

SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 29 January 2026 at 19.00.

PRESENT: Town Mayor Councillor S. Sheath (in the Chair)
Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Patel- Absent

Councillors: A. Whittaker, D. Lerner, D. Williams, L. Fleming, R. May, S. Goodyear, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, M. Beston, D. Beeson. Town Clerk RFO, Deputy Town Clerk one member of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM

Points raised: None.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs C. Quirk, R. Patel.

Cllr. P. Barry did not attend & gave no apologies.

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 or 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 2029 (or until the next election if sooner) with regard to IW Council items, & Shanklin theatre & community trust.

3. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

I hope this report finds you all well and I wish all members a happy new year.

I start this report with a reflection of the stunning poppy display outside the Shanklin Royal British Legion, the chairman explained to me "We knew we wanted to do something special for remembrance Sunday this year, and in February committee member Linda Smith had an idea 15 ladies hand made over 4000 knitted poppies to make our outside display. The Chairman said "look out for next year's display" it will get bigger and better as we remember our fallen heroes. In December I attended with fellow Shanklin Town Councillors the St. Blasius Academy PTA Christmas fayre and it was lovely to see the school community working together. Mid December we held our traditional Council carol service which was arranged by

our wonderful Town Clerk Stella, it was held for the second year in the Town Square next to the beautiful Christmas tree. The service was conducted by Rev Mark Williams, the Town Clerk had selected a seasonal poem for me to read and my thanks to the delightful brass band for playing at the event, it really created a festive atmosphere. Earlier this month the Rotary club of Shanklin held their January sale this year it was at a new site at Wight aviation museum and the ability dogs for young people training centre more than a hundred residents queued up for the official opening by Anne Springman former High Sherrif of the Isle of Wight. I would like to thank the dedicated sale volunteers, the Rotary Club of Shanklin for organising the event, and the ability dogs for young people and Wight aviation museum for allowing the sale on their site. Finally, I would like to end this report by expressing the Council's condolences to Cllr. Fleming and the family on the sad passing of her husband John who served many years on this Council.

4. MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 30 OCTOBER 2025

To approve the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 30 October 2025 & to note matters arising, which do not require formal resolution

Councillors voted to approve: The vote was unanimous.

RESOLVED: Councillors voted to approve the minutes from the meeting of 30 October. 2025

MATTERS ARISING: None.

5. ACCOUNTS:

5.1 ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL OCTOBER 2025

A question was raised about the cost of the school crossing patrol and £20.15 purchase.

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

RESOLVED: To approve the accounts for September in the sum of £28,735.90

5.2 BANK RECONCILIATION OCTOBER 2025

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

5.3 ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL NOVEMBER 2025

A question was raised about a £990.56 expense for lift electrics, which was clarified as the annual electricity cost for the toilets metered from the lift's supply.

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

RESOLVED: To approve the accounts for November in the sum of £28818.49.

5.4 BANK RECONCILIATION NOVEMBER 2025

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

5.5 ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL DECEMBER 2025

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

RESOLVED: To approve the accounts for November in the sum of £12678.26.

5.6 BANK RECONCILIATION DECEMBER 2025

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

5.7 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025

RESOLVED: Members noted the document.

5.8 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2025

RESOLVED: Members noted the document.

6. SHANKLIN CARNIVAL LETTER

The letter stated the carnival had given back to the Town Council the grant they were given for the Xmas fayre in the sum of £650.00

Councillor Whittaker noted the letter stating the Council's previous decision was valid. Other Cllrs expressed concerns about how a carnival representative was treated during a previous grant application process.

It was suggested when grants come into the Town Clerk RFO if the necessary documentation is not present it does not make it to the agenda.

RESOLVED: Finance Group to review changes to the grant forms made by the RFO at their finance meeting.

7. VERNON SPENCER TRUST – GRANT REQUEST SHANKLIN ROTARY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Councillors M. Sheath, S. Sheath & L. Fleming being Rotary members declared a non-pecuniary interest and abstained from voting. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted Cllrs. A. Whittaker, D. Lerner, D. Williams, R. May, S. Goodyear, W. Cooper, M. Beston, D. Beeson, T. Sheath voted to pay a grant of £250.00 Councillors M. Sheath, S. Sheath & L. Fleming abstained.

