Group.
 - c) In order to ensure that the project continues he proposed that the volunteer who had been central to the project throughout its life now needed to be paid for the three hours a week required.
 - d) Councillor Geddes said that it was important to record the Town Council's appreciation of the volunteer's work.
 - e) Councillor Lucas welcomed the project as an important practical contribution to the challenges increasing numbers of residents faced.
 - f) The Mayor said it was also important to acknowledge the value of Councillor Jason Mack's
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contribution in maintaining the Project so effectively.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Jason Mack and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:
supports the addition of the advisor post to its payroll on the terms stated in the Report.

72/19 FAMILY VOICE PROJECT

- a) Report 49/19 outlined the proposals for the implementation of the Family Voice Project.
 - b) The Chair introduced the Report, welcoming the engagement of Baby Box with the Project.
 - c) Members noted the proposed implementation of the Project and expressed their appreciation of the offer from Baby Box Isle of Wight.
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73/19 BONCHURCH WAR MEMORIAL

- a) A copy of the listing notice for the Bonchurch War Memorial was attached to Report 50/19 for this meeting.
 - b) Councillor Brian Lucas said he welcomed the Listing as it reflected and encouraged the increasing awareness within the town of what both the town's War Memorials represented.
- The Mayor left the meeting at this point.
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74/19 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

- a) The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has now published its final recommendations for the Isle of Wight County Council Elections that, subject to Parliamentary approval, will be operative from the elections of May 2021.
 - b) A copy of the summary of the recommendations was attached to Report together with a link to the main document.
 - c) Councillor Brian Lucas said that he hoped we would now be able to have clear maps of the Ventnor boundaries.
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75/19 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 52/19 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
 - b) It included information on the Cascades, the First Aid Hut, a Memorial to Dave Gray, the Central Reservation Planters, the repainting of the Ventnor Sign, the North Street Playground, the Ventnor War Memorial, the latest meeting of the South Wight Parishes Health and Wellbeing Forum and the meetings of the Working Groups.
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PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments or questions at this time.

76/19 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

In view of the confidential nature of the following item:

it was resolved under the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings (1960) Act: to exclude the Public and Press whilst the next item is under discussion as it is of a confidential nature.

The Meeting closed at 8.20pm

SIGNED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

DATE
