



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

EVENTS WORKING PARTY MEETING 5 MAY 2026 (09:30 AM)

- 1.1. Present: Cllrs Joan Solomon, Frank Baldry.

Also In attendance: Clerk/RFO and Deputy Clerk.

Apologies: Cllr Ian Ward

Easter 2026 Shop Window

- 1.2. The event was successful and ran well overall, although attendance was lower than the Christmas event. Feedback from the High Street indicated that Easter is too close to Christmas, which may have impacted popularity. As a result, the option of holding a summer event in June was discussed. Action: Deputy Clerk to liaise with the Carnival Association to explore a June theme and work collaboratively to promote both the Carnival and Regatta with the High Street next year.

Football – Playzone 2 G opening event

- 1.3. The official launch of the Council's new 2G football pitch took place at Sandham Grounds.

Event details:

Date: Friday 22 May

Location: Sandham Grounds – 2G Pitch

Time: 4:00pm

Duration: Approximately 30 minutes

The event will be attended by:

The Bay Youth Group – Julian Wadsworth

Sandown and Lake Football Club – Steve Hobday, Youth Chairman

Special Guest: Ron Groves, retired National Football Referee

Ron has kindly agreed to referee a short youth game as an icebreaker for the event

Deputy Lord Lieutenant: Richard Priest

MP Joe Roberston (to confirm)

High Sherrif (to Confirm)

National Reading Project 2026

- 1.4. The Deputy Clerk reported that they are working in partnership with Jeanne Jones, winner of the National Reading Volunteer Award. The project highlights the importance of early reading and demonstrates how town and parish councils can contribute meaningfully to this national focus through the funding and provision of book bags for local primary schools. All artwork has now been sent to the printers, and draft materials are currently being checked by the schools and the Deputy Clerk. Members will be kept updated on the project's progress.

2.

Anzac Day Anzac Day

- 2.1. Members were advised that the event was delivered successfully and was well received. It was further agreed that new flags will be erected for Remembrance Day on **Sunday 8 November 2026**. Following the service, the new flags will be taken down and replaced with the existing flags to reduce o

High street Safaris

- 2.2. The Working Party discussed the potential use of Highstreet Safaris as a platform to support a High Street-based competition, encouraging participation from businesses, residents, and visitors. The Clerk will investigate how the platform works, including functionality and associated costs, and how it could be used to involve the High Street in a themed competition.

Remembrance

- 2.3. The Working Party agreed that relevant contacts should now be approached to begin arrangements for the service, building on last year's event. The Clerk will also review the service timings and liaise with Reverend Mark Williams accordingly.

Christmas Activities

- 2.4. The Working Party discussed this year's Christmas activities with a Nutcracker trail suggested as a possible focus on the high Street and school art competition. It was agreed to explore working in partnership with Christ Church to deliver the Christmas concert and to coordinate arrangements for the Christmas tree at Broadway.

Meeting closed at 10:30

Next Meeting 2 June at 09:30am