



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Marion Cook CiLCA

Town Clerk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Sandown Town Council held on Monday 18 September 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, Cllr. Teasdale, Cllr. Ward and Cllr. Young.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Marion Cook (Town Clerk), 5 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 spoke about the Council Tax Consultation later on the agenda. She said that she thought the mood of the country was that enough was enough with regard to constant increases in living costs. It was the low paid workers who would be suffering. She asked that the County Councillors take to the IOW Council the support from the Council meeting to express the concerns that were felt. She reminded Councillors of the promises made by Bob Seely in his election campaign about how he would support the people. The elected members must get Bob Seely on side and be brave and say to the Government that there would be no more cuts. She encouraged everyone to complete the online consultation.

Jeanne Jones spoke on behalf of herself and her husband who was unable to be present. She started by reminding everyone that the Council should be a non-political team working for the good of Sandown. Personal friendships and loyalties should not be the basis of voting to make a decision. She said there appeared to be a divide between the newer Councillors and those that had served for many years on the Council. Valuable work done by Councillors on a voluntary basis should be acknowledged and recognised. She said that it was not fair that the Mayor was continually singled out for abuse by certain parts of our Town, and flies in the face of our multi-cultural society. She said it was unjustified that a Councillor responded to a complaint and commented on facebook about a legally parked vehicle belonging to the Mayor, when there were many other illegally parked vehicles in the Town. Mrs Jones' question was 'Does the Council intend to pursue the illegally parked vehicles on the roads with similar vigour'.

The Mayor allowed Cllr. Andre to respond, she said that it was no secret that she had been focussing on parking. She spoke to residents prior to a meeting with the District Steward (Island Roads) and there were several, about 5 issues that were highlighted by a number of people, about which she spoke with the District Steward. She was currently waiting for his report. Each report would be given a separate reference, and each issue raised was given equal priority in her discussion.

Mrs Jones was asked if that answered her question, and she said she still did not see why it should be put on social media. Cllr. Andre said this was one of her ways of communicating with residents.

Cllr. Dupre was stopped from making it a discussion point.

1550/17 To receive and accept apologies for absence
None required.

1551/17 To receive declarations of interest
There were no declarations of interest.

- 1552/17 To agree and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 14 August and 22 August 2017**
 Cllr. Dupre questioned the fact that Cllr. Grandchamp had chaired the meeting of the Staffing Committee and this should have been the Mayor. During fierce discussion it was explained that the Mayor had not been in attendance at the meetings and therefore could not have been Chair.
 After altering Monday 22 August to Tuesday 22 August 2017, the minutes for the 22 August were agreed and signed.
 Cllr. Lawson made a Point of Order to the Chairman. He said that Cllr. Dupre frequently acts against standing orders where he is meant to treat Councillors and the Town Clerk with respect and that should be extended in public as well. He asked that the Mayor issue Cllr. Dupre with a statement to that effect because he felt if this continued a motion should be considered that he is not heard, because frankly it is not very good conduct for a Councillor to be rude to fellow Councillors and particularly to the Town Clerk especially after what transpired at a meeting recently where it definitely happened there as well.
 Cllr. Dupre asked what meeting. Cllr. Lawson said he would like the Mayor to respond before Cllr. Dupre spoke. The Mayor asked Cllr. Lawson to repeat his request as he didn't get what he was saying. Cllr. Lawson asked the Mayor to please reprimand Cllr. Dupre on his conduct as detailed in standing order (2a).
 Cllr. Cowley asked that it was put to a vote. Cllr. Lawson pointed out that he was asking the Mayor to enforce the standing orders. The Mayor responded by saying to Cllr. Dupre that he didn't have to be rude to fellow Councillors and the Public.
 The minutes for 14 August were then agreed and signed.
- 1553/17 To ratify any recommendation from the Environment Committee concerning Dogs on the Beach**
 The Chair of the Environment Committee said the committee had agreed to not put forward any recommendation at this stage.
- 1554/17 To respond to the Island Plan Core Strategy - Invitation to initial survey**
 It was agreed that as it was a very lengthy document the only way to respond would be to form a working group or respond individually. After discussion and on a proposal from Cllr. Andre
 It was **RESOLVED** that each Councillor would respond individually.
- 1555/17 To respond to the Isle of Wight Council 'Council Tax Consultation'**
 Cllr. Andre referred to the fact that this had been referred to in the Public participation time and suggested that a summary of the facts was that currently the IOW Council has a shortfall to make up, and the document needed to be looked at in context. A Council Tax reduction scheme was the better way of ensuring that other vital services were not impacted upon. Cllr. Ward that there was always a safety net for those in real hardship via a specific fund.
 Cllr. Lawson asked Councillors to note the options which as pointed out by Cllr. Andre they were not either/or options but to be looked at collectively. Cllr. Lawson thought the list of 'options' were misleading.
 It was suggested that Option 1 which shared the obligation to everyone was the best if not the most ideal way. Cllr. Ward suggested that individual responses from Councillors would be a better way of covering all views. Cllr. Lawson queried the 'saftey net' to which Cllr. Ward referred, he said there were already Foodbanks so wondered what safety nets were available for working couples and families that

