



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC REALM (ASSETS) WORKING PARTY MEETING 16 AUGUST 2022

- 1.1. Members welcomed Jon Gilbey, from Danfo, who updated members on planning discussions re Eastern Gardens, and the Clerks would circulate any correspondence regarding the planning issues.
- 1.2. The Clerks noted that the IW Council had approved a lease/agreement for Eastern Gardens Site, but no further documentation had been forwarded.
- 1.3. Members noted that there had been some anti-social behaviour at Eastern Gardens, it was not as much as in previous years – some good feedback from local concessionaire.
- 1.4. Signage was in place for both Danfo helpline and the Blue Flag accreditation, and this could be developed in future years as part of different use of the current Eastern Gardens Site.
- 1.5. Members discussed the verbal, and on-line, abuse of staff cleaning the toilets and issues across the Bay, which impacted on health of employees – there is consideration of cameras/audio recorders for operatives.
- 1.6. Members noted that the current locking mechanisms at St John's could be left on causing problems, and there is a new system that will be used at Eastern Gardens and could be retro-fitted at St John's.
- 1.7. Members discussed the current issues at Yaverland, with the drainage location and not being fit for purpose, with the longer term solution needing to be developed over the Autumn and scheduling of any significant works avoiding key periods of activity – members recognised the sensitivity of the site and the volume of usage with Car Park and Play Zone usage, as well as local concessionaires without toilets.
- 1.8. Members discussed the effectiveness of Pier Street toilets and that, subject to IWC regeneration discussions, there is a need to ensure improved provision for 2023 as soon as possible.
- 1.9. Members also discussed Toilet provision at Sandham Grounds and this may be a longer term discussion – as well as potential using the locations as a base for other services, such as charging points for cycles, etc.
- 1.10. Members thanked Jon for the update and he would update members later in the Autumn, once arrangements for Eastern Gardens were clearer. Jon left meeting.

- 1.11. Members discussed operation of the Working Party, and agreed for Alex to be Chair/Lead Member but all could feedback at Meetings on areas of special interest.
- 1.12. Members discussed previous years plan, and agreed key workstreams for 2022-23, and the Chair would adjust which activities sat best within which group as appropriate, given feedback from working parties.
- 1.13. Members discussed the success of the Beach Safety Service, and need for permanent structure for the Lifeguard Station, and that this was discussed with Todd at Projects Working Party.
- 1.14. Members noted the need to continue developing the Blue Flag Accreditation, and work with Concessionaires, with further meeting in the Autumn linked to Budget consultation.
- 1.15. Members noted the improvements to the Broadway Centre, and groups were using the accessible garden, with ongoing arrangements in response to Covid. There was a need to review charging structure to reflect the increase in energy costs, and this could form part of budget consultation, and charging structure would also include Public Convenience Charges.
- 1.16. Members noted the work on audio systems for the centre, and Cllr Baldry declared an interest and took no part in discussions. Members also noted opening and closing of the Centre, and the reduction of inappropriate parking at Centre, and would continue to monitor.
- 1.17. Members noted the proposed monitoring arrangements for Sandham Grounds, and the difficulty of securing a responsive on-Island contractor. A system had been negotiated, alongside annual inspection and Local Authority inspection regime, as well as our grounds contractor – this was a comprehensive structure but given the level of usage and location was considered adequate. Members noted the ongoing nature of the Insurance Claim and the time this would take to respond to.
- 1.18. Members noted the provision made in reserves for longer term replacement and upgrade of the Grounds, and working with Julian would help progress a significant project that could attract grant funding.
- 1.19. Members discussed IWC repainting of railings and the removal/replacement of flagpoles at the Pier, which should fall under the regeneration project on that site.
- 1.20. Members recognised that the Budget process would help inform the work of the working party and the next meeting may be best after Budget Consultation.