



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL – MEETING MINUTES – 18 MARCH 2024

Minutes of the Meeting of Sandown Town Council held on **MONDAY, 18 MARCH 2024** at 7:00 pm at The Broadway Centre, 1 Broadway, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9GG.

Present: Cllrs Alex Lightfoot (Mayor), Debbie Andre, Frank Baldry, Emily Brothers, Ian Fletcher (Deputy Mayor), Jenny Hicks, Heather Humby, Paddy Lightfoot, Robert May, Toby Wilcock.

Also Present: Richard Priest (Clerk), Jennifer Armstrong (RFO), Lorraine Ellis (Admin) and two members of the public.

89-2023/2024 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

None Received.

90-2023/2024 APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Sue Betts and Ian Ward.

91-2023/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

Cllr Debbie Andre declared an interest in any matters pertaining to the Isle of Wight Council as a ward member and a pecuniary interest in discussions relating to the Carnival Association as their landlord. She also advised she would not take part in any discussions relating Los Altos as her property was adjacent to the park.

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

No requests for written dispensations had been received.

92-2023/2024 POINT OF ORDER

Cllr Brothers raised a point of order under Standing Order 20.8 informing council a request for a motion relating to Solar Panels at the Broadway centre on the agenda had been refused and requested details of the explanation recorded on the Rejected Motions Register be provided.

The Clerk responded that the motion had not been denied, but clarification had been sought on the costs of scoping the project (for example bat and structural surveys), where the monies would be drawn from the budget, and which project on the work plan it would replace. A meeting had also been offered with the Mayor but declined by Cllr Brothers to discuss and inform these elements. Cllr Brothers also refused for the exchange and minutes of a previous budget meeting to be shared with other councillors.

The Chair referred to Standing Order 20.6 whereby the Proper Officer has the final decision on motions on the agenda.

93-2023/2024 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Brothers proposed an amendment to minute 73-2023/24(8) suggesting herself and Cllr Hicks had voted against not for the substantive motion. The published minutes had been checked and were correct suggesting it was an accessible formatting issue.

A proposal to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2024 was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (9), Against (1), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2024 be approved as a true record.

94-2023/2024 FINANCES

1. To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for February 2024

A motion, that the Payments and Receipts for February 2024 be approved, was proposed and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (10), Against (0), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED

THAT the Payments and Receipts for February 2024 be approved.

2. To receive and note the verified bank reconciliations through February 2024

The verified banking reconciliations through February 2024 were noted.

3. To receive and note the expenditure against budget through February 2024

Members considered and noted the expenditure against budget through February 2024.

4. To receive an update on the external audit and public rights process.

The RFO advised members that further follow-up emails had been sent the auditors on 13 February 2024 and 29 February 2024 with the Town Clerk also emailing on 14 February 2024. Further remains had been sent asking for information to inform the meeting. However, to date no response had been received.

Clarification was sought regarding the issues delaying the completion of the audit. The Clerk advised that officers were not fully sighted on the communications with the resident and that the latest update advised the auditor was satisfied with the Town Council's responses to the queries raised and the work was awaiting sign off from a director. Members noted the update.

5. To authorise Alex Lightfoot, as Chair, to apply for grant funding.

Members were advised that officers have delegated authority to apply for grant funding on behalf of the council. A recent grant application had required the Chair's signature on the application in addition to officers.

A motion, to authorise Alex Lightfoot as Chair, to apply for grant funding, was proposed and duly seconded.

An amendment was proposed and duly seconded that the Chair, rather than a named Chair be authorised, in conjunction with officers, to apply for grant funding and that the financial regulations be updated accordingly. Following an update from the RFO regarding NALC releasing updated Financial Regulations in the new financial year, the proposer accepted removing this aspect of the amendment.

Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (7), Against (3), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED

THAT the proposal be amended to remove the name of the current chair.

A further amendment was tabled to remove "with officers". Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (4), Against (6), Abstentions (0).

A vote was then taken on the substantive motion. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (7), Against (3), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED

THAT the Chair be authorised to apply for grant funding alongside officers.

95-2023/2024 TOWN CLERK REPORT

Council noted the report from the Clerk which included the updates to previous work. The Clerk highlighted recent issues with damage from trees at Los Altos and fires set at Sandham Grounds. Members also noted that the Annual Town Meeting would be held in April 2024.

Clarification was sought on the heritage projects being undertaken. The Clerk advised the projects were in conjunction with the library, the historical society, and the school. There were no additional costs for the projects which were from the existing budget envelope for such projects.

A verbal report was provided on an invitation received for the Town Council to sign up for the Armed Forces Covenant as part of the D-Day at Eighty Years commemorations. Discussion took place regarding the details of the commitment, with members noting there were no financial implications. The Covenant was a nationwide agreement between the armed forces community, the nation and the government which aimed to ensure that those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, and their families, were treated fairly, and that this included special consideration when appropriate, for example in terms

of employment. As such the Covenant did not provide any special advantage rather ensured that members of the armed forces were not disadvantaged by their service.

A motion, that the Town Council sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant, was proposed and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (10), Against (0), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED

THAT the Town Council sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant.

96-2023/2024 WORKING PARTIES

Members noted that the working party had not met since the last meeting therefore no report had been published. Briefings had been held which had been open to all councillors. An update on the projects already recommended by the working parties had been included in the Clerk's Report.

