



## SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Marion Cook CiLCA

Town Clerk

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### **Minutes of a meeting of Sandown Town Council held on Wednesday 24 April 2017 at 7.00pm at The Town Hall, Grafton Street, Sandown**

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Marion Cook (Town Clerk), 5 Members of the Public

Ms Debbie Andre objected to agenda item 1475/17 saying no decision should be made. This was answered by the Chairman who said this was a continuation of decisions made previously not a new decision.

Mrs Jean Orman spoke on behalf of the Sandown Forum and read from a letter (copy attached). These questions were answered at minute 1476/17

#### **1470/17 To receive and accept apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Patel, Stephenson and Teasdale

#### **1471/17 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, and by Cllr. Ward as a Member of the Isle of Wight Council in anything pertaining to that Council.

#### **1472/17 To agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 08 March and 20 March 2017**

Cllr. Blezzard presented a different version of minute 1467/17 (20 March 2017)

Cllr. Mereweather declared an interest as she was subject of a complaint by a member of the public.

A proposal by Cllr. Blezzard, seconded by Cllr. Wright to change the minute to the version presented by Cllr. Blezzard was defeated.

In favour of the proposal: Cllrs. Blezzard and Wright

Against the proposal: Cllrs. Cowley, Dupre, Grandchamp, Ward and Young

Abstaining: Cllr. Humby and Mereweather

It was **RESOLVED** to agree and sign the minutes of both open and closed sessions of the meetings of 08 and 20 March 2017 as presented by the Clerk.

#### **1473/17 To approve the schedules of payments**

The invoices were checked to the schedule of payments by Cllrs. Cowley & Mereweather. On a proposal from Cllr. Young, seconded by Cllr. Cowley

It was RESOLVED to approve the schedule for Sandown Town Council in the sum of £8126.05.

#### **1474/17 Motion for consideration received from Cllr. Blezzard re Sandham Middle School site**

Sandown Football Club has requested a part of the playing fields to be made available for use as a football pitch and a clubhouse/changing rooms. IWC is aware of this and we would expect this community use of a part of the grounds to be honoured. Officers should also be reminded that during the pre-election period no controversial decisions about the future of the land should be made.

Cllr. Humby declared an interest as President of the Football Club

On a proposal by Cllr. Blezzard, seconded by Cllr. Dupre

It was **RESOLVED** to write to the IOW Council with this request.

**1475/17 To note and approve the briefing papers, making decisions where necessary, for Sandham Gardens**

Having received the briefing paper and as this was a continuation of decisions already made, on a proposal from Cllr. Mereweather, seconded by Cllr. Cowley

It was **RESOLVED** to note and approve the briefing paper

In favour of the proposal: Cllrs. Cllrs. Cowley, Grandchamp, Humby, Mereweather, Young and Ward.

Against the proposal: Cllr. Dupre

Abstaining: Cllrs. Blezzard and Wright

**1476/17 To receive an update on the progress of the Broadway Centre**

The Clerk reported that the demolition of the Los Altos building had started. Cllr. Young asked Mrs Orman to meet with him to identify the plants she had mentioned. Cllr. Humby asked about various items of heritage interest. Some are safely stored away, others were not in evidence.

*Cllr. Blezzard moved suspension of standing orders to allow Derek Poole (Historical Society) to speak. The Chair, having received agreement from Members, suspended the meeting.*

He had concerns that there were some items missing including photos and Kelly's directories. The Clerk responded that she had one of the Kelly's directories for Sandown and Shanklin dated 1951 in the office and all the photos seen had either been passed to the Historical Society or if they were related to the Sandown Operatic Society, to the Island Savoyards.

It was suggested that the sign at the front of the Building noting the twinning between Sandown and Tonnay Charente be used as a 'gateway' sign to the Town. This had already been dismantled and placed in storage.

The time capsule had not yet been found, but the Contractors were aware and would try to find it, if not found before.

The Plans would be put on the website, and the 'artists impression' board for the site was in hand.

*The meeting resumed under standing orders*

**1477/17 To receive an update on, and progress the transfer of Public Toilets**

The transfers were still being held up by IOW Council but should be ready for the next meeting.

