



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WORKING PARTY MEETING 16 AUGUST 2022

- 1.1. Members welcomed Alan Jones from SCA in advance of the Autumn/Winter publication of the Guide. Members thanks Alan for the publication and asked if there were additional content required, and noted deadline by end of the month (ideally before). Members discussed inclusion of current defib locations (clerks to forward), and links such as fix my street. Members discussed distribution and Alan thanks councillors and clerks for helping with distribution, and members also noted positive feedback from Yaverland residents, as well as the impact that the information provided on the Community Buses (22 and 24) had on usage of the buses. Cllr A Lightfoot circulated 2 page draft of the Town Council pages (developed by the Mayor and Clerks) to coincide with the Budget Consultation in the Autumn. Members thanked Cllr Lightfoot for producing the draft, including graphics not available at the Centre, and meeting the deadline for publication, as well as publicising the proposed public engagement events planned for the Autumn.
- 1.2. Members noted other potential projects, with SCA, involving local businesses, accessibility, and possibly a Christmas event. Mr Jones left the meeting.
- 1.3. Members discussed the working of the Working Party and welcomed the update from Alan Jones, and agreed that all members could feedback to Full Council on particular areas of activity, with Cllr I Ward subsequently identified as the lead member/chair for the working party.
- 1.4. Members discussed the effectiveness of the website and confirmed usage for Agenda's, Minutes and Town Council Press statements, with members noting the time it took to prepare content, and also that there was increase in traffic to Town Council Website.
- 1.5. Members noted that there seemed increase in Town Council presence in local media, and support of projects such as Pier Street Toilets, Green Town Initiatives, were positive.
- 1.6. Members discussed the draft content, from Town Council, for the Guide, and thought draft would generate local interest in the budget consultation.
- 1.7. Members agreed to propose to the next full council meeting, that there would be an online survey, with a consultation event at the Broadway Centre on Saturday 22 October (10-4), a midweek event (20/10) at the Library, as well as working with the SCA Guide to make contact details of Town Councillors available to residents. This timetable

would allow the feedback to be processed and help inform the 21 November meeting of the Town Council, where a draft budget would be on the agenda. Councillors are asked to submit any proposals for inclusion in the process before the September Meeting . The 2023-2024 budget is scheduled to be approved at the 6 February 2023 meeting of the full council. Members recognised that this process will require resources and councillors would be available to support the Broadway centre and Library events.

- 1.8. Members noted that the Mayor had been in touch with Lake and Shanklin Councils regarding potential projects, as well as other Councils via IWALC, and that the joint contract with Shanklin to provide toilet servicing and maintenance had secured efficiencies, and that there were other areas of potential joint work, including the Regeneration Proposals being taken forward by IW Council.
- 1.9. Members agreed that the events organised by the Town Council, including Island Plan and Conservation Zone meeting had been successful, and it was frustrating that there were delays in the publication of the plans.
- 1.10. Councillors appreciated arrangements being made to provide briefings, for example the Sandown Sprint, and that this helped inform decision making, and that contractors or representatives from other organisations were only available at specific times.
- 1.11. Members discussed the process to secure 3 quotes for audio system for main hall (Cllr Baldry declared an interest and took no part in the discussion) – and the need to ensure equipment available to Town Council Meetings and inclusion of the public.
- 1.12. Members discussed options, and noted the commercial confidentiality of the item, and the agreed proposal will be circulated in advance of the September meeting; the preferred quote has been costed within budget (Confidential Appendix A).
- 1.13. The clerks would discuss with suppliers minimising disruption to groups using the building.
- 1.14. Members agreed that all councillors should have individual microphones, and main hall focus in first instance.
- 1.15. Members noted potential of using existing microphones by existing groups, and that some groups had asked for the centre to provide technical support in the evening.
- 1.16. There was some discussion about live streaming, using Council resources, of meetings, but members noted the impact this would have on resources.
- 1.17. Members noted that there may need to be a review of room charging, given increase in energy costs.
- 1.18. Members also noted need for equipment, such as projector, given the Town Council do not have one.
- 1.19. Members felt that there may need to be a briefing on the difference between a Neighbourhood Plan and a Place Plan, and the possibility of inviting Ian Boyd to brief members, once report from High Streets Taskforce is received and circulated.
- 1.20. Members noted that there was some overlap between working parties and the Mayor will tweak working parties update (briefing paper) circulated and approved at July's Full Council Meeting.