SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

THRIVING COMMUNITIES WORKING PARTY MEETING
9 JUNE 2026 (9:30 AM)

1.1. Present: Cllrs Joan Solomon (Chair), Leon Girling and Paddy Lightfoot.

Also in attendance: Jennifer Armstrong (Clerk/RFO), Raine Elliss (Deputy Clerk)

1.2. Members met to discuss the proposed workplan, receive updates where relevant and assign actions.

Community Benefit Society

1.3. Since the initial meeting was held only one further expression of interest has been received.

1.4. An information sheet outlining the next steps has been drafted along with an email clearly outlining that Town Council will support any project brought forward but it is for the community to take the next steps.

1.5. These will be sent to interested parties who have confirmed email address can be used.

Community Post Office

1.6. The Clerk advised that an follow-up letter was sent to Royal Mail last week on this matter. The issue will continue to be pursued, and updates will be provided to the Working Party in due course. It will be chased after 1 month.

Engagement with Police.

1.7. The Working Party will continue to work with the Police around local issues. A lack of local assistance available to support local safeguarding issues was discussed and would be escalated within HIWC.

Planet Aware and Butt Bin

1.8. Logos had been provided to the Planet Aware who would provide digital assets for the Council. Pocket Ashtrays would be dropped to local businesses.

1.9. Officers would liaise withy Green Towns regarding the need for these and where they would be most effective.

1.10. Once need was established a design scheme and pricing would be explored.

Community Hub

1.11. The Mayor and Chair of the Thriving Visible were exploring the feasibility of a hub, helping to rebuild grassroots activity in the town and strengthen community capacity, as well as offering accessible space for partnership working.

Community Vegetable Planters.

1.12. The Planters have been installed at centre ready for planting to be managed by

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Warms Spaces and other community groups.

Ferncliff Benches

1.13. Following reports of broken benches in the park being a hotspot for antisocial behaviour, at the Polices request the Town Council is working with IWC to have certain benches in the park removed which has now been actioned.

Health Alliance/ Neighbourhood Research Coordinator

1.14. Following Early conversations with the Health Alliance regarding a collaboration with the Town Council the initial meeting which was cancelled was not rebooked. Officers would follow-up.

1.15. Members discussed the potential for this Alliance to assist in providing data and insights relating to other ongoing matters. Officers would share co-ordinators details with Cllr Girling to take this forward.

Health and Wellbeing Board

1.16. Cllr Boyd had raised the potential of the working party feeding some matters into the HWB. This needed to be clarified.

HMOs

1.17. The working party TBC Scoped.

HomeShare

1.18. Council were happy for STC to endorsement the programme and share the information. Cllr Solomon would request digital assets to go on the councils website and Facebook pages.

JAG

1.19. The Chairman of the Working Party would continue to attends and feed back to working party bring forward any possible joint initiatives, using the dedicated Trello card to record information.

Phone Box

1.20. The Phone Box had been installed at the Broadway Centre. Work had begun on refurbishing the project. It was hoped painting would be completed in June 2026. The replacement parts had also arrived.

Photo Wall

1.21. The working party discussed the idea of celebrating local identity by showcasing historic and contemporary images that reflect the town's people, places, and heritage.

1.22. It was suggested the Ocean Redevelopment Site Hoarding would be a good space to install such a project. This would be proposed to Council and a proposal developed.

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Resilience Project

1.23. The project which focused on strengthening the town's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies, disruptions, and long-term challenges needed to be revisited due to delays in delivery (capacity etc).

Solutions for Yaverland Vehicle ABS

1.24. Officers and the IWC Community Safety Officer were in discussions on what if any steps could be taken by the Town Exploration of practical options to reduce vehicle ABS data in around Yaverland Car Park.

1.25. Once identified they would be circulated to the working party and a proposal drafted for Council.

Yaverland Memorial.

1.26. Working Party Members would like to erect a memorial at Yaverland to commemorate the two lives lost on the beach.

1.27. Council permission would be needed to progress the project.

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