simply found costs spiralling more than wages. Cllr. Ward said is actually a fund but was unsure as to what criteria triggered the fund being used. By a majority vote it was **RESOLVED** to respond individually although some Councillors felt that a Town Council response should have been made.

1556/17

To discuss the impact of the current sub-committees and admin resourcing upon decision making and to consider the re-structuring of the current subcommittees in line with a shift to more business orientated administration of council business.

Cllr. Lawson introduced the item, by saying he had looked back at the May minutes when Councillors were appointed to various committees and outside bodies. He felt there was dis-function in the way it works. When the Staffing Committee recommendation for extra re-sourcing in the office was not ratified by Full Council, there were comments like 'more information in writing' and 'reference to Finance Committee'. Councillors interrupted asking where this was going. Cllr. Lawson pointed out that standing orders permitted him to be able to introduce his item agenda without interruption, and he asked for their patience. He continued that Council did not achieve what it needed to achieve and he did not believe that the current committee set up allowed Council to work at its best. Cllr. Lawson referred to a member who at Full Council voted against his Committee's recommendation. Cllr. Dupre said Cllr. Lawson was out of order. When asked why Cllr. Dupre said he was picking on a fellow Councillor. Interruption followed and the Mayor asked for quiet. Office resourcing meant that due to prioritising of work requests for something to be done, does not get done straightaway, and therefore pressure is put on doing work effectively. Cllr. Lawson stopped as there were mutterings from some other Councillors. He then continued saying where research was required, and listed a long list of about 20 items that were on the list of work for this Council, it was being done re-actively as they hit deadlines or agendas. We have a part time Clerk and a part time unqualified Administration assistant. Ventor TC, which has a precept not that much more than Sandown has 9 full and part time Staff, and Ryde TC, which has a precept of £643, has 2 Full time Town Clerks and 10 full or part time Staff, the point being this Council is at the extreme end of the scale and understaffed for what could be an effective business operation.

Cllr. Lawson passed round some documents (see attached) relating to business structure. He said that in the past he has done presentations to Businesses that were trying to get out of this fire fighting mode, and were struggling to turn the business around to be effective and profitable. He talked through the diagrams. On diagram 2 he compared this with his questions about the savings on Sandham Gardens going out to lease, he said he had received four different answers, as with the diagram the answer depended on who you asked. This happens with many businesses because when you get to certain size and unanticipated work comes through. We didn't know that as a Town Council we were going to have to look after so much, and it was discussed at the meeting where ratification was requested for extra resource, that there used to be a full time Clerk and it was perceived that the Council could get by with a part time Clerk, but it wasn't known that more work would be piled on. It becomes impossible after a certain point to know exactly everything that is going on. The third diagram, which was more complicated, showed how to effectively use information to make decisions so that as the boss of the Company you have got access to the information you need. In our world Councillors are directors and CEO is the Mayor, and as Directors you need the information to make a decision. Cllr. Lawson said that he hoped Councillors would agree that the Council needs to get more effective and improve. As this is a discussion item we need to consider dissolving the existing committees and forming two new committees a) Operations

and b) Strategy (or Business Plan) and agree a remit for both, deciding which sort of things belong in each of those committees, so day to day stuff like beach Cleaning is Operations and deciding how to handle potential sub-lets would be Strategic. The Council also needs to consider a Town Plan to enable a long term strategy. It could take two years to achieve a Town plan to inform us so when things like the Island Plan Core Strategy come up we already have most of the answer.

