



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Marion Cook CiLCA

Town Clerk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Sandown Town Council held on Monday 16 October 2017 at 7.00pm, in Room 2, Sandown Business Centre, College Close.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr. Patel (Chair), Cllr. Andre, Cllr. Brading, Cllr. Cowley, Cllr. Dupre, Cllr. Grandchamp, Cllr. Humby, Cllr. Lawson, Cllr. Mereweather and Cllr. Ward.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Marion Cook (Town Clerk), 6 Members of the Public, and the County Press

To allow 15 minutes for the Residents of Sandown to speak to the Council on Town matters.

Sharon Merrick stood to read out a letter on behalf of Mrs Jean Orman, who was unable to attend due to illness. The letter, which can be seen as appendix 1 to these minutes, concerned the sale of a major Island asset in the form of Dinosaur Isle. She asked the Sandown Town Council to consider making an application for Dino Isle to become a declared Community Asset.

Cllr. Andre asked if she could respond to that. The Mayor refused permission.

Mrs Merrick continued with a second letter sent by Mrs Orman, this time on behalf of the Sandown Forum and concerned the departure of the Town Clerk from Office, and wishing the thanks of that Group to be recorded. This letter can be seen at appendix 2. Sharon asked to add her own good wishes to that letter, continuing that until she started attending meetings she had no idea of the skills and knowledge that were required. There was agreement from Members of the Public and a round of applause. The Clerk thanked them most sincerely.

The Mayor quickly started to open the meeting but Cllr. Andre asked again if she could respond, also saying there may be more Public wishing to speak. Cllr. Mereweather suggested the three Isle of Wight Councillors should declare an interest. The Mayor asked if there any more Members of the Public wishing to speak. There were none. The Mayor started to open the meeting again and when Cllr. Andre asked if she was not allowed to respond he repeated Cllr. Mereweathers comment about declaring an interest. Cllr. Ward said that previously IOW Councillors had declared an interest anything to do with Isle of Wight Council and Cllr. Mereweather was referring to that. So again, Cllr. Andre asked if she was allowed to respond. The Clerk said to Cllr. Andre that she was not allowed to respond unless the Mayor asked her to do so. The Mayor said he would write to Mrs Orman to take the matter forward. The Mayor again started the meeting .

1561/17 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Teasdale and Young, both away from home.

1562/17 To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1563/17 To agree and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 18 September 2017

Cllr. Cowley asked if there could be a vote on the minutes. Cllr. Lawson pointed out to grammatical errors and these were amended.

The Mayor called for the vote and by four votes to none, with four abstentions

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes.

The Mayor informed attendees that the meeting was being recorded

1564/17 To receive and approve the schedule of payments

Cllrs. Cowley & Mereweather had not had time before the meeting to complete checking the correctness of the entries. Cllr. Lawson queried the payment to the Locum who clerked the Appointment Panel meetings etc. Cllr. Mereweather gave a satisfactory explanation of exactly what it covered. Cllr. Humby asked if the Legionella testing was a one off or done annually. The Clerk confirmed it was an annual test. Cllr. Dupre queried the grass cutting cost of £2660.26 for one month for Sandham and Los Altos. He said this would have to be looked at. He was reminded that within the month this contract would be terminated when the under lease with Heritage should be signed. Cllr. Cowley queried why the Beach cleaning charge and the toilet cleaning charges were higher in August than September. The Clerk said it was because in the high season there were more toilet cleaning visits, and on the beach there were 22 additional wire baskets placed that had to be collected and emptied each day. Cllr. Lawson asked if this was the same each year. The Clerk said yes. With two abstentions, It was **RESOLVED** by a majority, that the payments be approved and Cllrs. Cowley & Mereweather would finish checking them after the meeting.

1565/17 To consider any Planning Applications received prior to the meeting, and to note any correspondence, or decisions made by delegated function with regard to Planning applications or appeals.

The Mayor declared an interest in applications P/01132 and p/01133 as it was his property and business

Application No: P/01127/17 **Alt Ref:** TCP/17785/A

Location: 2-4, Melville Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8JW

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01127/17>

Application No: P/01196/17 **Alt Ref:** LDC/32068/H

Location: Chalet 23, Sandown Bay Holiday Centre, Yaverland Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO368QR

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01196/17>

Application No: P/01210/17 **Alt Ref:** TCP/17223/D

Location: 46 High Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO368AE

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01210/17>

Application No: P/01232/17 **Alt Ref:** TCP/33252

Location: 43 Fort Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO368BA

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01232/17>

The Mayor left the room and Cllr. Humby took the Chair to discuss the following two applications

Application No: P/01133/17 **Alt Ref:** TCP/29471/A

Location: Sandown Newsagents, 12 High Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO368DA

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01133/17>

Application No: P/01132/17 **Alt Ref:** A/00953/A

Location: Sandown Newsagents, 12 High Street, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO368DA

Web Link: <http://www.iwight.com/planning/DirectToAppDetails2.aspx?P/01132/17>

The Mayor returned to the room and continued in the Chair.

With a number of abstentions on each application reviewed,
It was **RESOLVED** by a majority in each case to support the applications.

The following applications which had been decided under Delegated Procedure by the IOW Council, were noted.

Application No: P/00896/17

Parish: Sandown **Ward:** Sandown South

Location: Carisbrooke House Hotel, 11 Beachfield Road, Sandown, PO36 8NA

Proposal: Change of use from guest house (use class C01) to care home (use class C2)

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

Application No: P/00593/17

Parish: Sandown **Ward:** Sandown South

Location: Parkside Apartments, Grange Road, Sandown, PO36

Proposal: Proposed conversion of storage area to form one, 1 bedroom apartment

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

Application No: P/00941/17

Parish: Sandown **Ward:** Sandown South

Location: Birchland, Melville Street, Sandown, PO36 9DP

Proposal: Widen the existing entrance to provide single vehicle access; a turning area and parking together with a dropped kerb in alignment with the new drive.

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

Application No: P/00931/17

Parish: Sandown **Ward:** Sandown North

Location: land at 2, Whitecliff Close, Sandown, PO36 8QH

Proposal: Variation of condition 1 on P/00161/13 to allow regularisation of development as built

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

Application No: P/00938/17

Parish: Sandown **Ward:** Sandown South

Location: Broadway Centre, Broadway, Sandown, Isle of PO36 9GG

Proposal: Variation of condition 4, 8 and 10 and 11 on P/01681/12 to allow temporary parking for the community centre

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

1566/17

To approve the signing of the Deed of Variation for Sandham Gardens

The Clerk said that with the authority of a previous meeting, the deed had been signed and was being held by our Solicitors, pending a query about the rent review dates, which has now been accepted as this was changed because our lease is now a commercial lease. Unfortunately Adrian Whittle, Jerome Law, who is acting for this

Council, had gone on annual leave without informing the Clerk, and without delegating the work to anyone in his office. Heritage had hoped to exchange on the 29th October, but this exact date was looking unlikely.
On a proposal by Cllr. Ward, seconded by Cllr. Brading, and by a majority of votes it was **RESOLVED** to approve the actions taken.

1567/17

At the request of Cllr. Ward to receive a request to agree to, and support the Royal British Legion in hosting, in Sandown, the IW Armed Forces Day event in June 2018.

Cllr. Ward said that for a number of the IOW Armed Forces Day had been held in Ryde. Although under the auspices of the Chairman of the IOW Council, it has been run by a small group made up of Town Councillors and British Legion and others from around the Island. The group has effectively disbanded. The Lord Lieutenant and the Chairman asked the British Legion to take it on, and one of the first discussion points was where would it be held? Having decided to move it round the Island, the organising committee approved asking Sandown Town Council if they would host it. Cllr Lawson asked what the expense to the Community would be? Cllr. Ward said that most of the expenses were taken care of as the IOW Council gave £2,000 and road closures etc were catered for in that arrangement. He added that if the organisers came to the Council for money it would go as a grant application like anyone else. It will be the one event for the whole of the Isle of Wight

On a proposal from Cllr. Humby, seconded by Cllr. Mereweather who commented that the number of people who attend would be really good for Sandown, it was **RESOLVED** to agree to the request.

1568/17

To receive and approve the schedule of payments

This agenda item was a duplication of 1564/17 and therefore ignored.

1569/17

At the request of Cllr. Lawson

- a) to receive an explanation as to why the Mayor deviated from procedure and Appointment Panel was formed instead of using the existing Staffing Committee**
- b) to discuss contingency plans should there be no Clerk in post**

The Mayor stood and started to read from a prepared statement. He was interrupted by Cllr. Lawson asking for his right to speak to the item. The Mayor said he had asked a question and he was answering it. Cllr. Andre started to say something and was told not to interfere. He said again that Cllr. Lawson had asked a question and he was giving a reply. Cllr. Lawson said he detected some hostility in the Mayor, and that he expected that he would be allowed to speak before the response came. The Mayor continued saying that Cllr. Lawson was at the meeting when it was discussed, and that it was a Full Council not just him. The Clerk interrupted saying that it was normal practice and in standing orders that the person instigating the agenda item should be allowed to speak to it. Cllr. Lawson said he thought it was understating how the meeting had been run. Councillors had not been allowed to vote on the exclusion of press and public, and were read chapter and verse by a rather hostile locum Clerk..... there were cries of out of order from other Councillors and Cllr. Dupre called for Cllr. Lawson to be denied to speak. Noise and talking broke out. The Mayor said he was going to answer the question and then the meeting would move forward.

He read "At the Extraordinary meeting held on the 6th September the Town Council resolved the appointment of an Appointment Panel specifically to deal with the Clerk's resignation and democratically appointed five members. All took part in it. The resolution..... (Script awaited from the Mayor) There is nothing further to this

discussion, so as the Chair I would like to move this process to our next item on the agenda.”

Cllr. Lawson then asked if he could respond to that, and again the Mayor said that Cllr. Lawson had asked a question and that was the answer. Some Councillors disagreed with that and Members of the public shouted out against this saying it was appalling. He told them not to tell him what to do and if they were not quiet they would have to leave. They argued with him. Cllr. Dupre said to the public that they had had their chance to speak. Cllr. Lawson called a Point of Order which was questioned by a Member of the Public. Cllr. Lawson reminded them for a second time that they were there as a Member of the Public and should not interrupt. Cllr. Dupre spoke over others to tell the Chair this had gone on long enough; over the noise others could not be heard. He said this was like the last meeting which had resulted in War and Peace for the minutes. The Mayor raised his voice to answer the second part of the question. He said until the closing date there could be no discussion about what might happen. As the Chair he moved the meeting on.

Cllr. Humby asked if she could ask a question of the Clerk. She asked, Cllr. Lawson says he has the right to speak, can you say if he has or not? The Clerk replied she believed he had the right to speak to the item on the agenda. The Mayor said it was a ‘question not an item in that way’. The Clerk said it was right that he should be able to enlarge on and explain the item. When it was written on the agenda it gave just a brief idea of what the item was.

Cllr. Cowley proposed the meeting just moved on. There was background talking. Cllr. Lawson said it was outrageous.

The Mayor started to read out the next agenda item. Cllr. Lawson asked if he could test the Mayor’s comprehension of what he had read out. Cllr. Dupre called for any interruption to stop. The Mayor retorted that the agenda item was in front of everyone so he didn’t have to read it out.

1570/17

At the request of Cllrs. Brading and Young to discuss Committee Structure going forward. Aim is to reduce the number of committees we have, as they do not work effectively at present. Outcome would be we all work better as one united Council; we are all fully informed and engaged in everything; we are fully transparent to the public and working the best we can for the good of our town”

Cllr. Lawson said he thought what the Mayor had read out was hypocrisy. The Mayor said he would have to ask Cllr. Lawson to.... Cllr. Dupre interrupted asking the Mayor if he would do that.

The Mayor asked Cllr. Brading to speak. Cllr. Brading said he was asking for this to be deferred to the next meeting when Cllr. Young would be present to give his views as well. He said he didn’t want to cause any further arguments this evening, and by deferring this to the next meeting when the motion can be put forward and achieve what it is meant to achieve. With two abstentions it was **RESOLVED** to defer this to the next meeting.

1571/17

To make a decision regarding advertising on Island Line

The Clerk explained this was a continuation of the advertising taken out last year. The businesses that took the other half of the banner had confirmed they would be continuing.