**1478/17 To receive an update on the status of the Town Hall**

The Clerk reported that a quote had been received for work to enable an emergency exit to exist making those parts of the Town Hall not occupied by the Youth Club safe

for all to use. This was in the sum of £14,282.81. There were concerns that the £10,000 budgeted by the Council for Youth Services should not be put into the Building.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer this to the new Council and to have a meeting as soon as possible after the election in order to be able to consider the quote, which was valid for 60 days, and the continued occupation of the Town Hall.

**1479/17 To progress the decision made to employ a junior Maintenance operative**

The Clerk had contacted the National Apprenticeship Service who were available to guide the Council through the process of employing an Apprentice to our Maintenance Officer.

**1480/17 To receive verbal reports from Town Councillors**

Cllr. Humby reported that the Forum was now meeting at Kings Church. The Post Office in Albert Road was cutting staff hours from 120 hours to 80 hours on the counter. There are already queues and this will be worse when the hours are cut and the Summer season is here.

Cllr. Young said the Partnership was pursuing funding for the Town Square, made more important by the fact that there had been a couple of accidents in that area.

Cllr. Dupre was continuing the important work round the sand levels on the beaches in the Bay. Andrew Turner had cancelled a meeting with him because of the elections. Greenpeace had been contacted but were not interested. Cllr. Dupre was working towards asking Andrew Turner to get a suspension for all dredging round the Bay pending a satisfactory investigation.

Cllr. Wright said she would like to give a vote of thanks to the Town Council Staff.

Cllr. Blezzard thanked our Maintenance Officer for making a good job of the Honour Trail tiles.

Cllrs. Cowley & Mereweather, both involved in Police Liaison, gave a reminder that these meetings, lacking in past months were a good point of contact, and should be firmly resurrected with the new Council.

**1481/17 To note reports from County Councillors**

Cllr. Blezzard reported that the Principal at the Sandown Bay Academy had resigned. He was hopeful for funding from the Youth Grant application

This was his last meeting and after 12 interesting years as a Councillor he wished his fellow Councillors goodbye and good luck for the future.

Cllr. Ward spoke about the rail franchise and that bit would be kept in the franchise as it was but with investment in the line and the stations.

Chamber of Commerce have a website 'Invest in the Isle of Wight'.

Wightfibre are willing to put hotspots into the Town.

CCG Inspection at St. Mary's Hospital found that out of five areas the Hospital passed in one – Is it caring? And the answer was yes.

Other points mentioned were Go-ahead Bus Company were funding low carbon buses and were looking at routing the No.1 bus route through St. Mary's. Ferry companies were considering free travel for patients travelling to Hospitals on the mainland.

**1482/17 To receive information from the Town Clerk**

Vandalism - Skatepark fence wires cut in the mesh – now mended

Gate at Sandham Rides broken – now mended

Shed in Sandham Rides virtually destroyed, but as there was an electric Meter in there we had to spend considerable time, energy and money,

Digging holes to expose the whole cable, capping of the underground cable, refilling the holes, demolishing the rest of the shed and making safe.

Steven Jenkins play area – springy Camel was vandalised and required a new spring and shroud (£409), then the springy Donkey was vandalised. This was worse and we thought it would have to be replaced at a cost of £1400.00. Fortunately our Maintenance Officer was able to adapt and repair the equipment for no more than £250.00 Pier Street toilets had the pole holding up the outside canopy Vandalised. This has now been replaced and the underside of the Canopy has been rendered and re-painted to make the whole thing Safe.

It should be realised that these mindless acts of vandalism cost the Residents of Sandown unnecessary amounts of money.

Green Town Volunteers - working hard round the Town planting up flower beds and keeping litter at bay in between the rounds by Island Roads.

Beach Cleaning – will commence in May with two rake visits per week

Town Hall - quote received to make all areas safe. CEYP would probably be leaving in three months' time, possibly to go elsewhere in the Town.

Youth funding offer – we were unsuccessful in our original application but have been invited to re-apply.

'No more secrets' – several notices had appeared around the Town bearing these words. The one pinned to the post outside the Town Hall, which was part of a cardboard box that went through Royal Mail had a postcode and parcel tracking number linking it with an address in York Road in Sandown. Councillors dismissed it as 'childish'

Carlton Hotel – the Clerk had written to the new owners of the Carlton Hotel who had promised to put up notices letting the public know what was happening on the site and to brighten up the iron window mesh.

**1483/17**

**To note the date of the Annual Town Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Town Council – 22 May 2017**

Noted.

Signed  
Chairman

Date 10 May 2017