Cllr. Cowley said that the Office did not do anything towards the Outside bodies it was all done by the members. Cllr. Lawson agreed although he said the Partnership was a separate thing, but they were taking up time for the Councillors to do these things and the problem is that the outside bodies do not touch a big enough percentage of the Community we are representing.

Cllr. Brading said he had wanted to put something on the agenda along similar lines but had missed the deadline. He said in the four months he has been on the Council he has looked at things and asked himself is it worth me doing this and has decided it isn't. We may differ on the final solution, but personally he would like to scrap every committee and do it all as one body. In the light of the change of Clerk he proposed that we keep it on the agenda for a proper discussion after the new Clerk is appointed, and we just thrash out between us the best way of working together, whether it is Cllr. Lawson's suggestion of two Committees or one Full Council, and I propose we go straight to the vote.

This was seconded by Cllr. Dupre. Cllr. Lawson asked that he was able to respond before going to the vote. He suggested that as there was an agenda item coming up (1557/17) it would be foolhardy to defer this sort of concept until after a new appointment was made because it may well involve our existing Town Clerk but also it is pertinent to that, because the whole concept of a Strategy Committee versus an Operational Committee is to separate those two lines of work because the conflict with each other. If you have the same resources working on both you are constantly torn. If you go to the office with a plan on Monday morning and something hits your desk and you don't get back to the original plan until Friday, it just goes on and on, unless you take steps. Cllr. Lawson said he appreciated what Cllr. Brading was saying but he suggested that he would prefer it to come up on the next agenda. The reason for that was because of the resignation the Communications working group was another avenue that was being worked on, has been dropped because it is not seen as a priority, whereas he thought it needs to be pursued with utmost priority. Cllr. Brading referred to a comment made by Cllr. Humby when she said something should not be an individual response, but a Council response, then if we had just one Full Council, with no Committees, you can tick all the boxes in one go. If we wait for a new Clerk that person may have certain skills we want to tap in to.

Cllr. Dupre said he thought Cllr. Brading had come up with a good idea as we had three months as the Clerk was retiring, The Clerk interrupted to say she was resigning not retiring, to which Cllr. Dupre asked why she was still there? Everybody tried to speak at the same time and Cllr. Lawson, seconded by Cllr. Young, demanded that Cllr. Dupre should not be heard if he was going to be rude to the Clerk. Councillors referred him to Standing Orders. Cllr. Dupre said 'Rubbish'. Cllr. Andre asked that Members went straight to the vote. Cllr. Lawson asked for a named vote and vote was taken.

In favour of Cllr. Dupre not being heard: Cllrs. Lawson, Andre, Young and Grandchamp
Against : Cllrs. Mereweather, Cowley, Brading and Dupre

(Cllr. Dupre was allowed to vote as there is no regulation in Standing Orders)

Abstaining: Cllrs. Ward, Teasdale and Humby.

The Mayor, Cllr. Patel was asked to vote as it was an even vote, and he voted against the proposal to barr Cllr. Dupre from being heard. There were calls of 'shame' from the Public.

Cllr. Patel asked Cllr. Dupre if he wished to continue speaking. Amid noise from some Councillors and the Mayor, and Cllr. Dupre saying 'it was a stitch up', Cllr. Cowley tried to continue on his behalf. She was reminded by Cllr. Andre of standing orders whereby she should wait for the Mayor to indicate who should be speaking. The Mayor asked Cllr. Cowley to continue and she said she would like to support Cllr. Brading's proposal that as there would be a new Clerk in place in a couple of months the item should be deferred.

Cllr. Ward spoke to say that Cllr. Lawson's plan was a good plan which would bring a structure to the Council that hasn't been there before. Whether it is done now or it is deferred it ought to be looked at with a view to adopting it. He was inclined to go for a deferment so that new Clerk could have some input. Cllr. Lawson asked to respond, and after the Mayor had called for once person at a time to speak, he continued saying that people with different skill sets, operational or strategic, could make operating as a Full Council less effective. He advocated the two committee structure, and said that if deferment was the preferred option that was fine and would give people the chance to think about it more deeply.