97-2023/2024 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

An outline of what the Town Council's role in community resilience could look like had been provided with members noting that a meeting had subsequently been held with a Resilience Co-ordinator from the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) to further inform the work. Templates had been provided and an action plan drafted with further consultation with the IWC officer plan. Members supported the work and were asked to email the RFO if they had any matters for consideration in the plan.

98-2023/2024 YAVERLAND TOILET REPROVISION - DESIGN

The Chair outlined the working party's recommendation in relation to the design of the new toilets are Eastern Gardens, providing the different options in terms of the following aspects for consideration. The different options and cost implications were discussed and members noted the contractor had raised concerns regarding the installation of solar panels due to the location; in terms of vandalism and weather damage.

A motion was moved and duly seconded, that the recommended design be taken forward. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (9), Against (0), Abstentions (1).

RESOLVED

THAT the design for Yaverland toilets be:

- Wooden clad doors
- Wooden cladding
- Rounded corners on the unit
- Sedum roof
- Dark Grey / Black coin boxes
- Lighting all around

99-2023/2024 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

A motion without notice under Standing Order 21.1 (viii) was moved by Cllr Brothers, who requested a written report on the installation of Solar Panels for the Broadway Centre be brought to Council in July 2024. The implications of the project were discussed, and an amendment was proposed and duly seconded, that officers will present a list of the costs of a feasibility study on the installation of Solar Panels be brought to the July meeting. A further amendment was then proposed that this be prepared to inform the 2025/2026 budget consultation next year which was duly seconded and debated.

A further amendment to this was proposed and duly seconded, that the project be included in the budget consultation for 2025/2026.

Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (9), Against (1), Abstentions (0).

A vote was then taken on the amended motion as the substantive motion. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements; the results were as follows and it was:

For (9), Against (1), Abstentions (0).

RESOLVED

THAT the Solar Panel Project [at the Broadway], as proposed by Councillor Brothers, forms part of the budget consultation process for the 2025/2026 budget.

100-2023/2024 TO RECEIVE ANY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RAISED

No environmental issues had been raised by the Isle of Wight Council, Environment Agency or other statutory body.

101-2023/2024 TO RECEIVE ANY PLANNING MATTERS

The following planning applications were considered. No comments were returned.

[24/00400/DIS](#): Sandown Water Treatment Works, Golf Links Road, PO36 9PF

Condition compliance application on 23/02215/FUL relating to condition 2 (Construction Traffic Management Plan)

[24/00370/HOU](#): Reservoir Villa Old Reservoir Lane, PO36 9DL.

Proposed double garage with store over (revised scheme).

[24/00306/HOU](#): 34 Broadway Sandown Isle Of Wight PO36 9BY

Proposed detached timber garage

[24/00143/HOU](#): 10 Meadow Way, PO36 8QE

Proposed single storey rear extension; alterations to vehicular access and parking area/driveway (revised scheme)

[24/00264/DIS](#): 29 Victoria Road Sandown Isle Of Wight PO36 8AL

Prior approval for proposed single storey rear extension

[24/00232/FUL](#): Land Adjacent 2 Crescent Road, PO36

Demolition of garage and store building; Construction of two dwellings with parking and landscaping

102-2023/2024 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Andre referred to the travel issues caused by the works on Lake Hill/the Broadway, noting the pressure should be eased as the closures had been staggered.

Cllr Humby informed members she continued to hold Thursday Surgeries in the Library. Residents had raised concerns about the cost of with anti-social behaviour and vandalism. Questions had also been raised in regard to parking at the Heights being limited to leisure centre users which Cllr Andre advised she would seek to clarify.

Cllr Baldry advised he had attended the Sprint briefing local business, noting that only one business had attended.

Cllr Fletcher informed the meeting that the Sandown Community Association 2024 guide had been produced and was ready to distribute, thanking all those involved in its production and advising how those wishing to volunteer with distribution could collect their copies.

Cllr Hicks also raised the issue of the recent roadworks and resulting traffic. Also informing members she had attended a recent IWALC topic meeting of sewage and drainage.

The Mayor updated members on the progress of a number of projects:

- The Changing Places project advising snagging would be completed shortly.
- The grant process for the re-provision of Sandham Grounds MUGA's was also progressing with site surveys being undertaken mid-March.
- An initial meeting with Planning regarding enforcement had taken place and a briefing for councillors would be held on 19 March 2024.
- The beach accessibility project was also ready to take to the next stage with meetings with Wave and concessionaires in motion.

Cllr Brothers raised the recent accident involving a child falling from the revetment advising a petition had been started and suggesting the Town Council contact the Isle of Wight Council regarding the matter. The latter was not supported. The chair indicated that offices would raise the incident with Isle of Council officers to ensure it they were aware.

103-2023/2024 2024/2025 MEETING DATES

The following meeting dates were noted:

20 May 2024

15 July 2024

16 September 2024

18 November 2024

10 February 2025

10/17 March - Subject to Pre-Election Period 2025.

19 May 2025 (Elections on 1st Thursday of May normally)

104-2023/2024 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public asked questions relating to the progress of the Bay Place Plan and how this would be fed back to council. Cllr Alex Lightfoot advised the deadline for public applicants for the steering group was approaching and two members from each council had already been appointed. Feedback would be provided at future council meetings as appropriate.

Mr Alan Jones advised the meeting that a digital copy of the guide was being produced which would be available on the Community Associations website and the Town Councils.

Meeting Closed 8:20pm.

DRAFT