Cllr. Andre asked if it was proposed to run the existing advert as there was a serious typo on it (Cyclers instead of Cyclists) The Clerk answered that there was an option to alter it. Cllr. Lawson thought the advert could be improved to promote Sandown better. Cllr. Brading said he thought the advert was good. He asked what the time frame was, and it was suggested that a fairly rapid response was needed.

With two abstentions it was **RESOLVED** to reserve the space with a view to with the review and improve the advert.

1572/17

To note verbal reports from Town Councillors

Cllr. Brading updated the meeting on Sandown Bay Academy saying that a final decision on the School was still awaited, and will need to wait until the end of October for confirmation that it will be a free school, or otherwise.

Cllr. Grandchamp wanted members to note his sadness at the loss of the School Patrol on the Broadway. He believes it is a big mistake to not replace it. The Broadway is a busy road and the School has 450 children under 11 years old, crossing the road twice a day.

Cllr. Dupre asked if he could ask Cllr. Lawson something about the Environment Committee. The Mayor said no as this was just for reports. Cllr. Lawson reminded Cllr. Dupre he was a member of that Committee and hadn't turned up for some time. Cllr. Dupre agreed he hadn't as he didn't think it was worth it. He was asked if he wished to resign to which he said No, and reminded Cllr. Lawson to go through the Chair to speak to him. There was background noise and the Mayor called for quiet.

Cllr. Dupre said the dredging and sand level situation was going rather well and he had been in contact with Shanklin and Bembridge and John Hobart for the IOW Council and Peter Marsden. Information gathered by fishermen for the University of Southampton was going to be very useful. He was going to see if they could obtain an underwater camera to prove that what they are taking away is illegal. Bob Seely had said that when everything was collated things could move forward.

Cllr. Andre referred everyone to her report attached to the agenda at Appendix 2 and to the minutes at appendix 3.

Cllr. Humby reported on her Library surgery. She said she had had reported a lot of weeds in the back roads of Sandown. Cllr. Ward said 'done'. She also reported concerns about what might happen at the Ocean Hotel. She also reported a complaint of the lights on at Sandham Gardens all night. The Clerk responded that there was no timer to control them, and as they were part of the package to go to Heritage, she thought it would be unnecessary expense to alter them for such a short time.

Yaverland residents were not happy about the state of the road. Some has been done, but they do think that attention should be given to the stretch from the junction of Fort Street/Culver Parade to meadow Way. Complaints had also been received about people living in Esplanade Hotel by gaining access through the windows. Concerns were also aired about Dinosaur Isle.

The Mayor reported that he had attended a function organised by the Lord Lieutenant for the awards ceremony. He congratulated Cllr. Ward on his BEM awarded at that ceremony.

1573/17

To note written reports from County Councillors

Reports having being circulated, the Chair asked if there were any questions. Cllr. Dupre asked about abandoned cars in St. Johns Road. Cllr. Ward explained the Policy for cars identified as abandoned. The process now takes 6 weeks. Cllr. Ward referred to Cllr. Andre. All cars have been reported now through the new process. Cllr. Dupre expressed concern that neither he or the resident in St. John's Road knew about the new process, and thought they should have been informed.

Reports are attached at appendix 3.

Cllr. Humby asked Cllr. Ward a question about Dinosaur Isle. Cllr. Andre pointed out that the question concerned something in Sandown North Ward, not Sandown South.

She explained the situation. The Chair of the Friends of Dinosaur Isle, Dr. Jeremy Lockwood put a question to Cabinet asking them to maintain the accreditation, which is the key element to the Museum, and he was given that affirmation by the Leader, Dave Stewart. This means that it will always be an accredited Museum regardless of what happens around it. Cllr. Lawson suggested this meant Commercial Tenderers need not apply. Both Councillors denied that saying that the Museum has to be not for profit but Commercial activity is allowed with the peripherals. i.e. café, shop.

1574/17 To note verbal reports from Members on outside bodies

Cllr. Mereweather on behalf of the Partnership said she had another half dozen tiles to go down. People are absolutely thrilled with the scheme. It is hoped they will be down before the winter sets in.

Cllr. Humby reported on the Sandown Forum saying they had had a very good talk from Caroline Morris from the CCG. She re-assured people that despite rumours the Hospital is staying. Cllr. Humby suggested she would be a good speaker for the Council.

