



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

13 JUNE 2022

Members Present

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

MINUTE SUBJECT,

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There were no members of the public present
- b) County Councillor Rodney Downer was present and his report for the meeting had been previously circulated to Members.

57/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

58/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence as all Members were present.

59/22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 16 May 2022, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.

60/22 FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Report for this meeting, 45/22, had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 May 2022 and a list of all payments made during May 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Phil Warren, seconded by Councillor Steve Cooper and unanimously resolved that:
the Finance Report be accepted.

61/22 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT 2021/22

The Report of the Town Council's Internal Auditor Gareth Hughes was attached to Report 46/22 for this meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor James Toogood, seconded by Councillor John Watkins and unanimously resolved that:

- i) the Internal Auditor's Report be accepted and Gareth Hughes be thanked for his thorough preparation of it; and
- ii) Gareth Hughes be appointed as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for 2022/23.

62/22 ANNUAL RETURN: GOVERNANCE

- a) The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/22 that the Town Council is required to submit to its External Auditor by 30 June 2022, had been previously circulated to Members.

It was proposed by Councillor Stephen Cockett, seconded by Councillor Steve Cooper and unanimously resolved to
approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement as attached to Report 47/22 included in the papers for this Meeting and authorises its Mayor to sign Section 1 accordingly.

63/22 ANNUAL RETURN: ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

- a) Members considered the Accounts Statements for the financial year 2021/22 in Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 as set out in the previously circulated copy.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Phil Warren and unanimously resolved to:

- i) approve the Accounting Statements 2021/22 in Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return attached to Report 48/22 for this meeting;
- ii) authorise its Mayor to sign Section 2 accordingly; and
- iii) ask its Town Clerk to submit the completed return together with the required additional papers identified in section 4 of this Report in advance of the 30 June 2022 deadline.
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64/22 GLYPHOSATE USE IN VENTNOR

- a) Councillor Stephen Cockett reminded us that Glyphosate had been found to be carcinogenic for people in close contact with and regular use of the product and also destroys insect habitat, adding that he fully supported the change to a safe alternative in the nine areas identified in the Report while questioning the need for five applications.
- b) Councillor Brian Lucas also questioned the need for five a year applications of the safer alternative.
- c) Councillor Ian Bond asked that the use and cost implications reported be requested from the contractor in writing.
- d) Councillor Steve Cooper stressed the importance of the Town Council being seen to be one that doesn't use Glyphosate.

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Logan, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cockett and unanimously resolved to:

- i) confirm the decision of its meeting of 11 April to ban the use of Glyphosate the areas within the Town Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract excluding the Cascade;
- ii) agree the estimated costs of changing to a safe alternative as identified in paragraph 2c of Report 49/22 for this meeting; and
- iii) further discuss the arrangements for Ventnor Park with the Grounds Maintenance contractor.
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65/22 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 50/22 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
- b) It included the opening of Ventnor Community Pantry, the planting of the Platinum Jubilee Tree, the Wellbeing Care Jubilee Party, the new Beach Safety Team, the installation of the children's pavement games and the dates of the Working Groups.
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The meeting closed at 7.35pm

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE
