



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

EVENTS WORKING PARTY MEETING 2 FEBRUARY 2026 (09:30 AM)

- 1.1. Present: Cllrs Joan Soloman, Frank Baldry, Gary Young.
Also In attendance: Reverend Mark Williams and Deputy Clerk.
- 1.2. The next Meeting would be held on Tuesday March 3 at 9:30am
Easter 2026 Shop Window
- 1.3. The High Street Easter Shop Window Competition historical been be well supported, with many businesses taking part and decorating their windows for the spring holiday. Last year's winner, *Make it Wight*, currently holds the 2025 award – the Heather Humby Glass Drop. Deputy Clerk Raine Elliss will collect the award in March to be issued to this years winner.
- 1.4. Members requested that copies of the Competition Entry Form be prepared and ready for distribution during the week commencing **2 March 2026**.
- 1.5. It was agreed that public judging would take place during the week commencing **23 March 2026**, with Members meeting on **Wednesday, 25 March at 12:00 noon outside the Library** to complete the judging.
Football – Playzone 2 G opening event
- 1.6. Members were updated on the opening of the new Playzone pitch and its accompanying online booking system. February has been used as a soft-launch period, during which Sandown and Lake Football Club and the Bay Youth Group have trialled the facility to identify any issues. The system has now been opened to the general public for bookings.
- 1.7. The Deputy Clerk is working with Richard Priest (Deputy Lord Lieutenant) on an opening event to invite and a minor celebrity football personality. The date is to be confirmed with Events Working Party
National Reading Project 2026
- 1.8. Deputy Lord Lieutenant gave members an update on the National reading Award project Reading is a fundamental life skill that underpins educational attainment, confidence, wellbeing, and lifelong learning.
- 1.9. In recognition of its importance, this project outlines how town and parish councils can contribute meaningfully to this national focus by funding and supplying book bags to local primary schools.
- 1.10. The initiative is practical, visible, affordable, and delivers lasting benefits to children, families, schools, and the wider community.

Anzac Day

- 1.11. Members expressed their wish to lay a wreath for ANZAC Day. A wreath has been ordered and is available in the STC office. The service will take place on Saturday, 25th April at 10:50 a.m. at the Sandown Cenotaph, with Rev Williams, Cllr Ward and Cllr Baldry in attendance.
- 1.12. The Deputy Clerk will also attend. This will be announced to all council members and published on the STC website.
- 1.13. Cllr Joan Soloman gave a update on "Town of Culture" application, she was working on with Cllr Tracy Mikich. The Expression of Interest requires 400 words. Cllr J Soloman will keep members updated.

Meeting closed at 10:30