Cllr. Mereweather asked if this could be put on the agenda for a future meeting.

1575/17 To note information from the Town Clerk

a) Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Day 11 November is on a Saturday and there would be a short service as normal. The main Service will be on Sunday 12 November. The Clerk reported that Mary Teague the Conductor, was very poorly in Hospital. She was asked to send a card from the Council.

b) Town Hall

A letter of acknowledgement had been received in respect of the application to place the Town Hall on the register of Community Assets. A further letter was received on 10 October to say the application had been successful, and then on 16 she had received an e-mail to say it had been listed and was now going up for sale.

Cllr. Dupre asked what grade listing the Town hall was? The façade is grade 11 listed. Cllr. Ward said he would bring everyone up to date. The IOW Council is putting all unused properties up for sale. Everything like Dino Isle is included as a matter of course, just to see what the market will bear. There is no real drive to sell anything. It is happening all over the Island. Cllr. Humby said she hoped the Ward Councillors would work very hard to retain this for Sandown.

The Clerk continued by speaking about Sandown Partnership, who were paying for the Junior Skatepark. To facilitate that two of the fences on that area need moving round to create one big space. The Partnership had asked if the Council would a) give permission for them to be moved and b) pay for it. The cost could come out of the equipment fund.

Cllr. Mereweather asked for approval to name the Skatepark after a person who did a lot of work for the Skatepark. Cllr. Mereweather said she would write to the Clerk for this to be put on the next agenda for ratification.

Cllr. Brading asked if there was not £10,000 in the budget that was going to be given to the Youth Service, but has not been spent, so could that be used? The Clerk agreed there was, but CEYP who are trying to move, had not provided their paperwork, so the grant from the IOW Council that is attached to it has not come through. At this

stage we will only be using a maximum of three quarters of it. If you wanted to use some of that, it could be done so.

The Clerk said she would put the whole thing on the next agenda.

Cllr. Dupre started to talk about the buoys that were in the Bay, and that they were either sold or kept by someone. He said he had seen no evidence of them being sold. The Clerk replied that they were owned by the IOW. She was told by several members that the Town Council had paid for them. 6 buoys cost £16,000. She affirmed what she had been told, and Cllr, Dupre said that the Town Council wanted £16,000 for them. The Clerk said she would follow this up. Cllr. Lawson pointed out to Cllr. Dupre that this topic had been discussed at Environment Committee and his contribution to the conversation would be most welcome if he chose to return. It would have been valuable to know that information.

The Clerk continued, she had asked the Environment agency about weeding the sloped area of paving slabs on the sea side of Culver Parade opposite Dinosaur Isle and Browns. The result is that Ian Boyd will work with the agency as not all of it is weeds, there are some flowers, but what isn't worth keeping will be removed, to try and make it look a bit tidier.

The Bat Licence has been granted for the new Building at Broadway Centre.

The Carnival Association have written to thank the Town Council for support and money in the year. The Chairman said he had been asked by Ben Holbrook, Carnival Chairman, for any help on Firework night on 04 November.

For Councillors information , Steven Jenkins play area is in need of re-surfacing at some point. Initial quote received came in at £33,000 + VAT. Cllr. Ward asked if Heritage will take that on. The Clerk answered that it is within the free to use part retained by the Council. Cllr. Ward said he would ask if Island Roads will do it.

The Clerk reminded Councillors there would be a Green Town Volunteers meeting on Wednesday at College Close at 6.30pm, and all were invited.

Cllr. Andre asked if she could refer the Chair to standing order 1s, " before an original or substantive motion is put to the vote, the Chairman of the meeting should be satisfied that the motion has been sufficiently presented and the mover of the motion under debate has exercised or waived his right of reply" She continued that she would like to make the point that earlier Cllr. Lawson, as far as she was aware did not waive his right of reply and was not given the opportunity to either debate or reply to his motion. There was no comment.

1576/17

To note the date of the next meeting – 20 November 2017

Cllr. Brading mentioned that the meeting was on the same night that all Mayors, Councillors and Clerks were invited to a meeting in Newport, and County Councillors should be there as well.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 20.25pm

Signed
Chairman

Date 20 November 2017

