

SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 19.00.

PRESENT: Town Mayor Councillor C. Quirk (in the Chair)
Deputy Town Mayor Cllr. S. Godden

Councillors: M. Beston, A. Whittaker, L. Fleming, P. Barry, D. Larner, R. May
R. Lansdell, S. Knight, D.G. Williams, M. Hailston, S. Parkes. Town Clerk RFO.
1 member of the public. No County Press. Guest Councillor P. Brading.

Councillor Parks arrived late at 19.10.

PUBLIC FORUM

Points raised: None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors' W. Hilton-How, D. Cable.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

2.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Members were invited to declare any interest, including the nature & extent of such interests, that they may have in any items to be considered at the meeting. (If the interest was pecuniary, members should have left the meeting at the appropriate time). Members' to declare by voicing and/or completing the form distributed at the meeting emailing the Town Clerk RFO before the meeting.

2.2 DISPENSATIONS TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (if any)

2.3 TO GRANT REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AS APPROPRIATE
Councillors C. Quirk & M. Beston have dispensations to participate (speak & vote) granted to them until May 2025 (or until the next election if sooner) with regard to IW Council items, & Shanklin theatre & community trust.

3. GREEN TOWNS REPORT

The last report sent to Shanklin Town Council was at the end of 2019, when Lesley Hampshire and Bridget Biddlecombe advised they were both leaving the group and were looking for new leadership. There were no other offers of help, so Tina Homden and Sue Godden stepped forward with the support of Esther Knight, to keep the group running. Sarah James also remains on the

steering group. Covid 19 has had a serious impact on group activities over the past year, but we have continued to meet when possible and work on our garden areas following social distancing guidelines. Shanklin Station – Due to Covid restrictions and then closure of the line, we have been unable to work on the station garden. Once Island Line retake possession of the station we plan to arrange a few sessions to give the garden a much-needed facelift. Sue Godden has successfully completed the station adoption application, which allows us to be included in Community Rail Partnership and apply for funding for future projects. The first project which has been passed is the refurbishment of the forecourt planters. With the help of carpenter Keith Murphy, 3 planters were repaired and a new one made to replace the oldest, broken planter. All planters have been repainted and replanted. Aspire Ryde had installed two “snip and take” planters for herbs at most stations along the Island Line but due to changes in staffing levels have been unable to continue with the project. Green Town has therefore agreed to take responsibility for the planters, so we now have a total of 6 to look after at the railway station. We have installed 6 new hanging baskets which we purchased from Ager Nursery with the donation from SHAA. The War Memorial – Since March 2020 to date, Terry Carpenter has made 72 visits and spent 211 hours working on the garden. During that time, he had some help from small groups including Bridget Biddlecombe, Ann Miselbach, Tina Homden, Chris Smithson and Christine McDermott. Terry has also purchased new plants for the garden from his own pocket and always refuses reimbursement. Remembrance Day last year was very lowkey, but the garden looked at its best. Esther Knight crocheted 100 poppies which Terry attached to the gates and Sue Godden laid the wreath from Green Towns. Tower Cottage – Linda Davis has continued to look after this garden, weeding and keeping the area tidy. She very rarely asks for extra help and is happy to continue with the care, attending the site every couple of months. Old Library – The Theatre Trust have taken back the building but have requested that GT continue caring for the garden. Tina Homden and Alex Goodwin have made regular visits, weeding, adding new plants and general clean up. Shockingly in May a car drove into the newly cut hedge causing a lot of damage. Chris Quirk has cut back as much of the dead hedge as he can, but this will now need constant care until it regrows. New Library and Falcon Cross – Since the delayed opening of the new library we have maintained this garden along with the area in front of Falcon Cross Hall. We have installed a new planter for the library, kindly purchased by Esther Knight, made by Shanklin Men in Sheds and plants and compost jointly purchased by GT and FOSCL. An incredible joint community effort, of which we are all very proud. Esther also bought a watering-can so Library staff can keep the planter well-hydrated, as well as more plants to replace some that didn't survive a dry spell and to add a bit more colour. Beach Cleans – Over the past year we have supported PlasticFreeShanklin by hosting 5 beach cleans, attracting on average 20 volunteers. We have found an issue with beach BBQ's near The Fishermans