RESOLVED: To pay a grant of £250.00.

8. PLANNING & LICENSING

MAJOR APPLICATION RECEIVED The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Notice Under Article 13(4) or (5) of Application for Planning Permission Application No: 26/00005/FUL Shanklin Wentworth House 23 Hope Road Shanklin Isle Of Wight PO37 6ED Ward(s): Shanklin Central Proposed alterations and conversion of building from Hotel (Class C1) to 13

dwellings (Class C3) with associated car parking, refuse storage and landscaping.

NON-MAJOR APPLICATIONS

Application No: **25/01845/HOU Four stones 56 Blythe Way Shanklin**

Central Proposed alterations and single storey extension on front elevation

RESOLVED: Members had no comments to make.

9. MEMBERS UPDATE

Cllr. Fleming thanked the members for the flowers and shared that her husband John passed away recently.

Railway notice board – uncertainty about ownership, it may be Isle of Wight Council, Railway, Island Roads. Cllr. Beston will investigate.

Cllr. Cooper thanked Cllr. May for starting a petition for a later no.2 bus service.

Trees have been planted at the cemetery and Big Mead.

The Town Clerk has invited Thomas Cowley to the March meeting to talk about Tree Wardens.

Flooding at Big Mead.

Osborne Steps see below.

10. IW COUNCILLOR/S UPDATE

Cllr. Beston: The IW Council is in a poor financial state with a projected budget gap of £24.8 million for 2026.2027 potentially rising to £44 million by 2028.2029. Pressures are coming from rising demands in adult social care and a £3.8 million reduction in central government funding this year. The Council's financial officer is leaving in May. The IWC has to approve a legally balanced budget in February. The UK Government announced £1.6 billion in pothole repair funding. The amount given to the IW cannot be used for pot hole repair due to the PFI contract but can be used for other things. It was confirmed that using this funding for Osborne Steps is an option being explored. A beat surgery is scheduled for Monday 2 February from ten to twelve. Laura is working with Jon on grant applications for the clock.

11. UNDER S.100A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 THE PUBLIC AND PRESS MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY MAY INVOLVE THE DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN PART 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 12 OF THE ACT

12. GREEN TOWNS

12.1 TINA HOMDEN'S NOTE

“Green Towns have decided to no longer organise monthly beach cleans. Instead, will focus on occasional beach cleans and rubbish hot-spot town cleans when needed. Terry and Christine have made 63 visits and 307 hours this year working hard at the war memorial. Terry has paid to have the stonework professionally cleaned this has cost him over £1000.00 which I am sure you will agree is a very generous donation from him.”

12.2 TERRY CARPENTERS LETTER & INVOICE

Terry is not asking for reimbursement the payment was considered a donation. The belief is the invoice was sent because Green Towns was not on the wreath laying list for the remembrance service which upset Terry. The wreath laying list is organised by the Royal British Legion not the Town Council.

Members voted unanimously to accept the Town Clerk’s recommendations:
RESOLVED: To write to Terry thanking him for his kind donation but clarifying that all works must be authorised by the Town Council, write to Wight Stone Masonry to state that only the Town Clerk RFO and Jon can authorise work on the war memorial. Councillor Goodyear will contact the British Legion.

13. ESTIMATION OF WORKS CHINE BLUFF TOILETS

Only one estimate received despite several companies being asked to quote. The quote is for making the building watertight but with nothing inside it.

Members’ discussed at length:

Off-loading back to IWC, but the fear is it would be left to rot. Renovating the building which is art deco and located in a conservation area, which places stringent limits on modifications, especially to the façade would cost approx. £400,000 making renovation unviable. Demolishing the building is problematic as it is connected to the road, a wall, and two contractors have refused to provide a quote for that reason. Selling the building – auction considered the fairest way ensuring market value is achieved. A reserve price could be set. Proceeds from the sale could be put towards another toilet facility in the Town as per an agreement with the IW Council. There are a couple of people interested in the buying the building.

The Town Council has previously looked at placing toilet facilities on the pavement in the same area but found this to be unviable. Public consultation either a public meeting or article in the Beacon.

RESOLVED: To postpone any decision until after the May elections.

14. LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR

Members noted that the library co-ordinator is retiring at the end of March. The process of hiring a replacement is underway.

26 February 2026