

# SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of the Meeting of Sandown Town Council held on Monday, 27 July 2020 at 6.00 pm at The Broadway Centre, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9GG.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION**

Due to Covid-19 guidelines public access to the meeting was streamed. No written questions were received.

**Present:** Cllrs Gary Young (Mayor), Paul Brading (Deputy Mayor), Debbie Andre, Connie Cowley, Heather Humby, Alex Lightfoot, Paddy Lightfoot, Jacque Mereweather, Ronnie Teasdale, Ian Ward.

### **01-20/21 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Chris Dupre, Raj Patel

### **02-20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.**

#### **1. To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non -pecuniary interests.**

Cllr Andre declared a personal interest in relation to the planning application TPO/2000/6 circulated earlier this evening should it be discussed, as she knew the landowners personally.

#### **2. To receive and consider granting any written requests for dispensations.**

None received.

### **03-20/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

#### RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2020 be approved as a true record.

### **04-20/21 RATIFICATION OF VIRTUAL DECISIONS**

#### RESOLVED:

(a) THAT it be agreed that any decisions made in relation to the provision of services be stepped back by clerk should the government step back the national restrictions.

(b) In relation to public toilets that

i. THAT the toilets are reopened subject to agreement regarding cleaning

and signage.

- ii. THAT, if necessary, the hours of operation be amended to ensure effective cleaning arrangements can be put in place.
- iii. THAT a deep clean is commissioned prior to reopening of the facilities.
- iv. THAT a deep clean is undertaken weekly in addition to twice daily clean; and
- v. THAT Signage is purchased and displayed to encourage social distancing and good hygiene practices.

(c) In relation to Sandham Gardens

- i. THAT grass cutting and other regular landscaping activities be resumed.
- ii. THAT scheduled tree works be resumed.

(d) In relation to the Broadway Centre

- i. THAT the completion of external storage unit at Broadway Centre be brought forward.
- ii. THAT redecoration of centre in preparation for re-opening be continued; and
- iii. THAT sufficient hand gel, etc be made available in preparation for re-opening.

(e) THAT the re-provision of Toilets be delayed until Full Council meets and the Public can be fully engaged.

**05-20/21 FINANCES.**

**1. To approve the payments list as presented.**

RESOLVED

THAT the payments and receipts listed as presented for March to June 2020 be approved.

**2. To receive and note the verified bank reconciliations for:**

- (a) March 2020
- (b) April 2020
- (c) May 2020
- (d) June 2020

RESOLVED

THAT the verified bank reconciliations for March, April, May and June 2020 be noted.

- 3. To receive and approve the year-end report for the period ending 31 March 2020**

RESOLVED

THAT the year-end report for the period ending 31 March 2020 be approved.

- 4. To receive report and note the Internal Auditors report for the period ending 31 March 2020**

RESOLVED

THAT the Internal Auditors report for the period ending 31 March 2020 be noted.

- 5. To receive approve the 2019/2020 Annual Governance Statements and confirm dates for exercise of public rights.**

RESOLVED:

THAT the 2019/2020 Annual Governance Statement be approved, and the exercise of public rights be from 31 July 2020.

- 6. To approve the 2019/2020 Accounting Statements**

RESOLVED:

(i) THAT the 2019/2020 Accounting Statements be approved.

(ii) THAT the exercise of public rights be from 31 July 2020.

- 7. To receive and note the expenditure against budget through 30 June 2020**

RESOLVED:

THAT the expenditure against budget through 30 June 2020 be noted.

- 8. To approve joining the Isle of Wight Council Beach Cleaning Framework Agreement.**

RESOLVED:

(i) THAT the decision be deferred to a future meeting

(ii) THAT a working party be formed to look at the agreement and the relevant Isle of Wight Council Officer be invited to inform the group.

**06 -20/21 TO RECEIVE ANY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Questions were raised in relation to the resurfacing of Fitzroy Street. Members were informed the work would not be ongoing and would take just a day and that it was scheduled works which had been previously delayed.

Discussion also took place regarding the issues with Jet Ski's in the bay. Members were advised this was an issue across the Island and an Island Beach Safety Policy was being drafted which included looking at launch points, installation of Buoys (2021), and Beach Ambassadors to help police the issues. The first stage of the work would be extensive media messages and signage.

Following debate relating to concerns regarding the number and behaviour of

cyclists on the revetment, members who sat on the Bay Revetment party were asked to share the concerns raised with the group and feedback any suggested actions.

