



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

9 SEPTEMBER 2019

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Stephen Cockett (Chair), Tony Marvin, Brian Lucas, Dave Logan, Leigh Geddes, Jamie Macaulay, Jason Mack, Colm Watling and Delian Fry

## No. SUBJECT

### PUBLIC FORUM

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

### 102/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence received from the Mayor and Councillor Ian Bond.

### 103/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

### 104/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 12 August 2019, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 20 August 2019 were noted.

### 105/19 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (71/19) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 August 2019 and a list of all payments made during August 2019.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first five months of the 2019/20 financial year

**It was unanimously resolved that:**  
the Finance Report be accepted.

### 106/19 TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

- a) Report 72/19 for this meeting recorded the progress to date on the Town Council's plans for the improvement of the High Street/Pier Street main shopping area to address the safety and accessibility issues identified in the recent Risk Assessment by Isle Access.
- b) The Chair introduced this, reminding the meeting of the importance of the Disability Risk Assessment.
- c) Councillor Brian Lucas said that he thought traders will have a lot to say about this and hoped it would be positive. He added that he was concerned about the capacity of Central Car Park, and that he was very pleased to note the commitment to consultation.
- d) Councillor Jamie Macaulay commented that he agreed with Councillor Brian Lucas and suggested that one-on-one interviews could be held with traders and perhaps an open day for residents.
- e) Councillor Leigh Geddes noted that Island Roads would carry out their resurfacing works next year and this would be the only opportunity for at least 20 years to improve the area.

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

- i) ask its Town Clerk and Community Development Officer to develop arrangements for consultation with traders and residents; and
  - ii) fund the detailed drawings from Island Roads required for the costings, consultation with traders and residents and a consequent planning application in an anticipated total of up to £5,000.
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#### **107/19 CAR PARK MANAGEMENT**

- a) An update on progress with the proposal for the Town Council to take on the ownership or management of the Central, Grove Road, Eastern Esplanade and La Falaise Car Parks was provided by Report 73/19.
- b) The Clerk outlined the case for the Town Council to manage the other four car parks to maximise flexibility in setting tariffs and funding the proposed degree of subsidy for the relocated short stay parking.

**It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor Jason Mack and unanimously resolved to:**

fund two further days' consultancy from Parkspace Consulting at a cost, including expenses, of up to £1,500.

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#### **108/19 VENTNOR HAVEN**

- a) Jason Mack reported on the recent informal meeting he, the Clerk, Nick Cox and Councillor Tony Marvin had with the Deputy Leader of the Isle of Wight Council and officers responsible for its management about its future funding.
  - b) Councillor and Brian Lucas said he was very pleased the Town Council is taking the issue seriously.
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#### **109/19 CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL CONSULTATION**

- a) The Isle of Wight Council has launched a consultation on potential changes to its current concessionary travel scheme as summarised in Report 75/19.
- b) Councillor Brian Lucas opened the discussion by saying that he has a pass but doesn't need it now, while some who do now won't qualify, adding that the changes need to be more selective.
- c) Councillor Leigh Geddes said that among the problems of means-tested benefit are the lowering of take up and the increased expense of administration.
- d) The Chair pointed out that the changes could be a false economy as they may prevent some residents accessing health and employment appointments

**It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Dave Logan and unanimously resolved that:**

a response be drafted and submitted by Councillors Dave Logan, Brian Lucas and Jamie Macaulay.

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#### **102/19 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT**

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 76/19 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
  - b) It included information on the South Wight Parishes Health and Wellbeing Forum, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Diabetic Eye Screening Service, Salisbury Gardens, Baby Box, Portacabins and the meetings of the Town Council's Working Groups.
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#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

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There were no members of the public present.

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The Meeting closed at 8pm

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SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE

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