Cottage with large amounts of food and alcohol waste left behind. This has been reported to the local police, who will be monitoring the area. Keep Britain Tidy – We have hosted 2 events as part of Great British September and Spring Clean campaign. Both were held at the station with volunteers litter picking around the town. The September event attracted 15 volunteer litter-pickers and the Spring one (held on June 5th) had 30 people attend, including groups from two local churches and a Rotarian. This is the most people we have had at such an event and it was pleasing to see community interaction – along with a number of the participants heading off to various cafes around the town for a well-earned coffee afterwards.

Rotary Club of Shanklin – last year we received a donation of 400 crocus corms as part of The Purple for Polio project. These were planted at The War Memorial, Tower Cottage, The Library and Station planters and gave a beautiful display in the spring. As you are all aware, in December 2020 we very sadly lost our good friend Bidget, which has affected all volunteers in the group. We are hoping to create a garden in her memory and are in talks with IWC regarding permission to plant in the stone circle in the centre of Vernon Meadow Car Park. Tina Homden Councillor S. Knight congratulated Green Towns on the work they do. Councillor Beston said it was nice to see a full report.

4. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

I have been invited to two events the annual commemoration of the Royal Marines at Shanklin Chine and the opening of a new beauty company at Landguard Manor. One thing that has engaged both myself and Adrian quite a bit for the last few weeks is the pond by St. Blasius Church, there is a real issue with the water going into the pond as the stream has dried up it appears to have been diverted somewhere on farm land above the pond. The fire brigade was down there 3 weeks ago to fill with water it did not make much difference. It has been reported to the Environment Agency and IW Council who are investigating the source. Have spoken to landowner who is sympathetic and IWC are speaking to the tenant farmer, the big issue there is it is not getting refilled. **AW** – *I am meeting Justin out there at some point next week for a site visit, to find out where the break is.* **CQ** – *It is difficult to get on to the site it is on such a steep slope.*

5. MINUTES 20th MAY 2021

AW – *Unfortunately there is so much paperwork for this meeting, I cannot find the agenda on the email, we should have all the paperwork given to us, I printed it off and then stopped, too much to print off – we are all volunteers.*

TC – *Adrian, you did not have to print anything off you could have read it on screen, we are in the middle of a pandemic and are following the advice given to us, I am not sending out loads of paper work.*

AW – *I disagree but then Sandown and Lake send out their paperwork. I see no reason why we should not be given it.* **CQ** – *Less paperwork is more*

environmentally friendly but sometimes it is easier to read documents when they are printed. MB- Conscious of printing paper. AW – I think my phone has stopped me accessing the documents. TC – That's not my fault. CQ – We will review that outside of the meeting.

Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted Councillors: C. Quirk, S. Godden, M. Beston, L. Fleming, P. Barry, D. Larner, R. May, R. Lansdell, S. Knight, D.G. Williams, M. Hailston, S. Parkes voted to adopt the minutes, Cllr. A. Whittaker abstained.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 20th May 2021 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

6. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL MAY 2021

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted Councillors: C. Quirk, S. Godden, M. Beston, L. Fleming, D. Larner, R. May, R. Lansdell, S. Knight, M. Hailston D.G. Williams, A. Whittaker voted to approve, Councillors S. Parkes & P. Barry abstained.

RESOLVED: That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £29320.61. be approved for payment.

7. BANK RECONCILIATIONS

7.1 BANK RECONCILIATION APRIL 2021

RESOLVED: Town Mayor Cllr. C. Quirk confirmed the bank reconciliation for April 2021 was correct.

7.2 BANK RECONCILIATION MAY 2021

RESOLVED: Town Mayor Cllr. C. Quirk confirmed the bank reconciliation for May 2021 was correct.

8. GRANT APPLICATION REQUESTS:

8.1 SHANKLIN GREEN TOWNS S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES

Cllr. S. Godden left the meeting for this item being a member of Green Towns

Members' proposed, seconded and a vote took place Councillors: C. Quirk, M. Beston, L. Fleming, D. Larner, R. May, R. Lansdell, S. Knight, M. Hailston, D.G. Williams, voted to approve, Councillors A. Whittaker, S. Parkes & P. Barry abstained.

RESOLVED: To pay a grant in the sum of £500.00.

Cllr. S. Godden re-joined the meeting.

8.2 SHANKLIN IN BLOOM S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES

Members' proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to pay a grant in the sum of £325.00.

RESOLVED: To pay a grant in the sum of £325.00.

9. SHANKLIN IN BLOOM S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES

Town Clerk RFO has agreed to produce certificates Gratis (no frames needed) request STC to pay for consumables. Members' proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to pay for consumables.

RESOLVED: To pay for consumables for certificates.

10. ROTARY CLUB/TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD DONATION OF BENCH

Councillors' L. Fleming, S. Godden declared an interest being members of the Rotary Club, Cllr. S. Knight declared an interest being an honorary member of the Rotary Club. Members' proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to donate a bench.

RESOLVED: To donate one of STC's old benches to the Townswomen's Guild.

11. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL – BEACH MANAGEMENT ZONING SERVICE UPDATE

CQ – *Basically we are getting our buoys, they should be installed within two weeks. Byelaw says you cannot drive powered craft more than 5mph within 200 metres of the low tide mark, we have had a lot of jet skis over the years and there has been cases of near misses, there was an accident in the Bay. IW Council removed the buoys as a cost saving exercise and did not put them back. They will be put out and taken in at the end of the summer and stored. Will normally go out in May. IW Council are buying the buoys and Town and Parish Council's are funding the taking in and out of them, the best compromise we could get.* **AW** – *Will there be enforcement* **CQ** – *Yes but there are practical issues with enforcement, the main culprit is jet skis which are required to have a registration number but it is so tiny its hard to identify who the owner is from the shore and police launches do 5mph slower than jet skis so it's a problem but police will enforce if they can get the information.* **SK** – *The presence of the buoys will make jet skiers more aware of their nearness to the shore* **CQ** – *Buoys make it more enforceable.*

RESOLVED: Members' noted the document from IW Council.

12. CLOCK TOWER ESPLANADE

CQ – *The tower is in a terrible state, discussed previously getting it improved, IW Council have indicated they would be willing to give us the clock tower, but it is a grade II listed building and needs a lot of money spent on it, we have some money in the budget to go towards match funding by the IW Council, but need to negotiate with IW Council how much goes into the kitty, its much*