Cllr. Teasdale was finally given the opportunity to speak. He said his fellow Councillors drove him mad as they were all there for the good of the Town. He asked what had been achieved at the meeting that was to the benefit of the Town? If he had been at the meeting when the Clerk decided to go he would have told them then that were a disgrace. Cllr. Andre pointed out that 4 Councillors had supported the notion of extra administration support. Noise broke out again and the Mayor asked for quiet. Cllr. Teasdale said he liked Cllr. Lawson's Proposal, which had been a long time coming. He had been saying for a long time that the Council needed to act like a business and make money for the Town, but the way the Council had acted tonight they were not going anywhere. Cllr. Lawson said he assumed that Cllr. Teasdale was referring to certain sections of the Council, but he realised that all Members had to take responsibility for the failure of the Staffing proposal. Even if you didn't vote, we collectively agree it. What he wanted to do was to improve the robustness of the decision making. Having been on the outside and the inside he can see that emotional forces have influenced decisions and documentation doesn't allow everyone to keep track properly.

Cllr. Grandchamp said that he did not see the point in deferring until a new Clerk is in place, simply because this is the way the Councillors organise themselves, not the way the Clerk suggests we organise ourselves. The Clerk is employed by us, and if we decide we want 20 committees meeting every day the Clerk will be asked to work with that, not the other way round. There is support from several Councillors for Cllr. Lawson's proposal so there is no reason why it could not be on the next agenda. He responded by saying it is important to keep this going because some of the discussion tonight would be useful in deciding how to select a new Town Clerk. He agreed with Cllr. Grandchamp.

Cllr. Mereweather said until we have a new Clerk in place to make sure that we abide by the rules and regulations of Council work. Cllr. Lawson referred to page one of the diagrams handed out earlier, where it gave a description of insanity, he said that the sooner this situation was progressed the better. Cllr. Brading said he was not against what Cllr. Lawson was saying, they were both new Councillors and anxious to resolve how everyone could work better as a Council. Each change made has got to be right for this Council in the short, medium and long term. We need time to think about it. Cllr. Andre made a couple of points. Are we talking outside bodies or committees?

Cllr. Lawson said we don't have the power to dissolve any of those, and he would assume would not be discussed until the next Annual meeting. The exception is Sandown Community Partnership which we ought to be discussing.

The second point was that information could be accessed through IWALC. The Clerk said she always circulated IWALC information. She said she was in support of the business model and getting a Clerk that can work with that, rather than imposing the business model on a Clerk that doesn't share the same ideas.

Cllr. Humby pointed out that many years ago there were a number of Committees which divided the work up between Councillors, which cut down the discussion and arguments that have gone on tonight. She said she often felt it worked because they gave more time to specific areas. She said Cllr. Teasdale and her had often spoken about the need to be more business-like. The Forum is attended by a lot of organisations in the Town which gives a good cross section of opinions from the Town. Addressing Cllr. Dupre she asked him if as he had made rather a rude comment to the Clerk, asking why she was still here, if he would like the opportunity to apologise to the Clerk. He said he would apologise, but he thought she had retired, and when someone said resigned not retired. He continued saying he had said something which he hadn't. The Clerk pointed out that her letter to the Mayor, which should have been read out at the meeting she did not attend, said resignation. Cllr. Dupre and Cllr. Cowley said they hadn't heard it. Noise broke out. Cllr. Andre read out the agenda item that said 'resignation of the Clerk'. Cllr. Teasdale asked if he could speak, he asked Cllr. Humby to confirm that the old South Wight Borough Council had every Councillor on every Committee. She agreed saying 'democracy in action'. He said he wished to remind fellow Councillors, in support of Cllr. Lawson, that if this was deferred until a new Clerk was in place, it could be some time before a new Clerk was in place. He said he would bet that there would not be a new Clerk in place before the current Clerk left.

Amid mutterings, Cllr. Lawson asked for the right to respond. He said he thought Cllr. Teasdale was quite correct, because at the meeting where the ratification proposal was on the agenda, one of the benefits of the proposal was that the Town Clerk was giving an extended notice period so that a handover to the new Clerk could be affected. If it takes an optimistic 3 months to recruit a new Clerk, and there is talk of a locum, then you could be looking at up to 9 months before the new Clerk is ready to start getting her head around operational changes in the way we do business. That is a waste of the training period to then say right we will now do something different. There are more benefits to getting on with this sooner rather than later so my view was to put together some sort of recommendation for the next meeting. It doesn't mean the full adoption of anything, just what is the logical step forward.

