SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

# ASSETS WORKING PARTY MEETING – 3 SEPTEMBER 2024 (9:00am)

1.1. Present: Cllrs F Baldry, J Hicks, H Humby, A Lightfoot, P Lightfoot, and I Ward.

Also, in attendance – Laura Cansdale (2x Isle of Wight Council Items), Town Clerk, RFO & Admin Assistant

1.2. Members thanked Cllr P Lightfoot for organising Railings Renovation project, with considerable Community Engagement and involvement, with a final (probably twilight) session to be arranged, and members also thanked Laura for facilitating IWC permissions.

1.3. Members noted submission of SSEN grant application to develop HUB for emergencies, following draft Resilience Plan, including request to fund Generator and Shed (which would house 'community' equipment – such as used on Railings Project) – and members thanked Cllr Lightfoot, Cllr Wilcock, Cllr Fletcher and others for help providing details in the application; members were mindful that there was likely more demand for funding than monies available, and bid may need resubmitting, and developing for 2025 round.

1.4. Members noted opening of Pier Street Toilets for Summer, and thanked Laura for enabling, with similar request for 2025, subject to any development taken forward by IWC/Developers, and Sandown TC would include question in Budget Consultation.

1.5. Cllr A Lightfoot & RFO updated members of Football Foundation Grant/Sandham Grounds Grant application, with remote meeting planned for this week, and phasing of matched funding revised to enable project to be taken forward over the winter/spring, and further on-line meeting planned for later in week; and members also noted progress of replacement of items in the Playpark.

1.6. Members discussed usage of Changing Places at Eastern Gardens, and the considerable amount of positive feedback, as well as suggestions to improve accessibility around the location; members discussed managing expectations within the available staffing resource, as well as ongoing cleaning and maintenance costs; members agreed a stakeholder meeting as part of way forward, with a poster produced and circulated, need for a smart phone to enable issuing of codes, and members noted correspondence on request for Parking Bays for Disabled People. Members also thanked RFO for securing refund for one of the beach mat rollers, with part of the matting to be removed in due course.

1.7. Members also noted painting work by Southern Water, ongoing correspondence over viewing platform, with possible joint project with IWC; and ongoing correspondence with Southern Water regarding drainage on site, with meeting requested by Sandown TC.

1.8. Laura briefly updated members on the IWC Town Hall Project, and also members discussed the situation at Pier Street Toilets, and noted current marketing of site.

1.9. Members noted ongoing maintenance at Broadway Centre, recognising increased usage reduced time available for painting etc, with recent damage to hob (now replaced) in kitchen subject to further correspondence, and members also noted possible involvement of No Barriers volunteers in the future; with new groups including Diabetes and return to work initiatives, as well as recent Police and Community Event, which included discussion of possible Speed Watch project led by local ward councillor. Members also discussed issues of unauthorised parking at Broadway centre, with possible part solution to be on Agenda at next Town Council meeting

1.10. Members also raised concerns regarding the safety of staff, users and other individuals, following the incident at the start of the July Town Council Meeting, with a report submitted to the Police and being followed up later in the week.

1.11. Members also highlighted positive comments on hanging baskets, and planters cared for by Green Town Volunteers.

1.12. Members also thanked Green Town Volunteers for work at Battery Gardens as well as recent work by other volunteers on cliff path, with Town Council supporting lighting, with possible further project in partnership with IWC.

1.13. Councillors thanked beach lifeguards for service during summer, with members (Cllrs A Lightfoot, P Lightfoot, I Fletcher, F Baldry, T Wilcock & H Humby) presenting Lifeguards with certificates, and arrangements in place with 'lifting' of station later in September, and maintenance over the winter, with plans to submit Seaside Award/Blue Flag application, and need to development arrangements with Lifeguard Service. Members also thanked SSIL for their work during a challenging summer, with joint projects planned for later in September and for Christmas.

1.14. Members noted the information panels installed following work of Revetment Working Party, with further panels to be installed along the revetment.

1.15. Cllr Lightfoot & RFO updated members on recent correspondence on the replacement of Yaverland Toilets, with members noting the number of incidents at the site in the Summer, and the outline timetable over the Autumn/Winter.

1.16. Members noted recent correspondence with IWC over tree planting plans at Los Altos, and this linking with exercise trail project with funding secured by RFO.

1.17. Members noted positive feedback over actions being taken by Planning Enforcement Officer, with minor works being visible, and appropriate action taken at several locations, with the major issues still subject to enforcement through the courts.

1.18. Members also noted forthcoming road closures impacting on the Town, as well as services being provided.

1.19. Cllr Hicks noted need for displays in empty local shops, including former hairdressers opposite/near Sainsbury's, and would try to contact owners to arrange a display, such as heritage pictures of the Town/High Street.

Meeting Closed 10:05.