



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

ST MARGARET'S HALL

7PM

11 JUNE 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Steve Stubbings (Mayor), Harry Rees, Jim Morgan, Jim Toogood, Leigh Geddes, Mark Robertson-Walker.

NO. SUBJECT

The Mayor opened the Meeting with a tribute to the late Buster Bartlett in recognition of his service to the town and the Island through his long membership of both the Isle of Wight and Ventnor Town Councils. The tribute concluded with a one minute silence in his memory.

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) The Mayor opened the Public Forum with 2 members of the public present. Both County Councillors had sent their apologies for absence.

The meeting started at 7.03pm.

86/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David George, Jason Mack, Carol Jones and Debby Robinson.

87/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Harry Rees declared a personal interest as Chair of Ventnor Social Club.

88/12 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The minutes of the Town Council meeting of 14 May 2012, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting of 21 May 2012 having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- c) The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 31 May 2012 were received.

89/12 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 May 2012 and a list of payments made during May 2012.
- b) An accompanying paper set out the related expenditure in relation to the Budget lines for the year to 31 May 2012 with variances from year-to-date budget provision.

90/12 ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS

- a) The Town Clerk reported that the provision of only two Town Councillor signatories on the Bank Accounts occasionally caused delays in making cheque payments.

It was unanimously resolved:

that Councillor David George be added to the authorised signatories.

- b) The Town Clerk reported that the current quoracy requirement for the Planning Committee had, in the context of regular three weekly meetings and personal circumstances, resulted in the postponement of two recent meetings.

It was unanimously resolved:
that the quorum for the Planning Committee be set at two Members.

91/12 VOLUNTEER POLICY

The Town Clerk had circulated with the papers for this meeting a draft for a revised Volunteer Policy in recognition of the increasing number of volunteers engaging with the Town Council's work.

It was unanimously resolved that:
the draft Volunteer Policy be formally adopted.

92/12 BONCHURCH PARISH CHURCH CHURCHYARD

The Town Council had been formally advised by the Rev Canon Graham Morris of the decision of the Parish Council to close the Bonchurch Parish Church Churchyard to further burials on the grounds that there was no further space for them.

It was unanimously resolved :
that the Isle of Wight Council be formally requested to take responsibility for the management of the Bonchurch Parish Church Churchyard.

93/12 CONTINENTAL MARKET

- a) The Town Council had been informed by the Isle of Wight Council of an approach from an organisation providing Continental Markets.
- b) Discussion with the company concerned confirmed that there would be significant costs in engaging them and that Ventnor was not a large enough venue on its own for the Market to be profitable.
- c) Councillor Harry Rees expressed concern that proceeding with this would in effect be subsidising mainland firms to the detriment of local shops.
- d) Councillor Jim Morgan commented that a fee usually paid by market providers for use of land would not necessarily come to Ventnor Town Council who would be left with all the costs and none of the income.
- e) The possibility of incorporating a Christmas Market in the proposed Christmas Fun Day and Councillors Harry Rees and Jim Toogood were encouraged to continue with the Carnival Committee's ongoing discussions about that event.

It was unanimously resolved:
that the invitation not be progressed at this time.

94/12 DUDLEY ROAD CAR PARK

Following consideration of the previously circulated paper from the Town Clerk on the under-use of the Dudley Road Car Park, and in view of the significance of car parking for the town's economy

It was unanimously resolved that:
the Town Clerk together with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be authorised to enter into discussions with appropriate Isle of Wight Council officers about the future management of the Dudley Road car park and the free car park at the other end of Dudley Road.

95/12 TIME BANK

- a) The Town Clerk's paper setting out developments with this project to date and listing the next steps in its implementation was received.
 - b) The Mayor confirmed the Town Council's strong support for the project and his own willingness to assist in promoting it at the forthcoming public meetings.
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96/12 FIRST AID PROJECT

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- a) Councillor Jim Toogood provided Members with a verbal report on progress with the First aid Project this year.
 - b) He said that it had been a great success again with the volunteers having been trained in Open Water Rescue as well as First Aid.
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97/12 OUTFIT LAND LEASE

The revised lease for the Outfit Land that implemented the changes to the original proposed by the Town Council's legal advisors had been previously circulated to Members.

It was unanimously resolved that:

the previously circulated draft lease be accepted and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be authorised to sign on the Town Council's behalf accordingly.

98/12 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- c) The Town Clerks' report for this meeting had been previously circulated to Members.
 - d) The detail referred to the Working Groups, progress with the War Memorial Project, a meeting with the Community Engagement Manager of Portsmouth City Council, the clocks on the Esplanade and in the Town Centre and the new Hanging Baskets.
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PUBLIC FORUM

The Mayor re-opened the Public Forum.

The Meeting closed at 7.50pm

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR	DATE
