



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS 7PM

12 NOVEMBER 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

NO. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present. The County Councillor for Ventnor West Gary Peace was in attendance.

119/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor.

120/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Tony Marvin declared an interest in Agenda item 8(a).

121/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 8 October 2018, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 25 October 2018 were noted.

122/18 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (100/18) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 October 2018 and a list of all payments made during October 2018.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first seven months of the financial year.

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

123/18 CASUAL VACANCY

- a) Following the resignation of Councillor Billy Hill Report 101/18 for this meeting set out the process for filling the resultant vacancy.
- b) A copy of the Statutory Notice of the vacancy to be advertised from 13 November was attached to the Report.
- c) Councillor Ian Bond said he was sorry that Councillor Billy Hill had resigned and proposed that the Town Council records its thanks to Billy Hill for his contribution to the work of the Town Council.
- d) The Clerk said that he would write to Billy Hill accordingly.

124/18 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

- a) The Appendices to Report 102/18 contained the proposal for the reorganisation of the local government wards for South Wight by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (Appendix A), a proposal for dividing the proposed Ventnor/Wroxall two-member

Ward into two one-member Wards from Councillors Ian Bond and Stephen Cockett (Appendix B) and the proposal for that division submitted to the Review by the Isle of Wight Council (Appendix C).

- b) Councillor Ian Bond explained the proposal and the reasons for arriving at it and said that both proposals were compliant with the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's criteria in respect of Ward size.
- c) He pointed out that the Isle of Wight Council proposal included some realignment of the Ventnor East Ward and added that it was unfortunate that this position had been forced on the Town Council.
- d) Councillor Leigh Geddes said she had no real objection to the Boundary Commission but as most were opposed to it she preferred the Isle of Wight Council proposal.
- e) Councillor Stephen Cockett said that although he had been involved with the proposal set out in Appendix B he now preferred the Isle of Wight Council proposal.

It was proposed by Councillor Stephen Cockett, seconded by Councillor Brian Lucas and unanimously resolved that:

the Town Council make a submission to the Boundary Commission as a two-Ward single Member arrangement is preferred.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cockett and resolved that the Town Council:

agrees not to submit the proposal set out in Appendix B to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cockett and resolved that the Town Council:

agrees to submit the proposal set out in Appendix C to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

125/18 FLAG POLES

- a) The Town Council had been informed by the Isle of Wight Council that it no longer intended to maintain the two Flag Poles on the Esplanade and that they would be removed unless the Town Council agreed to take responsibility for them, as recorded in Report 103/18.
- b) Councillor Brian Lucas explained that there were two flag poles outside the Pumping Station and on inspection they were found to be in a poor condition and would be costly to repair.
- c) Councillor James Toogood said that the Isle of Wight Council would need to remove the foundations as well as the poles.
- d) Councillor Delian Fry asked if it might be possible to secure sponsorship for retaining the Flag Poles.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Leigh Geddes and resolved to:

inform the Isle of Wight Council that it did not wish to take on responsibility for the Flag Poles in view of their condition and ask that they be removed together with their foundations.

126/18 GRANT APPLICATIONS UPDATE

- a) Report 104/18 provided updates on developments in respect of three funding applications.
- b) The Town Clerk reported on the decision of the War Memorials Trust to withdraw the offer of a grant of £1,740 towards the replacement of the Second World War names plaque.
- c) Councillor Tony Marvin said that he found the approach adopted by the War Memorials Trust unacceptable.

It was proposed by Councillor James Toogood, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cockett and unanimously resolved that:

the additional funding of £1,740 for the repairs to the War Memorial be provided by the Town Council.

- d) Councillor James Toogood reported on his meeting the Director of the Down to the Coast Fund who had made it clear that the project for the refurbishment of the Esplanade Water Fountain could only be funded by them if it was returned to its original 1870s condition.
- e) As this required the removal of steps and the use of the no longer legal for this purpose brass taps and the cost would be of the region of £15,000 he proposed that the project be completed at the originally proposed level and be funded through next year's budget.
- f) Councillor Leigh Geddes explained the Butterfly project and proposed that the Town Council expressed its thanks to Andy Butler for overseeing the project so effectively which the Clerk said he would pass on.

127/18 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Report 105/18 provided a proposed list of dates for the formal meetings of the Town Council in 2019 that was unanimously accepted.

128/18 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 16/18 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
- b) It included information on the First Aid Hut Lease, Ventnorville, Green Room redecoration, Upper Ventnor Community Association meeting, visiting Students, the latest meeting of the South Wight Parishes Health and Wellbeing Forum and the latest meetings of the Town Council's two Working Groups.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments or questions at this time.

The Meeting closed at 7.52 pm

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

| DATE
