



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Marion Cook CiLCA

Town Clerk

Town Hall, Grafton Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8JJ
Telephone 01983 408287 email: townclerk@sandowntowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Sandown Town Council held on Wednesday 08 March 2017 at 7.00pm at The Town Hall, Grafton Street, and Sandown

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr. Patel, (Chair), Cllr. Blezzard, Cllr. Cowley, Cllr. Dupre, Cllr. Grandchamp, Cllr. Humby, Cllr. Mereweather, Cllr. Teasdale, Cllr. Stephenson, Cllr. Ward, Cllr. Wright and Cllr. Young.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Marion Cook (Town Clerk), 3 Members of the Public

Alan Jones commented on the mural on the old Kebab House in the High Street, saying it was an improvement. It has been attributed to Ian Boyd and others. With regard to the Broadway Centre he commented about the loan interest and the decision to draw down the loan, in one go. The Clerk had previously responded to this saying that it was to try and gain the best interest rate, which would be fixed for the next 50 years. (3.02%) Albeit at a lower rate, half the money had been invested to gain some return.

Eric Lawson was concerned that his remarks made at the meeting in January had not been reported as fully as they should have been. He insisted that there is a planning restriction (6.44) on late night use of a new Hall at the Broadway Centre, disagreeing with the statement made by the Clerk as minuted at 1409/17. The Clerk said she would compare Mr. Lawson's notes with her own.

1442/17 To receive and accept apologies for absence
None required

1443/17 To receive declarations of interest
Declaration of interest was made by Cllr. Blezzard as Chair of Planning and a Member of the Isle of Wight Council in anything pertaining to that Council, and by Cllr. Ward as a Member of the Isle of Wight Council.

1444/17 To agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on

a) 20 February 2017
On a proposal from Cllr. Grandchamp, seconded by Cllr. Ward, and amended by Cllr. Blezzard, with agreement by Members,
It was **RESOLVED** to agree the public session of the minutes, deferring the part which excluded the press and public to after agenda item 1454/17

b) 28 February 2017 (Confidential)
It was agreed that these minutes would also be considered after agenda item 1454/17

1445/17 To approve the schedules of payments
The invoices were checked to the schedule of payments by Cllrs. Cowley & Mereweather. On a proposal from Cllr. Mereweather, seconded by Cllr. Cowley

It was RESOLVED to approve the schedule for Sandown Town Council in the sum of £6,293.33. There was no schedule for Sandham Gardens.

1446/17

To discuss and progress the work needed, making decisions where necessary, for Sandham Gardens

This Council was now waiting for the IOW Council to make their decision at a meeting to be held on Thursday 09 March. Cllr. Blezzard reported that he had attended the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 07 March, as a non-voting member, at which this was discussed.

1447/17

To receive an update on Public Toilets Freehold Asset transfers from IOW Council, Making decisions where necessary.

Negotiations between Solicitors and the IOW Council legal team were still ongoing. The Clerk reported that she had that morning received notification that works were required to the wall behind Pier Street toilets. Councillors discussed and said that this and possible road subsidence has been known by IOW Council for about 5 years at least. It was suggested, and agreed by a majority (2 members abstaining) that between the IOW Council and Sandown Town Council these should be put out to tender for re-development. The Clerk to write to IOW Council.

1448/17

To receive and approve the Financial Reports

Appendix 2

Receipts & Payments

Sandown Town Council for the period 01 January – 28 February 2017

Sandham Gardens for the period 01 January – 28 February 2017

After discussion and questions, answered by the Clerk, and on a proposal from Cllr. Mereweather, seconded by Cllr. Young

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the schedules received.

There was discussion about the use of the funds in Sandham Grounds Bank account and although in the coming year the costs and income would be incorporated into the general fund it was agreed that the starting balance at 01 April 2018 would be left as a reserve for future use.

1449/17

Update from Cllr. Dupre on Sand levels on the Beach

Cllr. Dupre reported that he had had a meeting with Arthur Dunkley, to which other people had been invited but had not attended, but was in contact with the Marine Enforcement Agency trying to get data about the dredgers. He had copied the Clerk in on all correspondence. Cllrs. Blezzard and Ward had flagged up the sand levels with the IOW Council geomorphologist, Jennie Jakeway and Cllr. Dupre was keen to get in contact and to gain her support. Cllr. Teasdale said the subject was of great importance to the Town and he thanked Cllr. Dupre for undertaking the work.

1450/17

To receive:

a) verbal reports from Town Councillors

Cllr. Humby had carried out her usual 'surgery' at the Library and had received favourable comments about the Chronicle in its slightly new format.

Cllr. Young asked Cllr. Blezzard about Planning permission for the site near the Bridge in Sandown.

Cllr. Dupre was concerned about people who made comments that Councillors received payment for 'getting things through'. This highlighted the apathy and lack of understanding over Councillor's work.

Cllr. Blezzard said that if you stand for public office you must be prepared to come under scrutiny.

Cllr. Wright added that unfortunately good news doesn't make headlines.

Cllr. Ward said comments from the Public made Councillors feel under pressure.
Cllr. Cowley added that it would be nice if sometimes someone said nice things about the Council.

Cllr. Patel reported that in his capacity as Mayor he had attended a book launch

XXXXXXXX

b) reports from Councillors attending meetings on outside bodies

Sandown Forum had suggested that there should be more public meetings held in Sandown.

1451/17

To note written reports from County Councillors

Cllr. Blezzard responded to questions on his written report (copy attached) and suggested that Jennie Jakeway was invited to a meeting.

Cllr. Ward gave a verbal reported, saying that he had been looking into areas of his IOW Council portfolio. One of these was parking which seemed that some years were a loss and some were a gain. It would seem that most money is made in the first two hours, but there is scope for investigation.

With regard to education funding, it would seem that the IOW would gain from new formulas. A gain of £21 per head would net over £800,000 per year. All Bay area schools would gain.

Cllrs Blezzard and Ward had attended an LGA meeting with Police & Crime Commissioners on the mainland. Smaller police forces had suffered from cuts, but it would seem that Hampshire had not suffered so much.

A growth in online crime had been reported and also a lack in resources of qualified staff.

There had been a meeting of the Business Forum at County Hall to air problems etc. On the Island there are a number of low wage industries and these did not attract the right people.

1452/17

To receive information from the Town Clerk

The Clerk reported that a bright yellow cart had been found when clearing out the Broadway Centre. She asked if anyone had information about it.

It was also reported that the NHS nurses and the Church had been given the final date for ceasing to use the car park at the Broadway Centre.

She had had a meeting with Pete Johnstone who has a grant advisory business, and whilst grants for the new building were not possible grants for the internal fixtures and fittings were a possibility.

The report finished with the fact that the van was in the garage for a clutch repair.

1453/17

To note date of next meeting – 20 March 2017

This date was noted.

1454/17

To exclude the press and public

That in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and are instructed to withdraw. (1960 Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act)

A vote was taken which resulted 6 in favour of excluding the press and public – Cllrs. Cowley, Dupre, Grandchamp, Mereweather, Ward and Young and 2 against – Cllrs. Blezzard and Humby and 1 abstention – Cllr. Wright.

The Press and Public left the room

Signed
Chairman

Date 24 April 2017