



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

11 JUNE 2018

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Stewart Blackmore (Chair), Tony Marvin, James Toogood, Leigh Geddes, Brian Lucas, Ian Bond, Delian Fry, Billy Hill, Dave Logan, Stephen Cockett.

## No. SUBJECT

### PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There were two members of the public present.
- b) There were no questions or comments at this time.

### 64/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Jason Mack.

### 65/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

### 66/18 THE ESPLANADE BANDSTAND: SOUTHERN WATER

- a) The Mayor welcomed Southern Water's External Liaison Office Jeanette Gregson and Southern Water's Area Manager for the Isle of Wight to the meeting.
- b) Jeanette thanked the Council for the opportunity to explain the closure of the Esplanade Bandstand and told the meeting that it was a requirement of the original Planning Permission that the top part of the Pumping Station facility had public access maintained.
- c) Although documents had been drawn up for the lease of the Bandstand area, they had never been signed. The other partner has said they are unable to fund the repair requirement revealed by Southern Water's structural survey.
- d) Once repaired the intention is to look for a new tenant.
- e) There is a misfit between the use Southern Water have for the area and the work required for public use so the latter will be difficult to fund through a Public Utility.
- f) The Mayor asked about cost and timescale and Keith responded that the cost looked to be between £30k - £50k and the timescale was unpredictable at this time.
- g) Councillor James Toogood offered the information he had collected in recent investigations and that was gratefully accepted.
- h) Keith said that some of the materials used in the original construction were not suitable for its location.
- i) Councillor Stephen Cockett asked if there was any duty on Southern Water to bring the area back into public use and Keith said he did not think that was the case.
- j) A member of the public asked – with the permission of the Mayor – if the funds received from the Fringe could be recalled towards the cost of repair.
- k) Keith added that they were awaiting three quotes for the works and remain committed to keeping the area open.
- l) The Mayor thanked both staff Members for their time and helpful information.

### 67/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- m) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 21 May 2018 having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.

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- n) The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of 14 May 2018 having been previously circulated to Members were taken as read.
  - o) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 5 June 2018 were noted.
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#### **68/18 FINANCE REPORT**

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (64/18) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 May 2018 and a list of all payments made during May 2018.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first two months of the financial year.

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

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#### **69/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2017/18: GOVERNANCE**

- a) The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2017/18 the Town Council is required to submit to its External Auditor by 18 June 2018, had been previously circulated to Members.
- b) Members considered the Governance Statements in the Return's Section 1.

**It was proposed by the Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that:**  
the Governance Statements in Section 1 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the financial year 2017/18 be endorsed as presented and the Mayor be authorised to sign Section 1 accordingly.

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#### **70/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2017/18: ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

Members considered the Accounts Statements for the financial year 2017/18 in Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2017/18 as completed in the circulated copy.

**It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:**

- i) approves the Accounting Statements set out in Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return;
  - ii) authorises its Mayor to sign Section 2 accordingly;
  - iii) notes the contents of the Internal Auditor's Report; and
  - iv) asks its Town Clerk to submit the completed return together with the required additional papers identified in section 4 of Report 66/18 in advance of the 18 June 2018 deadline.
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#### **T CAR PARKS**

- a) Report 67/18 for this meeting set out the background to the Town Council's management of four of the town's eight car parks, the management and financial arrangements for them and the basis for considering an extension of the model to include the other four.
- b) Councillor Ian Bond said that we needed to be aware of the risk element and the Clerk responded that a risk assessment would be included in any Business Case that was developed.

**It was proposed by Councillor Dave Logan, seconded by Councillor Leigh Geddes and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:**  
asks its Clerk, assisted by its Economic Development Officer and Assets & Services Working Group, to prepare a Business Case for the Town Council's local management of all the town's car parks for submission to the Isle of Wight Council.

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**72/18 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT**

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 68/18 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
- b) It included information on the old Bus Garage, Working Groups' meetings, a delayed payment, the War Memorial grant application, the disposal of the Van and a meeting with Councillor Dave Stewart.

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**PUBLIC FORUM**

- a) A member of the public asked when Island Roads would give the necessary attention to the poor state of the town's roads including the potholes in Park Avenue and Trinity Road.
- b) Councillor Brian Lucas said that he had regular contact with the Island Roads' local Steward who was generally helpful although constrained by the fact that some of the concerns are defined by Island Roads as Surface Irregularities.

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**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.05PM**

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SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE