

# SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 27 February 2025 at 19.00.**

**PRESENT:** Town Mayor Councillor S. Sheath (in the Chair)

Deputy Town Mayor Cllr. A. Whittaker Councillors: D. Lerner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, C. Quirk, M. Beston, L. Fleming, P. Barry, R. May, R. Patel, Town Clerk RFO, Deputy Town Clerk.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Points raised: None.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors' D. Cable, S. Knight, S. Parkes, D. Cable

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**

#### **2.1 S.106 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**

The onus is on the individual member to declare at the start of the meeting. This restriction is absolute and cannot be removed by a dispensation.

#### **2.2 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 or emailing the Town Clerk RFO before the meeting.

#### **2.3 DISPENSATIONS TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (If any).**

#### **2.4 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.

#### **2.5 TOWN CLERK'S DISPENSATION**

Town Clerk RFO granted a dispensation to Councillors present who required a dispensation for items 10 budget & 11 precept. The dispensation form is appended to the filed minutes.

**3. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR**

I hope this report finds you all well now that spring is just around the corner.

I start this report with a reflection on Shanklin Green Towns. 15 years ago, this Spring Shanklin Green Towns came into existence. It started as part of a pilot project. The project was about local action with advice & support from Island 2000 Trust. One of the objectives of the Green Towns Project was to encourage & support grass roots activity. Green Towns is still going strong & supports the following areas in the Town: Shanklin train station, War memorial garden, circle of life in Vernon Meadows car park. Flower beds in Tower Gardens. I would like to thank all the volunteers of Shanklin Green Towns for helping our Town to look its best throughout the year & I encourage residents to consider joining this wonderful group. Recently I received positive news that our current cleaning contractor Danfo UK has just invested in a new electric vehicle (the first of their UK fleet) to use in the Island Bay area. This decision was taken because of our rural and coastal location & the need to look at a greener more sustainable approach to operating business in public spaces. Finally, tonight we will make some important decisions on our Town Council finances for the next year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk & the Finance Committee for their hard work to assist the full Council to make the decisions required tonight.

**4. MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 30 JANUARY 2025**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30 January 2025 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Councillors voted to approve the minutes. Cllrs A. Whittaker, S. Sheath, D. Lerner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel voted to approve Cllr. P. Barry abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes from the meeting of 30 January 2025.

**MATTERS ARISING:** None.

**5. ACCOUNTS:**

**5.1 ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL JANUARY 2025**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the accounts.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the accounts for January in the sum of £21384.88.

**5.2 BANK RECONCILIATION JANUARY 2025**

Town Mayor Cllr. S. Sheath confirmed the bank reconciliation for January 2025 correct.

**6. PLANNING/LICENSING**

**RESOLVED:** Members made no comments. List attached to filed minutes.

**7. GRANT APPLICATION – IW MUSIC DANCE & DRAMA FESTIVAL S.145 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Councillor S. Sheath left the meeting being Treasurer of the dance festival & Deputy Town Mayor Cllr A. Whittaker took the Chair. Cllr Beston abstained due to his interest in the theatre.

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Councillors voted to approve the grant Cllrs A. Whittaker, D. Larnar, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, P. Barry voted to approve. Cllr. Beston abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To pay a grant in the sum of £250.

**Councillor S. Sheath returned to the meeting & took the Chair.**

**8. BUDGET REPORT 2025-2026**

Members noted the budget report. Members further noted that IW Council have reduced their contribution for the clock tower & are looking for funding. Cliff lift & canopy is being tidied up & banners with information erected.

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the above.

**9. FINANCE COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATIONS – TO AGREE & ADOPT**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus:

**9.4 TO RE-ADOPT GRANT APPLICATION FORM & POLICY TO ASSESS REQUESTS FOR GRANTS**

To resolve to re-adopt the grant application form & policy to assess requests for grants. Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larnar, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to re-adopt Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the grant application & policy to assess requests for grants with no changes to either form.

**9.5 TO RE-ADOPT FALCON CROSS HIRE FORM & POLICY TO ASSESS REQUESTS FOR FREE/REDUCED HIRE**

To resolve to re-adopt Falcon Cross hire form & Policy to assess requests for free/reduced hire. Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larnar, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to re-adopt. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt Falcon Cross Hall, hire form & policy to assess requests for free/reduced hire with no changes to either form.

**9.6 TO RE-ADOPT STANDARD CONDITIONS OF HIRE OF FALCON CROSS HALL**

To resolve to re-adopt the Standard conditions of hire of Falcon cross Hall Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larnar, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to adopt. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt Standard Conditions of hire of Falcon Cross Hall.

**9.7 TO AGREE THE RAISING OF FALCON CROSS HALL HIRE CHARGES**

To resolve to raise the hire charge to £35 in respect of the first two hours (two hours minimum hire); each additional hour, or part thereof charged at £14 per hour. To take effect from 1 April 2025. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted Cllrs voted to agree the raising of hire charges Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To increase the hire charge to £35 in respect of the first two hours (two hours minimum hire); each additional hour, or part thereof charged at £14 per hour. To take effect from 1 April 2025.

**9.8 FALCON CROSS HALL – FREE/REDUCED HIRE REQUESTS s.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**9.8.1 HISTORY SOCIETY**

To resolve to charge 10 sessions for the price of 9. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To charge 10 sessions for the price of 9.

**9.8.2 SHANKLIN EVENING TOWN WOMEN'S GUILD**

To resolve to give free hire for December

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To give free hire for December.

**9.8.3.1 MONDAY GROUP**

To resolve to agree when Using Falcon Cross Hall (when more members) to charge up to a maximum of £15 per session from 1 April 2025 s.144 Local Government Act 1972

Members duly proposed seconded and voted thus Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To charge up to £15 when Monday group use Falcon Cross Hall.

**9.8.3.2 MONDAY GROUP**

To resolve to agree when less members to allow Monday group use of the library on a Thursday 10-12 at a charge of £10 per session from 1 April 2025 s. 144 Local Government Act 1972

Members duly proposed seconded and voted thus Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained. **RESOLVED:** To allow use of the library on a Thursday 10-12 when less members at a charge of £10 per session.

**9.9 NATIONAL AGREEMENT PAY CLAIM & SCALE INCREMENTS AS PER INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS AS AND WHEN THEY ARISE FOR 2025/2026**

To resolve that Town Clerk RFO implement the National pay claim & scale increments as per individual contracts as & when they arise for 2025/2026 Members voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To delegate to the Town Clerk RFO the implementation of the National agreement pay claim & scale increments as per individual contracts as and when they arise for 2025/2026.

**9.10 2025-2026 IWC COUNCIL REVISED TAX BASE LETTER**

**RESOLVED:** Members noted IW Council approved the tax base for Shanklin Town Council at 3795.70 an increase of 5.23% on last year.

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the document.

**9.11 TRANSPARENCY CODE**

To resolve to re-adopt the Transparency Code

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Transparency code.

**9.12 INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

To resolve to adopt the Investment Strategy

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to adopt the Investment Strategy.

Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Investment Strategy.

**9.13 RESERVE POLICY**

To resolve to adopt the Reserve Policy

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to adopt the Reserve Policy Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to approve. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained. **RESOLVED:** To adopt the Reserve Policy.

**9.14 BUDGET REPORT & DRAFT BUDGET 2025-2026 S. 151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

To resolve to adopt the budget as presented in its entirety.

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to adopt the budget in its entirety

Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to adopt. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the budget in its entirety.

## **9.15 PRECEPT 2025-2026 – S.41 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1992**

To resolve the precept demand for 2025.2026 at £425000 this results in a band D council tax of £111.97 i.e. £2.15 a week. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to set the precept for 2025.2026 at £425000. Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to adopt. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

## **9.16 ANY OTHER MATTER THAT MAY PROPERLY ARISE**

### **9.16.1.1 VE DAY 80 & VJ DAY 80**

To resolve to agree to contribute up to £2500 towards Richard Priest's projects for the above s.144 Local Government Act 1972 applies  
Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

### **9.16.1.2 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

To resolve to adopt the adoption of the Financial Regulations  
Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to adopt. Cllr. R. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

### **9.16.1.3 ESPLANADE CLOCK TOWER**

To resolve to increase our contribution to the IW Council's renovation of the clock tower to £20,000 Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to increase the contribution. Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

### **9.16.1.4 Under s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public & press may be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1(3) of Schedule 12 of the Act.**

### **9.16.1.5 TOWN CLERK RFO'S ADDITIONAL PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS – S.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1963**

To resolve to authorise Town Clerk RFO to liase with IW Council pensions department to transfer her gratuity currently in reserves to her IW Council pension in the sum of £12021.00.

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted for the authorisation Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained. **RESOLVED:** Town Clerk RFO to liase with IW Council pensions department to transfer her gratuity currently in reserves to her IW Council pension in the sum of £12021.00.

