

VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Ventnor Town Council held on Friday 26th March 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Winter Gardens

42/10 Members present:

Mayor: Chris Welsford

Councillors: Mrs S Scoccia, Ms D Robinson, Messrs Bartlett, Bonney, George, Lucas, Perks, Stubbings

Minutes: Mrs Eliz Summers

43/10. Apologies for Absence:

Received from: Cllrs Garlick and Mew

44/10. Declaration of Interests:

Cllr Welsford member of IoWC; Cllr Lucas re Volunteers; Cllr Scoccia member of Community Partnership, Cllr Bonney (58/10 personal & prejudicial)

44/10 Cllr Welsford requested that a resolution be passed allowing those present, having taken advice, to appoint Mrs Summers to take the Minutes. Proposed DR Seconded SS: **Carried unanimously.**

45/10 Public Forum

Cllr Welsford opened meeting to the public. Subjects raised– Dissolution of the Council. Traffic orders, lack of access to parking, tourism affected. **TROs**, SS and CW to make representations: SJS added that this was still being looked at.

Absence of Shows at the Winter Gardens

Parking restriction lines on St Catherine St. – residents' petition ...VTC meeting in December . CW supports this objection.

46/10 Minutes of Previous Meetings held on 8th and 22nd February 2010

8th February: Cllr Scoccia reported error in discussing the volunteers' role – her name had been omitted and the of Cllr Mew's repeated twice. Cllr George asked Town Clerk if discussion re hire fees to the hospice was audio recorded: Reply on 20th Feb that discussion on the 8th was recorded. Agreed subject to Cllr George checking on the recording.

22nd February: (Item 34/10) DG wrote to Clerk on reasoning behind the decision to recommend exclusion from the meeting . She advised she would respond in due course : waiting reply Chris Matthews. DG has a reservation. CB also has a reservation.

47/10 To receive advice from the Monitoring Officer... (Cllr Welsford read from a note from IOWC regarding continued presence at meetings after being referred on Standards

Item 48/10 i) Advice from NALC received

ii) SJS. advised that audio recording of meetings is being conducted without a policy in place. Who is responsible for keeping/holding master copy. Purpose was to assist Town Clerk with Minutes; thereafter to be destroyed after an agreed period.

Resolved: CW - we will write a policy for consideration by the Council. Carried unanimously.

49/10 Volunteers Policy. The RCC has recommended changes to the volunteers policy to avoid volunteers being regarded as "employed" -

Move that this be deferred until councillors have been copied the revised draft proposed terms of engagement - **Agreed**

50/10 Risk Assessment Sub CommitteeSJS referred to document which had been circulated to only some of the councillors. DR would like an electronic version S. Stubbings agreed to send everyone a copy. B. Lucas reported that some Fire related issues had been dealt with. DG asked how many times has the Risk Assessment Committee met? SJS replied, once since October. DG continued : re background to risk assessment -Who is/was H & S manager of the WG? DG's concern was the number of H&S recommendations? Who was responsible on day of the report? (DG referred to 70 pieces of fire protection/prevention law.)

Reference to sizes of different premises – W G rated a 'large' building. The VTC is obliged to comply with recommendations.. This became law in 2006. There must be responsible person and team leaders.

Important that disabled people are cared for; also need for accurate record keeping. .

Cllr Lucas is waiting for a consultant to be appointed by the Town Clerk which will give a prioritised list of further works and records to be updated. There is no General Manager but we do have designated Premises Supervisor. CW – referred to recent town meeting – we need to address these issues. DG – H&S report should be available to all

Item 51/10 .. Appointment of Internal Auditor. CW suggested Mr Gareth Hughes. Cllr Bartlett approved but suggested GH may be unable to give regular attendance. CW would contact Mike Cox ..

Resolved by a majority that Mr G. Hughes be asked to act as internal auditor.

Item 52/10 Clock on corner of Pier Street

Cllr Scoccia reported that the Ventnor Partnership had arranged for the clock to be replaced thanks to a generous benefactor, but that public liability insurance was needed by the building owner. Draft agreements were presented for checking .

Resolved The Council agree in principle to provide PL insurance cover at their cost

53/10 Councillors' Questions Tesco .Cllr Bonney raised subject of the Tesco building on the High Street because of the detrimental effect on local businesses, and particularly that Tesco may be land-banking with no intention of development.. CW added that scaffolding did not need explicit permission. CW requested a copy of a recent letter from Tesco sent to a resident regarding the development. SJS advised that Tesco had full planning consent flats above. CW will bring clarification to the next meeting.

Agreed that Council would write to Tesco again requesting clarification.

Fencing to Sea Breeze park: Cllr Robinson asked what was happening re provision of fencing round the new children's playground. Serious dog fouling had been noted. Evelyn Knowles advised that the original quote did not include fencing, which was likely to cost in the region of £5000.

Agreed CW/DR would write to County to take it forward on a health & safety basis.

Health & Safety aspects of Winter Gardens: In answer to this query, CW replied that the Town Clerk is the responsible person therefore the Council, as a body, had to take responsibility.

54/10 Public Forum: In reply to a query from the public, CW explained that this meeting was being held in the upstairs Terrace Bar because the hall downstairs had been prepared for a Flea Market next day. He apologised for the inconvenience to the audience. A following query asked whether there were plans for the Winter Garden to return to its previous standard of entertainment. CW replied that it would return as soon as the required management was in place.

55/10 Public Excluded: At this point it was agreed unanimously that, pursuant to section 1(20 Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the following business.

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THE MEETING ENDED AT 10.35 P M. **The next meeting would be 12th April at 7pm**