easier to negotiate if you know what you are negotiating, so we want to get a quote on how much it will cost, we need one quote then the IW Council can get a cheaper quotes. It is dangerous it was built for the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, there is a plaque for Queen Elizabeth's II Diamond Jubilee and we might consider putting a plaque for the upcoming Platinum Jubilee, assuming she makes it. It has financial implications, so we need approval to obtain a quote to give to the IW Council. The clock works, the issue is the stone work. **AW** – We are faced with if we don't do anything it is dangerous, if nothing is done its going to have to be removed. **SK** – Dave Williams when he was Chair laid the plaque. IW Council have a responsibility to put in at least half the money, it would be a terrible shame to see that go to ruin. **SP** – Clarifying, IW Council own it, and we are contributing to the maintenance **CQ** – IW Council would sell it to us for a £1, but it needs a lot of money spent on it, we don't want to take it for a £1 and have to spend £20,000 repairing it. **SP** – This was my main point, that obviously what's facing us as a Council here is neglect when it hasn't been maintained properly. **CQ** – The IW Council is cash strapped, if we offer to part fund it and maybe take it over it is of benefit to the IW Council and therefore an incentive for them to transfer it, if it is ours, we would keep it maintained as we went along. What's right is that the IW Council should pay for it, we may get half. **AW** – One more question, this is no disrespect to yourself or Mike as IW Cllrs' what moves have you made in the last four years? **CQ** – It's been on the IW Council regen I've discussed it with the director of regeneration, I have suggested he pays for it out of his budget, I've discussed it with the leader and cabinet and the Chief Executive of the Council, but when you have a very finite budget, do you spend capital money on repairing that monument or do you spend it on Ryde Village which is a care facility. They need to prioritise their budget, there are very difficult decisions about what you spend. Its' like your own budget, you may like a new car, but can't necessarily afford a new car. It's how you prioritise. **MH** – I agree with getting an idea of what it might be to do it, but my only concern is with listed buildings, they can become a money pit, so with negotiations with IW Council I would like to see some comeback to them, they still have some liability, if the costs become prohibitive to us as a Town Council. **CQ** – Then I will put you up for negotiations with the IW Council. **AW** – We should consider taking it on as a Town Asset for the future. **CQ** – We need to find out what it will cost, maintaining a building is a lot better and cheaper than repairing it, when its gone into a bad state of disrepair, if it had been maintained over the years it would not be the horrendous amount it's going to cost. Members' proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to obtain a quote.

RESOLVED: To obtain a quote and pass to the IW Council.

13. **QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022**

CQ – I think we need to think about what we are going to do; one option might be to have something engraved on the memorial tower, it seems appropriate,

Prince Charles has suggested planting trees, maybe planting 70 oak trees, we don't have to make a decision but we need to start thinking about it, how we might celebrate, it's a four-day weekend bank holiday. **DL** – Maybe get the schools involved. **CQ** – A group of four or five people to run with it. **RESOLVED:** Next agenda form a working part for Platinum Jubilee.

AW – It may be an idea to do something this August bank holiday **CW** – There is the issue of a pandemic.

14. TOILETS UPDATE

CQ – An update was circulated. Chine Bluff is scheduled for the autumn. Piece of land owned by A.S. and will transfer it to us. I don't know why only half of the toilets are open, is there something wrong with the other half? **TC** – yes, they are not fit for purpose. **SK** -It would have been double the money and a waste to spend on refurbishing them. **CQ** – We looked at the possibility of acquiring temporary toilets but plumbed in ones somewhere near the Cliff, Jon has investigated, that but there are none available. We are going to approach the IW Council about putting a toilet in the Cliff lift, I am meeting next week with the director of regeneration, so I will put that to him. **AW** -As far as our toilets, we cannot operate a seaside resort with 4 toilets at Chine Bluff, when we closed the Spa site, we said there would be Porta toilets put in their place, the cost came back to high, you cannot operate a seaside town with just 4 toilets. **SK** -I agree except the toilets were allowed to fall into such disrepair and were threatened with closure Spa site you could not use it its unsafe no one would want to use them this is a Town Council doing the best we can do, toilets on Chine Bluff should be enough.

CQ – Why are the gents not open? **SK** – They are not safe, that's because we didn't open them. **AW** – I must protest last year when myself and Councillor May were on the toilet committee, why haven't we been invited to meetings to discuss toilet regeneration or the future of the Spa Site toilets or the new toilets **CQ** – The committee fell into abeyance as it never met, are you suggesting we re-instate that committee. **AW** - I did ask a question was told it was not meeting and that when there was a toilet regeneration, myself and Cllr. May would be involved in it; we were not included in the discussions 2 former Councillors ploughed ahead with whatever they decided to do with Chine Bluff and other toilets and excluded myself and Cllr. May. **SP** - Without cutting across Cllr. Whittaker's point here, I was going to add to this that I happened to meet Cllr Whittaker down on the seafront and funnily enough it was me myself who suddenly was desperate to spend a penny and asked Adrian where the nearest toilet was and he said you have to walk right to the other end, I said you are joking, basically there are no toilets in the centre of Shanklin seafront – just discussing the previous item about the clock and the tower and the huge cost and the huge cost that's going to be because that's been allowed to fall into disrepair by previous administration but actually the toilets at the Spa site are in total danger and disrepair and apparently the

retaining wall at the back is not strong enough, so while we were there I did a bit of a visual inspection with Cllr. Whittaker on the whole of that site and then I found what I thought was sewerage coming out from the man hole cover at the bottom of the lift and running down the road, so I might propose that for our tourism industry particularly if we are going to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee exactly there, I am curious if we are ever going to sort out the Spa building, what about demolishing it altogether. **TC** – It is not our building. **CQ** – The Spa site is not ours it is IW Councils, IW Council have actively marketed it for a redevelopment and have been talking to potential developers for that site, the refurbishment if they do develop it would be that there are public toilets included in whatever is developed but don't hold your breath on their being anything in the next year or so. There was a plan ten or so years ago but it fell through because of the finances, but there is an active pursuit so there is no point spending money on the Spa site itself which is why I am talking to regen about doing something with the Cliff lift, there is space behind the lift. **CQ** – Lyn, Steve then Adrian. **SP** – I agree with you you've just said about utilising the base of at the Cliff but reports say there is a problem with drainage and sewerage and so anything temporary is going to have problems. **CQ** – Toilets on the seafront always have problems because of sand. **DL** – The problem behind the lift that's coming through is not sewerage, we had all rain its not sewerage it is the weight of the water through the cliffs. **CQ** – It was investigated by the IW Council. **LF** – There has always been trouble with the Spa site, it does not belong to us, it belongs to the IW Council, we are knocking our heads against a brick wall- we have to wait for them to market it, Chris's idea about a toilet at the lift is a fantastic idea, I am not knocking Steve or Jon Gilbey they have done a fantastic job we would not be any where near where we are now without them. Shops and eateries down there when open all have toilets. **AW** – Back to my original point if a toilet committee is disbanded surely those on the committee should be notified. **CQ** – It was more faded away than being disbanded. **TC** – It never met, never did anything, so as previously it was taken off the list. **SK** – Did you ever have any meeting, Adrian? **AW** – I asked when we were having meetings. **TC** – You never once asked me, if you were having meetings, never once. **AW** – I have not seen any plans for Chine Bluff – **TC** – Because we haven't got them yet. **AW** – What's the point of appointing an architect – **TC** – We agreed at the budget meeting to consider Chine Bluff and subsequently at another meeting. **AW** – I think there is something not right here. **SP** – I want to politely say if there is a toilet committee I would like to volunteer to join, toilets are a subject I am quite interested in. **SK** – I would like to know what you could have come up with that we didn't, the money was spent, all decisions came to full Council. **AW** – I think it is disgraceful. **CQ** – Mike, then Steve. **MB** – We need to draw a line under it, we've agreed to consider if we bring it back or not on the next agenda, all we are doing now Cllr Whittaker is going around in circles. **AW** – I do apologise, its just my frustration. **TC** – At the May meeting every year we discuss all committees

and this May the absence of the toilet committee was not mentioned. **CQ** – We are where we are. Next meeting, we will consider whether to re-instate the toilet committee and who we put on it. **DW** – Rowing regatta, **LF** – It is cancelled. **MH** – What funds are available? **CQ** – We have committed a lot of money to toilets, significant investment, have to balance the accounts, there is a finite budget we have to work with. **MH** – Wonder if it is worth building something be-spoke. **SP** - I have thought of a relevant point here, I think it is a great achievement, these toilets here (FX RD) and the ones down by the coach park in the Old Village from Danfo, they have been here long enough now for this Council and the accounts to get a costing on A. how much they cost to install and B. how much has come back from them on spending a penny paying for it, so can I propose in time for the next meeting when we are going to be talking about setting up the regeneration of toilet committee we can have some costings on these. **CQ** – The information on the usage is in the report, if you multiply that by .2. It is not something you do to make a profit from, you spend money on it because it's a public service. **SP** – In terms of the other toilets there is a total cost of maintenance and cleaning to a private company so I am anxious to relook at those figures. **SK** – Just to say a couple of things to answer your question, that was the reason for them being put in in the first place to recoup some of the running costs – the reason the Spa site never got toilets was the toilets at the bottom of Hope Rd needed work doing to the ceramic furniture because the material used by the IW Council could not be cleaned properly and the cost of that was considerable, as much as temporary toilets at the Spa site so we had to choose one or the other, it seemed more sensible to spend the money on Hope Road which is a good thing re Covid. To throw money at the Spa site toilets is not an option they are not ours, it needs a rebuild. We would all like them, we cannot afford to do it. The toilet committee will sort it out, I am sure. We wait for that. **LF**– The work done on our toilets is marvellous so many people look up to us for what we have done, so please don't complain for what we have done, we just have a bit more to do. **CQ** – The new toilets we've got have won yet again toilet of the year awards so that's good. I think we need to draw a line under this conversation.

15. **COUNCILLORS TRAINING**

CQ – The form was circulated to fill in to say if you want initial training its available from IWALC and maybe through other bodies. We are not a member of IWALC, this Council in the past decided not to be a member, there have been issues, it can be revisited in the future. You can use IWALC training without being a member of IWALC, there is a basic introduction but if you have significant issues, you want training on raise them with Stella or myself. We want to be an effective Council so if you feel you need further tools to be an effective Councillor, we do have money to pay for training, ask if you want to. **AW** – When we were a member of IWALC how much was our fees for a year **TC** – I don't know Adrian it was 17 years ago, but it was a lot. **LF** – It's

based on electorate. **CQ** – Being a member of IWALC depends on how many votes you have, so it is a lot. **DW** – Extortionate. **CQ** – You do not join IWALC for the “free” training unless you are going to an enormous amount. The balanced view of this Council in the past was not to be a member of IWALC, but it can be reviewed in the future, but I would look into it before you make that request.

SP – Mr Chairman at this point I may come back at the end, I wanted to apologise to our Town Clerk for some misunderstanding on my points in an email but we can come back to that later but on this particular point which was one of those points training its to do with, so here’s the thing, on the sending out of emails some of the files are coming out as ODT & Macs and I pads don’t open ODT files so the training paper work would not open – so first I would like to say yes I would like to have relevant training as a new Cllr. however, 2 things I have no wish to incur the Council in huge costs which may be unnecessary which I would rather spend on public toilets, so next questions would be, we can download Cllr guide, if we were to read that would that be all the training we would need? 2nd part of the question, there must be more experienced Cllrs here who already know the training, would they be willing to offer the new Cllrs a few sessions here and there to save us the cost, but still get the training, the problem we have within this room we have some Cllrs on other Councils in the Bay area Lake and Sandown, they are getting ‘free` training now as we speak, some of us myself and Patrick I believe who are not on those Councils are getting no training so what we are getting is a disparity between 2 or 3 Councils. **CQ** – The `free` training is not free you pay a lot of money for it, `training` is not expensive if you go through the online stuff, I am sure that would help, but you cannot ask it questions.

SP – So would someone here be willing and able to help us. **CQ** – If you encounter problems, I am sure any of us would be willing to try and explain things, none of us are actual trainers, not qualified to give you that training, its more cost effective to use someone who is qualified. **AW** – At another meeting of another Council I believe we were told all Town & Parish Councils irrespective of whether they were a member of IWALC or not were sent an email regarding the current training which started last night. **CQ** – We didn’t receive it and IWALC have a reputation for how much they share their information. **RM** – I just wanted to add Adrian through the Chair that I know that Councils that are members of IWALC, they are offered places first and if there are places left then they are offered to non-IWALC members. **TC** – that’s what I said in my email. **CQ** – And there are other suppliers you are not reliant on IWALC. **AW** – Chair it’s probably, good to find out what Cllrs want **training**. **TC** – That’s why I sent the form to all Cllrs, Adrian and I have had one response, that’s all. **CQ** – If you feel you want training complete the form and submit it back to the Clerk and we will organise training, don’t worry about cost, having properly trained Cllrs is worthwhile.

16. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

DL – Shanklin Carnival put in for a grant, I am working on quotes, for asbestos, registered chap to take it down and dispose of safely with his license, a scaffolding company and roofer, having a tin roof and builder for the lintel and a gardener waiting for the quotes then I will present them hopefully in July. **CQ** – When you get it if it's time for the next meeting give to Stella. **LF** – Rotary crocus bulbs, we would like to know if we can plant a Rotary Wheel on Big Mead, its in aid of the End Polio Now campaign, the bulbs will arrive in September 2021, just need permission from IWC, Rotary will plant them. **SP** – Do you want to come back to me, I just want to do the apology to the Town Clerk **CQ** – we can come back to you at the end. **PB** – The email I circulated is it something the Town Council with deal with or do I do it in my own right. **CQ** - talk to me afterwards.

17. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE

Cllr. Beston, Bay Safety Buoys update provided by Trish Stillman IWC Commercial Services -the replacement buoys to be installed week commencing 5th July. Island Line Update provided by Phil Dominey SWR – The arrival of the second new train marked an important step towards the completion of the Island Line upgrade later this summer. With two trains now on the Island, preparations are making good progress and on 10th June the new Class 484 train conducted an important `gauging run` through the tunnel at Monktonmead to rubber stamp the engineering work that has taken place there. The train was towed by a road rail vehicle known as a `Unimog` as the power to the line was switched off whilst engineers carried out inspections and tests. The infrastructure works on the line are mainly complete including the new passing loop at Brading including platform overlays and signalling (although snagging is now taking place). Shanklin, Lake & Sandown stations have now been re-painted, new platform height adjustment work completed. Wi-Fi connection & customer information digital display boards installed. The old Island Line class 483's has been relocated to their new homes at the Steam railway, Holliers park and in storage for the London Transport Group. The Rail replacement bus service is running well along the route including the link to Havenstreet. Milestones such as these bring us closer to the completion of this exceptionally complex project however, with so many variables; it is still too early to give a definitive date for the railway to reopen. Everyone involved in the project continues to work tirelessly to bring the trains into service as soon as possible. Planning – The planning application for three detached bungalows including access drive in Landguard Manor Rd has been refused by Officers. I objected as the local member raising concerns over highway safety, overdevelopment and being out of character and unable to accord within the existing appearance of the surrounding area. In December 2020 I objected along with other business owners to the proposed application and potential loss of a Shanklin shop to be converted into a low-quality ground floor residence. The reasons for refusal were: an undesirable change of use

of the building in a retail area, a harmful impact to the vitality of the area and a lack of adequate natural light to all habitable rooms, Unsurprisingly, the applicant has now appealed the decision with the planning inspectorate. The IWC planning department has a robust and successful track record for determining correct decision in major and non-major applications; the appeal is likely not to be upheld. The percentage of decisions overturned at appeal is 0.7% and is below the national average of 1.1%, this ranks the IWC as one of the top performing authorities in regards to planning decisions. Station car park – Members may remember back in 2017 and 2019 that special dispensation was granted by Island Line for the Age Concern & John's Club mini-buses to park their vehicles overnight at the Station's lower car park. I'm pleased to confirm after liaising with Island Line, the original dispensation is now likely to be re-instated following the completion of the station works to allow the vehicles to be parked overnight. EHO - A large number of noise abatement/anti-social behaviour issues have manifested themselves over the last few months or so. Working in partnership with the IWC Environment Officer Daniel Power, I have brought several residents complaints to a successful resolution in Carter Avenue, Northcliff Gardens and Hope Road. If any member has a concern or requires assistance with environmental issues, I'm more than happy to assist and work with them. Shanklin Performing Arts Centre Update - SPAC-CIC – was incorporated on the 24th September 2020 when the old library closed, Shanklin Theatre Community Trust offered to buy the building from IWC and is now in the final stages of completion. The intention of acquiring this building is the need to expand professional shows at the theatre, but also the need for community use. It is the intention of the Trust to apply to the Arts Council for a substantial grant, and create a multi-function rehearsal space, dance studio and make it possible to have shows at the Arts Centre where the show capacity is too small for the theatre. The outside walls are sound but care needed to take apart and replace, the building has had a full survey, the front end appears sound, but really needs gutting and bringing up to today's environmental standards to make it fit for purpose. The building also needs a new roof. A full electrical inspection has now been completed, no major problems identified but a few items will need attention that are dangerous and require immediate work. Intruder alarm has been upgraded. Fire alarm will be upgraded after the building work is completed. Energy performance certificate – gaining a new certificate from April 2023 this will be a legal requirement. Asbestos survey report received, three items identified and would need specialist company to carry out the work.

Councillor Quirk – Over the bank holiday weekend frequent helicopter flights over the Town, I have been in touch with environment health with regard to the routes they take, they are trying to get them to take routes over the sea rather than over residential accommodation. Big Mead issues with emptying of bins over bank holiday weekend.

STC Cllr. SP – *I felt privileged by the Chairman with his other hat on as Chairman of Shanklin theatre to see that building. It is the old fire station, I just want to say how impressed I was with its potential obviously having worked in entertainment I think its highly suitable & I wish you well with that project I like to think that some of us will support you with anything you need backup on, of course it was the old fire station so it is a building of historical interest and I can certainly from my work in building I can attest to the fact that timber wants to come of the roof but the stones look sound to me, it's a great idea just down the road from the theatre. Moving on to this point with the Town Clerk Stella here I just want to apologise for any misunderstanding you seem to take, I was just trying to send an email with 5 points on I assumed we were able to bring up any points, from the ward from local residents and some of which were clearly on the agenda tonight, but because of this file issue ODT file some of our files are not opened, now Town Clerk is saying to us she does not send ODT files out so I am not quite sure how we are receiving PDF's no problem at all unless its from somewhere else, so I apologise . You accused me Town Clerk Stella of rudeness, and disrespect and accused me of breaching the Code of Conduct and you have accused me of something about my behaviour that you observed not sure where you observed it if it wasn't at the last meeting, I can assure you I am totally honest, truthful I treat everybody with mutual respect as fellow human beings I signed the necessary papers with that intention in mind and that's the kind of person I am so I don't like to be falsely accused of something that I am not, but if you've misunderstood something. **TC** – I did not misunderstand anything it's there in black and white. **SP-** Yes, I'm saying if some things are misunderstood, you said about rudeness and disrespect. **TC** -You were rude and disrespectful and it was not just me who has said so, it was other people as well. **SP** – I did not mean to be rude and disrespectful. **TC** – I am not discussing this with you. **CQ** – You can discuss this outside between yourselves. **SP** – an issue with the font you use in emails in italics. **TC** – I have explained all this in an email I spent three hours this morning responding in detail to your two emails and I explained , I use a very clear font 14 point in black, whatever device you are using to download is changing that to something else, that's not my issue, its yours. **SP** – The artistic font you are using **TC** – I do not use an artistic font. **CQ** – This is not an appropriate venue for this discussion, we will take it outside of this meeting. We will close the meeting now.*

Thursday 29th July 2021