Cllr. Ward said Cllr. Lawson had made it quite clear he is not expecting a decision or a vote tonight. He has put forward a concept, and it is a good concept which Cllr. Ward said he supports. The Clerk is a key member of the team and cannot be dismissed from the conversation.

Cllr. Dupre said he has been there for one or two hours, at which point the Mayor asked him to get to the point. Cllr. Dupre, was silent then responded he was trying. The fact is Sandown want basic things sorted out and wants them done (e.g toilets). If it is simple and it works that is fine, but the point is we are supposed to be talking for the benefit of Sandown and I wanted Toilets on the agenda. It seems as if everything is going round and round and is a complete waste of time. The Mayor broke in to move the meeting forward.

Amid further confusion Cllr. Lawson claimed the right to respond and said that what Councillor Dupre said was reasonable except the Toilet topic has been on agendas for longer than he knew and demonstrates that we haven't been effective enough. There

are external factors influencing this, but there is no strategy document yet showing what we want to do in the short, long and medium term on Toilets. Cllr. Andre has just started working on them, and this is an example of what we need to do more of. Councillors are not necessarily the best people to be doing that sort of work, because political issues could be made to influence any work or report, hence we need more non-Councillor resource. This will also free up Councillors to do the sort of thing they should be doing.

Cllr. Young said we should be folding this item up, but before that he agreed Cllr. Lawson's plan was a good one. If there more committees the Clerk will be sitting in on them taking minutes etc, so that means they have to be written up and progressed. Our current Clerk does 30 hours, and hasn't got a chance to get on in the office. So he favoured the 2 committees, Strategic and Operational, i.e. two meetings. If there was no agreement, discussion would go on forever. He suggested accepting the proposal.

Cllr. Lawson proposed that the meeting takes what has been presented, put it into an agenda item, to be voted on next month.

That the Sandown Town Council embarks upon a process of shifting to a more business orientated administrative practice, taking whatever steps are necessary.

Cllr. Humby asked the Mayor for permission to ask the Clerk what she felt about all this? She replied a structure will be better for any incoming Clerk, so that they know where they stand. She said that she had a feeling that whatever job has been advertised, it has not been fully described in the advert. She added that she thought this was largely due to the fact the a number of Councillors did not realise what went on in the Clerk's Office in the way of day to day work and projects, and how long it could take to progress these things.

Cllr. Lawson said that although he had only visited the Clerk's office maybe three times, he understands what must go on in a generic way by simply referring to his diagrams which had been readily recognised by Cllr. Ward. He said Councillors should be exploiting resources better to improve the way things are done. The plan was not done to make things go Cllr. Lawson's way, but to make the whole Council more effective.

Cllr. Mereweather suggested an amendment in that Cllr. Lawson's proposal was accepted but deferred until the new Clerk was appointed.

The Clerk summarised comments from a few Councillors saying, this was a discussion item, not a for a decision but could be put on the next agenda if the Council so wished.

Therefore by a majority decision it was agreed to take this forward to the next meeting.

1557/17

To consider employing from December a project manager on a part time basis, for a duration of 12 to 18 months, to support the clerk on the Broadway Centre, the toilets and Sandham Grounds.

Cllr. Grandchamp introduced the item by saying. The current Clerk would not be with us from December onwards and we have three large projects on the go and would be dangerous not to have some continuity on these. The Staffing Committee proposal would have provided additional resources and an overlap of 12 – 18 months so that we could have concluded all those projects. There will be no additional resources so there will be no time to manage the projects. So my proposal is to employ a project manager to carry on the projects.

Cllr. Mereweather said although she had spoken to the Clerk, she still thought this was a Staffing matter and should not be discussed in front of the Public. There were several calls of dissent to this saying it was not Staffing it was discussing a role.

Cllr. Young said our current Clerk did 30 hours per week, and any new Clerk will be employed for 37 hours per week. So how the new Clerk is going to do everything with the addition of only seven hours he failed to understand. We need another member of staff to do maybe only 5+ hours, but even a full time Clerk will not cope with all that this Council has going on, and he asked Councillors to consider carefully before voting otherwise the Town will end up losing another Clerk. Cllr. Humby suggested they could be on contract.

