



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

10 JULY 2017

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Jason Mack (Chair), Tony Marvin, Leigh Geddes, Jim Toogood, Ed Gouge, Delian Fry, Brian Lucas, Billy Hill, Dave Logan, Stephen Cockett.

## NO. SUBJECT

### PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There was one member of the public present
- b) There were no questions or comments at this stage.

### 66/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Stewart Blackmore.

### 67/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

### 68/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 12 June 2017, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 21 June 2017 were noted.

### 69/17 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (47/17) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 30 June 2017 and a list of all payments made during June 2017.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first two months of the financial year.

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

### 70/17 REGENERATION PLANNING

- a) Report 48/17 for this meeting set out the context for regeneration planning and identified three potential project sites.
- b) Councillor Dave Logan asked about the working life of the Portakabins and Councillor James Toogood responded that it was likely to be in the range of 7-10 years.
- c) Councillor Leigh Geddes asked about access to the fields and the Clerk said that it was possible to change the entrance point further away from the main road.
- d) The Mayor added that the remaining Portakabin would make an excellent base for the growing Ventnor Men's Shed while the space also provided the opportunity for the Town Council to extend its provision of Allotments.

**It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Tony Martin and unanimously resolved that:**

- i) the areas identified in section (2) of Report 48/17 for this meeting be included in the

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- Town Council's Regeneration Plan;
  - ii) an offer of up to £2,000 for the purchase of the steps identified in section 4(b) of that Report;
  - iii) an initial additional budget of up to £2,000 be allocated to fund the exploratory work required to develop the Regeneration Plan; and
  - iv) a letter of support be supplied to St Catherine's School for their expression of interest in the St Boniface School site.
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#### **71/17 SUBSTATION RELOCATION**

- a) SSE's request to relocate its High Street substation to an area next to Springhill Gardens had been passed by the Isle of Wight Council to the Town Council following the completion of the leasing of the area to it.
- b) Councillor Leigh Geddes suggested that land at the back of the Central Car Park might be a suitable site for it and other potential sites were considered.

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

- i) refuses the request to relocate the substation as requested due to the Town Council's other plans for the development of the site;
  - ii) encourages the Isle of Wight Council not to agree to any request for the relocation within the Central Car Park; and
  - iii) welcomes the Isle of Wight Council's readiness to consult with the Town Council on matters affecting the town's centre.
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#### **72/17 VENTNOR DAY**

- a) The Town Council's Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy's summary report of the event had been previously circulated to Members.
- b) Members' experience of the event was shared and its significance as a celebration of the town's community spirit acknowledged.

**It was proposed by Councillor Leigh Geddes, seconded by Councillor Brian Lucas and unanimously resolved that the Town Council:**

agrees to provide the event in 2018 at a date to be finalised in due course and thanks its Community Development Officer for his high quality organisation of the event.

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#### **73/17 EASTERN ESPLANADE TOILET REPAIRS**

- a) The recently required repairs to the Eastern Esplanade Public Toilets were summarised in Report 51/17.
  - b) Councillor James Toogood explained the need for the significant works required to the roof and the Mayor commented that it was disappointing that such works were required already in a building less than ten years old
  - c) The Clerk informed Members that the cost of the necessary repairs to the leak would be £1,300.
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#### **74/17 EASTERN ESPLANADE AREA MANAGEMENT**

- a) With the completion of the lease to the Town Council for the area of the Eastern Esplanade that includes the Paddling Pool and the Public Toilets, Paper 52/17 for this meeting asked Members to consider aspects of its management proposed by the Assets and Services Working Group.
  - b) In particular the Group's recommendation that vehicle access and parking should be limited to Town Council staff and service vehicles.
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**It was proposed by Councillor Jim Toogood, seconded by Councillor Tony Martin and unanimously resolved that:**

the Town Council adopts a no access for vehicles and a no parking policy for the area, with the exception of own Council and other service vehicles, and agrees to provide appropriate signage to that effect.

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**75/17 NON-RESIDENTIAL CARE CHARGING POLICY**

- a) The decision of the Isle of Wight Cabinet meeting of 15 June to carry out a consultation on the proposal to change the means test arrangements for its Non-residential Care services for residents on Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments was considered by Members.
  - b) The Mayor introduced Report 53/17 and the Cabinet Paper from the meeting of 15 June attached to it.
  - c) Councillor Brian Lucas said that he was concerned that the people affected by the proposed changes don't have a voice.
  - d) Councillor Leigh Geddes said that the authors of paper seemed embarrassed by the proposal.
  - e) There was general agreement that the proposals were unacceptable and that that the Town Council would respond to the consultation when it had been opened.
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**76/17 WEST CLIFFS SHELTER**

- a) The information from the Isle of Wight Council that it was not able to source funding for reroofing the Shelter was discussed.
  - b) It was noted that the Shelter remains the responsibility of the Isle of Wight Council.
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**77/17 ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (IWALC)**

The Mayor said the next IWALC meeting is on Thursday next week when amendments to the consultation will be voted on and new Chair and Vice-chair appointed.

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**78/17 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT**

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 55/17 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
  - b) It included information on the submission of the Annual Return 2016/17, the meetings of the Working Groups, the Locality Leads Meeting, the meeting of the South Wight Parishes Health and Wellbeing Forum, another student visit and the routine meeting with the Ventnor Business Association.
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**PUBLIC FORUM**

Leslie Telford said that Ventnor Day had been excellent publicity for the Heritage Centre.

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**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30PM**

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SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE

