



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

EARLY YEARS CENTRE

7PM

12 MARCH 2012

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Steve Stubbings (Mayor), Debby Robinson, Harry Rees, Jim Morgan, Jim Toogood, Mark Robertson-Walker, Leigh Geddes, Jason Mack, Simon Haytack.

## NO. SUBJECT

### PUBLIC FORUM

- a) The Mayor opened the Public Forum with 3 members of the public present. County Councillor Susan Scoccia had sent her apologies for having to miss the meeting as had Councillor Chris Welsford.
- b) A member of the public asked about progress with dealing with the seaweed in the Haven and Councillor Jim Morgan provided an update detailing the positive actions already undertaken. Councillor Jim Toogood added that there was growing confidence that the mobile pump would provide a solution.

The meeting started at 7.05pm

### 30/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David George and Carol Jones.

### 31/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Harry Rees declared a personal interest as Chair of the Ventnor Social Club.  
Councillor Jim Morgan declared a personal interest in Ventnor Community Bus CIC

### 32/12 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The minutes of the Town Council meeting of 20 February 2012, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 5 March 2012 and of the Staffing Committee of 2 March 2012 were received.

### 33/12 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 29 February 2012 and a list of payments made during February 2012.
- b) An accompanying paper set out the related expenditure in relation to the Budget lines for the year to 29 February 2012 with variances from year-to-date budget provision.

### 34/12 ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT FUND

- a) The Town Clerk's paper setting out the background to the rejection of the Town Council's original submission to this fund and identifying new projects for application in advance of the now extended deadline available had been previously circulated to Members.
- b) The Mayor proposed that discussion of the rejection of the original proposal would not be helpful at this time and his advice was followed.

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**It was unanimously resolved:**

that the projects identified in the paper and previously circulated together with a further application to take up the full allowance be submitted for funding from the Economic Improvement Fund and the Town Clerk be asked to complete Application Forms accordingly.

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**35/12 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

The proposed new budget for the project and the funding arrangements for it had been set out in a previously circulated paper from the Town Clerk.

**it was unanimously resolved that:**

- i) the proposed reduced budget for the project be approved;
  - ii) the additional amount needed to achieve the new total on top of the already budgeted £12,477 be sought initially from attenders at the Town Council's breakfast meeting of 23 January; and
  - iii) the Town Council underwrite the costs of the project if necessary in order to allow it to run in parallel with the Community Capacity project with funds released by adjustments to the 2012/13 to be agreed once the amount required had been clarified.
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**36/12 LEASE FOR OUTFIT LAND**

- a) Both the draft lease and an accompanying paper had been previously circulated to Members.
- b) Consideration was given to a number of issues including the length of the term at 10 years when the commitment to the Big Lottery was for five years, the cost of upgrading the level of public indemnity to £10M and the cost of continuing insurance cover for six years after termination

**It was unanimously resolved:**

that the Glanvilles be asked to advise on the suitability of the draft lease in its current form.

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**37/12 DOGS**

- a) The Town Clerk reported that Wendy Marshall had accepted the arrangements agreed at the February Meeting of the Town Council for responding to the hazards resulting from the behaviour of irresponsible dog owners and would start work on 1 April 2012.
  - b) Councillor Debby Robinson reported on her conversation with the senior Environment Officer Mike Rowlands on the issue.
  - c) Councillor Harry Rees said that the matter was on the Agenda for this week's meeting of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils.
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**38/12 WINTER GARDENS CONTENTS**

- a) The paper for this meeting identified the fact that the sum of £3,738 had been realised from the sale of contents left in the building at 31 January 2011.
- b) It was noted that the Town Council had incurred some costs from making these arrangements and Town Clerk reported on the staff time involved in the ongoing discussions.

**It was unanimously resolved:**

that any items remaining at 16 March 2012 be disposed of as scrap.

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**39/12 NOTICEBOARDS**

- a) Councillor Debby Robinson introduced this item, proposing that the Town Council initiate action to take on responsibility for the maintenance of the Noticeboards on the Esplanade and Lowtherville Road.
  - b) Councillor Jim Toogood said that he would discuss the matter with Councillor Susan Scoccia and report back.
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**40/12 VENTNOR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Councillor Debby Robinson reported on the recent meeting of the Association that she found very positive and noted genuine willingness to work with the Town Council.

**It was unanimously resolved:**

that Councillor Debby Robinson be the Town Council's liaison member with the Ventnor Business Association.

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**41/12 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

- a) The Town Clerks' report for this meeting had been previously circulated to Members.
  - b) The detail referred to the Community Development Worker appointment, the conclusion of the experiment with flying Hawks to counter the Pigeon nuisance, the War Memorial and the Music for Fun Festival.
  - c) The Assistant Town Clerk was thanked for her work in supporting the Festival.
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**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Mayor re-opened the Public Forum

A member of the public drew attention to the condition of the Central Car Park bus stop.

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The Meeting closed at 8.05pm

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SIGNED BY THE MAYOR	DATE

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