Cllr. Teasdale said that if some Councillors spent some time in the Office they may have seen the writing on the wall, and the Council wouldn't have been in this situation now, and we are in a bad place. The old Councillors made a big mistake when they did not go for a full-time Clerk when the current Clerk was employed. We knew it was needed and we did not go for it.

Cllr. Lawson said he has worked before in businesses where they were fire-fighting and getting very little job satisfaction, leading to a high number of errors through no ones fault. As employers we have a responsibility to create a safe working environment, making sure that the person doing the job can perform to the best of their abilities. The decision two weeks ago precipitated the resignation of the Clerk, and we now have another opportunity to do something about that by a different approach, which has been thought through, and we should be supporting this.

On a proposal by Cllr. Grandchamp, seconded by Cllr. Lawson who asked for a named vote

It was **RESOLVED** by a majority vote to not employ a project manager.

For: Cllrs. Lawson, Grandchamp, Teasdale, Andre, Young

Against: Cllrs. Ward, Mereweather, Cowley, Brading, Humby, Patel

Abstaining: Cllr. Dupre

1558/17 To note the date of the next meeting Monday 16 October 2017
(Noted)

1559/17 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)

Amid comments from Councillors, the Clerk asked who wished to exclude the press and public.

By a majority decision

It was **RESOLVED** to not exclude the press and public from the meeting.

1560/17 To receive the report from the Appointment Panel meeting held on 08 September 2017

To receive a report from the Appointment Panel, in accordance with resolution 5 of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 6th Sept 2017. ' to bring details to the Town Council on completion of the relevant information for presentation prior to advertising the clerk's vacancy and interviewing.

The Mayor passed some papers round (copies attached)

Councillors carried on talking and the Mayor had to ask for quiet. He asked if Council need time to read them through.

Cllr. Lawson queried the minutes at point 3 where it said 'resolved' he said that there was nothing 'resolved, Councillors were told that the press and public could not be there.

Discussion followed and Cllr. Dupre said the Locum Clerk had told them that was what the procedure was.

Cllr. Andre said she had queried the LGA 1972 statement that was read out, and had asked for a copy. Cllr. Mereweather passed over a copy and Cllr. Andre said she would like it minuted that despite her request it to have it circulated, she was not happy that she had not received it beforehand. Cllr. Dupre agreed. Cllr. Andre asked for the minutes to be amended.

Cllr. Brading agreed there was no vote. Following the necessary amendments it was agreed to accept them as a record of the meeting.

The Mayor said he had requested that the website be updated with the Town Council policies.

Cllr. Mereweather said these protocols should be on our website if you want to recruit a decent Clerk. She said the Town Council has not necessarily got those policies. Cllr. Dupre asked how long it would take to put these things on the website. If you have the policies it will not take too long. Cllr. Lawson asked if the ones in bold were the policies that this Council does have? The Policies were identified.

Cllr. Cowley suggested that we list the Policies and mark them 'being updated'. Discussion followed about the website, and the Clerk said she would get on as many as possible.

The second one is the action plan which was noted.

The advert is the one for the County Press.

Cllr. Lawson asked the Clerk if she thought any information was missing. Cllr. Andre asked if she had seen the advert before, to which she replied 'No'. I think reference ought to be made to the number of discretionary services undertaken. Cllr. Andre pointed out some typing errors in the advert. Various suggestions were made. Cllr. Lawson queried if there was sufficient time between advertising, interviewing and considering the shortlist of applicants.

Cllr. Mereweather said she did not recollect the notion of the shortlist coming back to Full Council. Cllr. Lawson asked if Skype interviews had been considered to avoid unnecessary travel. This had not been considered.

The dates were:

Closing date for applications - noon on 06 October

Shortlisting to take place at 4.00pm that afternoon

Interviews on Wednesday 11 October

Cllr. Humby was concerned that if it did not go back to Full Council, the four people would be making a decision.

Cllr. Grandchamp asked if the payment of expenses had been considered? This had been considered and decided against. He said he felt it restricted the field. Further noisy discussion followed.

Cllr. Dupre left the meeting

Cllr. Lawson, seconded by Cllr. Andre that all reasonable expenses should be paid After further discussion about the dates, it was decided that interviews would be held on Wednesday 01 November

At this point the Clerk asked if the Grant Forms re-done by Cllr. Grandchamp were acceptable and it was agreed they could be sent out.

The meeting closed.

Signed
Chairman

Date 16 October 2017

