



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

14 NOVEMBER 2022

Members Present

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

MINUTE SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There were no members of the public present at this time.
- b) County Councillor Rodney Downer was present and read his report for the meeting.

100/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stephen Cockett.

101/22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 10 October 2022 were agreed after incorporating an adjustment to Minute 98/22.
- b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of 11 and 25 October 2022 were noted.

102/22 FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Report for this meeting 72/22, had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 October 2022 and a list of all payments made during October 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Phil Warren and unanimously resolved to:
agree the Finance Report.

103/22 FAMILY VOICE

- a) Additional viewings of the Town Council's Family Voice documentary since its launch at the public meeting at St Catherine's Church on 3 October were listed in Report 73/22.
- b) The Clerk provided information about other viewings arranged since the Report was written and outlined staff proposals for its continued circulation.
- c) Councillor Steve Cooper referred to the Trade Union connections on the Island and said that he was exploring possible viewings with them.
- d) Councillor Brian Lucas questioned how many additional suggested solutions will come from further showings.
- e) Councillor Phil Warren said that the more conversations there are about the film the better as they are likely to trigger other developments.
- f) Councillor James Toogood added that the Warm Rooms being set up would bring more people into the discussion.
- g) Councillor Ian Bond commented that connections to other web sites for the film would extend its viewings.

104/22 COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

- a) Report 74/22 included a draft for a proposed Community Support Fund following a suggestion for such a Fund from residents at the public showing of the Town Council's Family Voice documentary.
- b) The Clerk added that a development since the Report was written had been a commitment to an anonymous donation to such a fund of £20,000.
- c) Councillor Steve Cooper expressed the Council's appreciation of the offer and asked that the donor be formally thanked for this significant contribution.
- d) Councillor Ian Bond welcomed the development of the proposed Fund.
- e) In the following discussion of the governance arrangements for the Fund and the importance of transparency in its distribution it was agreed to establish a Committee that included two Councillors, two local residents supported by appropriate staff.
- f) The Clerk agreed to include totals of receipts and disbursements in his monthly Town Clerk's Report.

It was proposed by Councillor Steve Cooper, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved to:

- i. establish, publicise and manage a Community Support Fund as identified in the draft attached to Report 74/22;
- ii. commit the sum of £5,000 as an initial contribution to the Fund;
- iii. welcome the commitment of a resident to make an anonymous contribution of £20,000 to the Fund;
- iv. develop a Committee of the Town Council to oversee the Fund and agree its disbursements;
- v. appoint Councillors Phil Warren and Brian Lucas as the Town Council members of the Committee.

105/22 SUSTAINABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

- a) The Town Council's Sustainability and Diversity Working Group has been meeting monthly and a proposed formal Remit for its work as agreed by its members is attached to Report 75/22.
- b) The number of Members in the Group was discussed and Councillor Steve Cooper said that in view of the importance of the issues the Group was considering he welcomed the larger than usual proposed membership of this Working Group

It was unanimously resolved to:

- i. adopt the Remit for the Group as attached to Report 75/22; and
- ii. appoint Councillors Julie Hutchison, Stephen Cockett, Steve Cooper, Brian Lucas, John Watkins, Phil Warren, Mark Jeffries, James Toogood and Dave Logan as its current membership.

106/22 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

A list of proposed Town Council meeting dates in 2023 was set out in Report 76/22 for this meeting.

It was unanimously resolved to:

agree the Town Council's 2023 meeting dates as set out in Report 76/22 for this meeting with adjustments to the May dates to accommodate the Bank Holiday.

107/22 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 77/22 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
 - b) It included details of the Climate Change consultation meetings, the visit by the Wellbeing Café to the Steam Railway, the re-opening of the Shore Road toilets, the gardening work at Salisbury Gardens by the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, our monthly meeting with the town's two County Councillors and the dates of the Working Groups meetings.
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The meeting closed at 8.20pm

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE

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