## **07-20/21 TO RECEIVE ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning application had been considered virtually and the comments submitted were noted:

**Application No:** *20/00455/FUL*

**Parish(es):** *Sandown Ward(s): Sandown South*

**Location:** *Old Town Hall Grafton Street Sandown Isle Of Wight PO36 8JJ*

**Proposal:** *Demolition of flat roof extensions and outbuildings; proposed conversion to form 9 dwellings and community hall; pair of semi-detached dwellings on land to the rear*

### **Comment:**

“Sandown Town Council members have remotely discussed this matter, and the consensus is that the Town Council are supportive of sensitive redevelopment of the site, ensuring any redevelopment is in keeping with the local area and enhances the neighbourhood; in addition, recognises and respects the heritage of the site, protecting aspects of that heritage; and provides community benefit and value.

Members may be adding personal comments, separately due to current circumstances, and may be contributing to any planning meeting to directly discuss this application.”

Members were also reminded that only material considerations could be taken into account when submitting comments.

## **08-20/21 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM**

### **1. The Town Clerk**

The town clerk provided a verbal update on a number of issues, which council noted, including:

- (a) During lockdown, the skate park was broken into and there was damage to fence and equipment. Subsequent to reopening the Stephen Jenkins Playground there has also been damage to equipment. CCTV is being looked at for both playgrounds and a grant from the PCC has been applied for to help with costs.
- (b) There has been a loss of revenue due to the centres closure in relation to Covid-19. A claim has been submitted to the insurance company in an attempt to recoup some of the losses.
- (c) The Bay Hub continues to provide support though demand has decreased. There are currently over 90 volunteers who were being written to regarding their support. Work is also being undertaken with Ian Lloyd at the Isle of

Wight Council regarding a way forward.

- (d) A phased reopening of the Broadway Centre has begun in line with national Covid-19 guidance, with health partners bookings being prioritised where possible. The centre has also been able to support other local councils and create additional revenue, both in providing an alternative venue for meetings and with additional administrative support.

There was some debate over other councils using the centre. However, no group of users was excluded from booking the centre and there was general consensus they should be treated as any other customer.

Mitigations relating to Covid-19 were in place including additional terms and conditions, increased cleaning, and sanitiser stations; fogging would also be explored, and discussions were taken place with each group regarding safety. Hire arrangements would reflect the reduced capacity and to encourage users to return.

The centre has been redecorated during lock down and external storage was in place and work could begin on landscaping the outside area. A 110 year old bench had been donated for the area.

- (e) A programme of events was in place for VJ day on 14/15 August 2020, involving the local church, stakeholders and the Lord Lieutenant. Due to restrictions on numbers as a result of the pandemic the programme would not be advertised but details would be circulated to members.
- (f) A number of working groups would be set-up to take forward work in relation to CCTV, the re-provision of the toilets and a way forward with the beach but members would be mindful of prioritising workloads.
- (g) The weekend litter picker at Sandham Gardens was unwell. There had been a number of unpleasant comments made in relation to the service on social media and it was hoped this was unrelated but online bullying of staff should not be accepted.
- (h) There had been noise on social media regarding the lack of lifeguard provision and concerns raised regarding the safety of the base where the hut had previously stood. The safety concerns had been shared with the RNLI, in regard to the lack of provision. The service has been budgeted for, but the RNLI had been impacted by the pandemic and had limited capacity. As a relatively safe beach Sandown had not been prioritised. Members requested a press release for information, but asked it be handled sensitively.

## **2. Town Councillors**

Cllr Brading updated members regarding the situation at the Sands Hotel; the homeless individuals housed there during the pandemic had now been relocated.

The rugby club had also requested an additional bin at the crossing to the railway be explored due to amount of dog faeces on the playfields thought to be because there was no bin. The matter would be discussed after the meeting.

Cllr Ward updated member on the situation with the Ocean Hotel. Three of the

22 hotels owned by the group were on the Island. Due to the travel implications managing sites on the Island the receivers were keen to dispose of the island sites first. A proposal had been put to the leaseholders that their leases be surrendered to allow for the site to be sold. If there was agreement the site could be on the market in a matter of months. Comments were also made in relation to waste and recycling and the beach award

Cllr Teasdale questioned if the memorial at the Broadway centre could be raised so it was more visible from the road. Members noted this was not possible due to planning regulations.

The Mayor requested members thanks to staff for work through difficult period be noted.

### **3. Isle of Wight Council Ward Councillors**

Cllr Ward provided a written report which included information (attached to and forming part of these minutes) on the regeneration of the Corner Building of Fitzroy Street, the Town Hall, the empty site on Beachfield Road, and the Ocean Hotel. Cllrs Andre and Brading had provided written reports which had been circulated.

### **4. Outside Bodies**

Cllr Andre advised the South Wight Health and Wellbeing Forum had recently met virtually with Alison Smith of the CCG and would be meeting with Claire Collins would be joining their next meeting to provide information in relation to autism provision for adults on the Island.

Cllr Humby advised that the Sandown Forum would recommence meetings from September/October 2020. Green towns were also looking to meet again.

### **09-20/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held at 7:00 PM on 14 September 2020.

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Due to Covid-19 guidelines public access to the meeting will be streamed. No written questions were received