#### **9.16.1.6 TOILET CLEANING CONTRACT**

To resolve to extend the current toilet cleaning contract with Danfo in the sum of £56,467.18 per annum plus VAT RPI linked for another 2 years. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted for the extension of the cleaning contract Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To extend the current toilet cleaning contract with Danfo in the sum of £56,467.18 per annum plus VAT RPI linked for another 2 years.

#### **9.16.1.7 BUILDING THE BAY – BAY PLACE PLAN PROJECTS S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES**

##### **9.16.1.7.1 Promenade Arts Festival**

To resolve to contribute £3333 to the festival Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute Cllr. R. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

##### **9.16.1.7.2 Business Association & Steering Group Website**

To resolve to contribute £1000 for the website on condition a tourist application is included along with QR codes. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

##### **9.16.1.7.3 Tourism Leaflet**

To resolve to contribute £666 or up to £1000 if Lake & Sandown contribute £1000 towards the tourism leaflet on condition the name of the leaflet is "Shanklin, Lake & Sandown". Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** to contribute up to £1000.

##### **9.16.1.7.4 Promotions Video**

To resolve to contribute £1000 to the promotions video Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** to contribute £1000 to the promotions video.

**9.16.2 IW COUNCIL REGENERATION OFFICER S.111(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

To resolve to contribute £12000 for 2025.2026 on the following conditions:

1. The £12000 is performance based for 2025-2026
2. If the £12000 is not required for 2025.2026 it is returned to us
3. Newport, Ryde & Cowes give IW Council funds for their Regeneration Officers

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to contribute Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To contribute £12000 on the above 3 conditions being met.

Councillor C. Quirk joined the meeting.

**10. BUDGET 2025-2026 – S.151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – TO AGREE & ADOPT THE BUDGET AS PRESENTED**

Cllr. S. Sheath thanked Town Clerk RFO & Finance Committee for their work on the budget. Members discussed the budget Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to agree & adopt the budget in its entirety Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To agree & adopt the budget in its entirety.

**11. PRECEPT 2025-2026 – S.41 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**

To resolve that the precept monies demanded from the IW Council be set at £425000 for 2025.2026. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Cllrs S. Sheath, D. Larner, W. Hilton-How, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, C. Quirk voted to agree precept be set at £425000 Cllr. P. Barry voted against. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**12. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2025 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to approve sign, & to note matter arising that do not require formal resolution.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes from the meeting of 17 February 2025.

**MATTERS ARISING:** None.



**13. RISK MANAGEMENT**

To agree the adoption of the updated risk management/assessment & signing thereof by the Town Mayor. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to agree the adoption & signing of the risk assessment.

**RESOLVED:** To agree the adoption of the updated risk management/assessment & signing thereof by the Town Mayor.

**14. STANDING ORDERS**

To re-adopt the Standing Orders. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to agree the re-adoption of Standing Orders

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Standing Orders.

**15. STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING 17 FEBRUARY 2025**

**15.1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

To adopt the Staffing Committees recommendations. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to adopt the Staffing Committees recommendations.

**RESOLVED:** to adopt the Staffing Committees recommendations.

**15.2 MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE 17 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2025 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to approve sign, & to note matter arising that do not require formal resolution.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes from the meeting of 17 February 2025.

**MATTERS ARISING:** None.

**16. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

To re-adopt the Financial Regulations. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to re-adopt the Financial Regulations.

**RESOLVED:** to re-adopt the Financial Regulations.

**17. BIG MEAD UPDATE**

Jon and I had a meeting with an IWC officer regarding big mead play equipment IWC Officer suggested the best way forward was to refund us our £9600 pounds we paid towards the equipment that never materialised

IWC will pay all the monies for the installation of new play equipment at big mead which is similar to what Jon sourced for them last year

The £9600 refunded will go back into town improvements. We have asked for information & quotes on swings and a piece of gym equipment The officer agreed to cut back shrubbery etc at tower cottage paving the way (excuse the pun) for it to be tarmacked & possibly installing a picnic bench in the future.

Town Mayor Cllr. S. Sheath thanked Jon for his work on this.

**18. MEMBERS UPDATE**

Cllr. Fleming – notice board Town Square.

Cllr. Barry – Covid 19 – no changes to agenda. Magazine Cllr Whittaker said Lake Ripples loses money.

Cllr. Whittaker – new Council in May invite IWALC.

Cllr. Sheath thanked Cllr. Whittaker for his work on the pond.

**19. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE**

Cllr. Quirk – Spa site. Osborne Steps. A. S. toilets discussion to be had.

Cllr. Beston – Carter Avenue horse field all sorted. Beat surgery with PCSOS also residents turned up. Protection Orders gives police power to confiscate. Signage going up.

Tuesday 29 April 2025 .....