



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

14 NOVEMBER 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Leigh Geddes (Chair), Tony Marvin, Jim Toogood, Ed Gouge, Delian Backhouse-Fry, Brian Lucas, Harry Rees.

No. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

150/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor and Councillors Steve Stubbings, Ken Knapman and Stewart Blackmore.

151/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

152/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 10 October 2016, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meetings of 19 October 2016 and 9 November 2016 were noted.

153/16 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (75/16) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 October 2016 and a list of all payments made during October 2016.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances for the first seven months of the financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved that:
the Finance Report be accepted.

154/16 CAR PARKS: HALF YEAR PERFORMANCE

In line with the Town Council's provision for its management of the Dudley Road, Market Street, Pound Lane and Shore Road Car Parks, Report 76/16 was the Clerk's report on the finances of them for the first half of the financial year: 1 April to 30 September 2016.

It

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

the contents of the Report be welcomed and the Public Buildings Working Group be asked to look again at the tariffs for Shore Road Car Park.

155/16 BUSINESS RATES

The current costs to the Town Council of Business Rates for the premises it now manages and the consequences for those costs of the Valuation Office's national revaluations effecting from 1

April 2017 were set out in Report 77/16.

It was unanimously resolved that the Town Council:

thanks the Clerk for a comprehensive report and asks for an update on the position following the Autumn Statement

156/16 PUBLIC TOILETS: FREEHOLD TRANSFER

- a) The latest documentation supplied for the Freehold Transfer of the Eastern Esplanade and Ventnor Park Toilets following agreements between the Town Council's Solicitor and the Isle of Wight Council's Legal Officer had been previously circulated to the members of the Public Buildings Working Group.
- b) A copy of the Report on the documentation by the Town Council's Solicitor had been circulated to all Members of the Town Council with the papers for this meeting.
- c) Councillor James Toogood highlighted the importance of securing clarity from Island Roads about the separation between the Eastern Esplanade toilets and the Archways behind them.

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

approves and authorises the signature of the Transfer documentation for both the Eastern Esplanade and Ventnor Park Public Toilets subject to the Public Buildings Working Group being satisfied with the resolution of the remaining matters identified in the Report.

157/16 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Proposed dates for the meetings of the Town Council in 2017 were listed in Report 79/16 for this meeting.

It was unanimously resolved that:

the dates listed in Report 79/16 for this meeting be adopted for the meetings of the Town Council in 2017.

158/16 MY LIFE A FULL LIFE PROGRAMME

- a) Report 80/16 for this meeting informed Members of progress since the Town Council's meeting of 10 October with the Town Council's initiative to establish effective community engagement in the proposals for radical developments in the delivery of the Island's Health and Wellbeing services.
- b) Councillor Harry Rees stressed the importance of the issue of travel costs where services are only available on the mainland.

It was unanimously resolved that:

- i) the Town Council welcomes the developments described in Report 80/16; and
 - ii) appoints the Mayor as its Advocate for Health and Wellbeing services in the town.
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159/16 HERITAGE TRAIL SIGNAGE

Councillor James Toogood introduced this item pointing out the value of signage for the project and the limited cost of providing it.

It was unanimously resolved that:

the Town Council commits the sum of £100 towards the cost of providing them.

160/16 RISK ASSESSMENT

- a) Members considered a draft Risk Assessment for the Paddling Pool prepared by the Town Council's Economic Development Officer and previously circulated with the papers for the meeting.
 - b) The professional approach adopted was noted and welcomed.
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- c) **It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Delian Backhouse-Fry and unanimously that:**
the Town Council adopts the Risk Assessment for the Paddling Pool as drafted and asks staff to implement it accordingly.
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161/16 ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (IWALC)

- a) Councillor Harry Rees reported that the next meeting is this coming Thursday when a focus will be on the proposals for applying the Referendum Principles to Town and Parish Councils.
- b) He went on to draw attention to the predicted deficit for local government by 2020 of £5.2 billion and its impact on government planning..
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162/16 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' report – 82/16 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
- b) It included information on staff changes, the Youth Offer, the renovated Ventnor Haven Noticeboard, visiting students, the Ventnor Branch of the Royal British Legion, the constitution of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils and the meetings of the Working Groups.
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163/16 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8PM

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

| DATE
