



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

13 DECEMBER 2021

Members Present

Councillors: Stephen Cockett (Chair) Steph Toogood, Ian Bond, Brian Lucas, Phil Warren, John Watkins, Mark Jefferies, Julie Hutchison and James Toogood

MINUTE SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

County Councillor Rodney Downer was present and his Report had been circulated to Members.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

120/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Steve Cooper.

121/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 8 November 2021, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read with one amendment to the confidential Minute.

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 22 November 2021 were noted.

FINANCE REPORT

- 122/21
- a) The Finance Report for this meeting, 93/21, had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 30 November 2021 and a list of all payments made during November 2021.
 - b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first seven months of the financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor Ian Bond, seconded by Councillor Mark Jefferies and unanimously resolved that the Finance Report be accepted.

123/21 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2022

Report 94/21 for this meeting listed proposed dates for the Meetings of the Town Council during 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Phil Warren, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved to:
meet on the dates and times listed in Report 94/21 for this meeting.

124/21 SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

- a) A draft for a Town Council Social Media Policy prepared by its Business Development Officer was attached to Report 95/23.
- b) Councillor Ian Bond suggested that it would be sensible to have a month to read and develop the policy and differentiate more clearly between its relevance for employees and Members.
- c) Councillor Brian Lucas said he would like to see a specific link for Members to the Code of

Conduct adding that he appreciated the good drafting of the Policy.

- d) Councillor Phil Warren commented that it is a very useful document that he would be content to accept as it is although clarification of the differing roles of staff and Members would also be welcome

It was proposed by Councillor Ian Bond, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved to:

return to the matter at the January meeting of the Town Council and invite Members to send comments on it directly to its author.

c125/21 TIME AND TIDE BELL PROJECT

- a) Councillor Phil Warren outlined the outcomes from his conversations at the weekend with the national organisers of the Project.
- b) He said that the target date for the installation had been put back to the end of July, fundraising is underway with major grant support expected and a Planning Application has been submitted.
- c) He added that £1,500 will be gifted to the Town Council towards legal costs and £5,000 to cover maintenance and insurance for 10 years.
- d) The only financial contribution from the Town Council that is being requested is £1,400 for the Marine Maritime Organisation application.

It was proposed by Councillor Phil Warren, seconded by Councillor Ian Bond and unanimously resolved to:

- i. confirm the Town Council's commitment to adopt the Bell; and
 - ii. agree the payment of £1,400 for the application to the Marine Maritime Organisation.
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126/21 VENTNOR PARK: TREE TREATMENT

- a) The necessary treatment of four trees in Ventnor Park and the costs of it were identified in Report 97/21.
- b) Councillor James Toogood explained the background investigations that had been carried out including discussions with the Isle of Wight Council's Tree Officer.

It was proposed by Councillor Steph Toogood, seconded by Councillor John Watkins and unanimously resolved to:

agree that the treatment is necessary and the quotation appropriate and to authorise the Clerk to initiate discussions with the Isle of Wight Council on the respective responsibility for the costs of it.

127/21 CENTRAL CAR PARK SPACES: HEADS OF TERMS

- c) The Heads of Terms provided by the Isle of Wight Council for the lease for the four parking spaces required for the new public toilet were attached to Report 98/21
- d) Councillor Brian Lucas said he was pleased to see the Retail Price Index being applied to annual increases rather than any parking charge increase.

Councillor James Toogood reminded the Meeting of the cost of the pay by card facility.

It was proposed by Councillor Steph Toogood, seconded by Councillor Mark Jefferies and unanimously resolved to:

accept the Heads of Terms as attached to Report 98/21 for this meeting.

128/21 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 99/21 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
- b) It included the new Web Site, the latest meeting of the South Wight Parishes Health and Wellbeing Forum, local Litter Picking, Remembrance events, Bob Seely meeting, meetings of the Working Groups, the IT Upgrade and Salisbury Gardens repairs.
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`129/21 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

In view of the confidential nature of the following item.

It was proposed by Councillor Ian Bond, seconded by Councillor Phil Warren and unanimously resolved under the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings (1960) Act to exclude the Public and Press whilst the next item is under discussion as it is of a confidential nature.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE