

# SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 26 February 2026 at 19.00.**

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

Councillors: D. Lerner, D. Williams, C. Quirk, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, R. Patel, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, D. Beeson, A. Whittaker, S. Goodyear.

Town Clerk RFO, Deputy Town Clerk.

Cllr. P. Barry arrived at 20.20 gave no apologies for his late arrival.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Points raised: None.

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

None.

### **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 2026 (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 9 budget & 10 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 of one of our very special Shanklin residents Cilla Moms who recently celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Cilla was born in 1926 and grew up on the Island in East Cowes. Cilla told me as a child she would travel twice a year at Easter and Christmas on a steamboat to buy clothes.

In 2010 Cilla was one of the first volunteers to sign up to the Friends of Shanklin Theatre and has been a long standing and dedicated theatre usher. Cilla is always ready to help theatre goers and is always on hand to help new ushers and pass on her wise words. I would like to wish Cilla a wonderful year ahead and thank her for all her work to support Shanklin theatre. The monthly beat surgery at Falcon Coss Hall has restarted for 2026 and will continue in the current format. My thanks to our PCSO Matt Wheeler for attending and supporting this important monthly event. We are also including some afternoon sessions to help more residents to attend. Finally, I would like to thank our Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and the Councillors on the Finance Committee for all their work towards tonight's meeting.

**4. MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 29 JANUARY 2026**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29 January 2026 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 S. Sheath, D. Lamer, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, D. Beeson, A. Whittaker, S. Goodyear voted for the minutes, Cllrs C. Quirk & R. Patel abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes from the meeting of 29 January 2026.

**MATTERS ARISING:** Item 13. Chine Bluff toilets – Cllr. Quirk suggested seeking quotes through a national system as the block supports a public road. Previously stated we would re-visit after the May elections.

**5. ACCOUNTS:**

**5.1 ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL JANUARY 2026**

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

**RESOLVED:** To approve the accounts for January in the sum of £72603.17.

**5.2 BANK RECONCILIATION JANUARY 2026**

Town Mayor Cllr. S. Sheath confirmed the bank reconciliation for January 2026 correct.

**6. INTERNAL AUDITOR**

**6.1 AUDITOR'S REPORT – INTERIM REPORT 2025/2026 REGULATION 5 (1) ACCOUNTS & AUDIT REGULATIONS 2015**

Members received, approved & adopted the Auditor's interim Report for the year ending 31 March 2026

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to receive, approve & adopt the Auditor's interim Report for the year ending 31 March 2025.2026

**RESOLVED:** To approve & adopt the Auditor's interim Report for the year ending 31 March 2026.

**6.2 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT**

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the letter of engagement & instructed Town Clerk RFO to sign said letter.

**6.3 TO CONFIRM NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN AUDITING SOLUTIONS LTD & SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL & ITS MEMBERS**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to confirm no conflicts of interest.

**RESOLVED:** Members confirmed no conflict of interest between Auditing Solutions Ltd, Shanklin Town Council & it's members.

**7. TOWN CLERK RFO'S BUDGET REPORT 2026-2027**

Members noted the budget report with thanks to the Town Clerk RFO for the work involved.

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the above.

**8. FINANCE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS – TO AGREE & ADOPT**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to agree & adopt the Finance Committee's Recommendations

**8.4 TO ADOPT THE REVIEWED GRANT APPLICATION FORM & POLICY TO ASSESS REQUESTS FOR GRANTS (WITH THE AMENDMENT)**

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the reviewed grant application form & policy to assess requests for grants with amendments (time scale of spending the grant, & recent audited/certified accounts).

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

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

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

One amendment to remove "cooker" from the form.

**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt Standard Conditions of hire of Falcon Cross Hall with the one amendment.

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

**RESOLVED:** To increase the hire charge to £40 in respect of the first two hours (two hours minimum hire); each additional hour, or part thereof charged at £16 per hour. To take effect from 1 April 2026.

- 8.8 TO ADOPT CONFIRMATION FORM 1**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt confirmation form 1.
- 8.9 TO ADOPT CONFIRMATION FORM 2**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt confirmation form 2.
- 8.10 FALCON CROSS HALL FREE/REDUCED HIRE REQUESTS:**
- 8.10.1 HISTORY SOCIETY TO CHARGE 10 SESSIONS FOR THE PRICE OF 9 S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES**  
**RESOLVED:** To charge History Society 10 sessions for the price of 9
- 8.10.2 SHANKLIN TOWN'S WOMENS GUILD DECEMBER SESSION FREE S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES**  
**RESOLVED:** To give Shanklin Town's Women's Guild December session free of charge.
- 8.10.3 POLICE BEAT SURGERY FREE HIRE FOR 2026.2027 S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES**  
**RESOLVED:** To give police free hire for 2026.2027.
- 8.11 NATIONAL AGREEMENT PAY CLAIM & SCALE INCREMENTS AS PER INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS AS AND WHEN THEY ARISE FOR 2026/2027**  
 To resolve that Town Clerk RFO to implement the National pay claim & scale increments as per individual contracts as & when they arise for 2026/2027  
**RESOLVED:** Town Clerk RFO to implement the National pay claim & scale increments as per individual contracts as & when they arise for 2026/2027.
- 8.12 2026-2027 IWC COUNCIL REVISED TAX BASE LETTER**  
**RESOLVED:** Members noted IW Council approved the tax base for Shanklin Town Council at 3,811.5 an increase of 0.42% on last year.
- 8.13 TRANSPARENCY CODE**  
**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Transparency code.
- 8.14 INVESTMENT STRATEGY**  
**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Investment Strategy.
- 8.15 RESERVE POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Reserve Policy.
- 8.16 STANDING ORDERS**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Standing Orders.
- 8.17 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Standing Orders.

- 8.18 COUNCILLORS EMAIL POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Email Policy.
- 8.19 TO RESOLVE THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW ASSERTION 10 POLICY ADOPTIONS 19.1-19.8 TO COMPLY WITH THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2025.2026 THEREAFTER**
- 8.19.1 IT POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the IT Policy.
- 8.19.2 WEBSITE COOKIE POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Website Cookie Policy.
- 8.19.3 DATA PROTECTION POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Data Protection Policy.
- 8.19.4 DATA AUDIT**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Data Audit.
- 8.19.5 DATA & DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Data & Documentation Retention Policy.
- 8.19.6 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PUBLICATION SCHEME**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme
- 8.19.7 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Schedule of Charges.
- 8.19.8 DATA PRIVACY NOTICE**  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Data Privacy Notice.
- 8.20 EXCLUSION**  
There were no public or press at the finance meeting so the exclusion did not apply for the following item.
- 8.21 IW COUNCIL REGENERATION OFFICER**  
To fund the post for one year in the sum of £12000 on the following conditions:
- Sandown & Lake Town & Parish Councils respectively finance the post to equal the monetary amount
  - All three Town & Parish Councils being given equal Officer time
  - The monies are paid direct to the Isle of Wight Council & if not use returned to us.

**RESOLVED:** To finance the post of Regeneration Officer IWC in the sum of £12000 for 2026.2027 if the above three conditions are met.

**8.22 NOTING OF THE BUDGET REPORT & ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET S.151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED:** To note the budget report and adopt the budget in its entirety.

**8.23 PRECEPT -2026.2027**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to set the precept at £455,000. For 2026.2027 s.41 Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies.

**RESOLVED:** To demand from the Isle of Wight Council a precept of £455,000 for 2026.2027.

**8.24 ANY OTHER MATTER THAT THE TOWN CLERK RFO CONSIDERS PROPERLY ARISES**

**8.24.1 YEAR OF READING**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted to contribute to the funding of school book bags for pupils of Gatten & Lake & St. Blasius schools in the sum of approximately £2000. s144 Local Government Act 1972

Councillors S. Sheath, D. Larner, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, D. Beeson, S. Goodyear. Cllrs C. Quirk, R. Patel voted to approve. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.

**RESOLVED:** To contribute approximately £2000 towards school book bags.

**8.24.2 WAIVING OF FALCON CROSS HALL HIRE FEE FOR FOSCL**

**RESOLVED:** To waive the hire fee. S.111 Local Government Act 1972 applies.

**8.24.3 AUTHORISATION TO TOWN CLERK RFO TO LIAISE WITH IWC PENSION DEPARTMENT TO PAY PENSION MONIES RESIDING IN RESERVES. S.111 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 APPLIES**

**RESOLVED:** Town Clerk RFO to liaise with IWC pension department for transfer of pension monies.

**9. BUDGET 2026-2027 S.151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 TO AGREE & ADOPT**

Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to agree & adopt the Budget 2026- 2027

**RESOLVED:** To agree & adopt the Budget 2026.2027 in its entirety.

- 10. PRECEPT 2026-2027 IN THE SUM OF £455,000 – S.41 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**  
Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus: Councillors S. Sheath, D. Larner, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, D. Beeson, S. Goodyear. Cllrs C. Quirk, R. Patel voted to approve. Cllr. Whittaker abstained.  
**RESOLVED:** To demand a precept of £455,000 from IW Council.
- 11. GRANT APPLICATION FORM**  
Members duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to adopt the reviewed grant application form with all its changes including the addition of timescales for spending & the addition of audited/certified accounts.  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the new grant form with the amendments.
- 12. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2026**  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2026 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 S. Sheath, D. Larner, D. Williams, M. Beston, L. Fleming, R. May, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, S. Goodyear, A. Whittaker, C. Quirk, R. Patel voted to approve. Cllr. M. Sheath, D. Beeson abstained.  
**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes from the Finance meeting of 16 February 2026.  
**MATTERS ARISING:** None.
- 13. RISK MANAGEMENT**  
To agree the adoption of the updated risk management/assessment & signing thereof by the Town Clerk RFO 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 Clerk RFO.
- 14. GRANT APPLICATION – SHANKLIN REGATTA S145 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**  
Cllr. Fleming declared an interest being a member of Shanklin Regatta and abstained from voting. Cllrs. S. Sheath & M. Sheath declared an interest being members of Shanklin Rotary who help with the Regatta. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted thus to pay a grant of £5000  
Councillors S. Sheath, D. Larner, D. Williams, M. Beston, R. May, W. Cooper, T. Sheath, M. Sheath, D. Beeson, S. Goodyear, C. Quirk, R. Patel, Cllr. Whittaker voted to approve payment. Cllr. Fleming abstained.  
**RESOLVED:** To pay a grant of £5000.
- 15. CHANGE OF TOWN COUNCIL EMAIL FROM 1 MARCH 2026**  
**RESOLVED:** Members noted the change of email.

## 16. PLANNING/LICENSING

No comments were received from the planning group.

**Councillors' M. Beston & C. Quirk declared an interest being IW Councillors.**

Members commented thus:

**RESOLVED:** The recommendations of the Town Council on the following applications are as listed below:

### COMMENT

**Application No: 25/01844/FUL Parish(es):** Shanklin Ward(s): Shanklin South Location: Esplanade Hotel 32 Esplanade Shanklin Isle Of Wight PO37 6BG Proposal: Proposed alterations and change of use of former hotel to form six flats

*The Town Council supports the proposed change of use from a former hotel to six residential flats, subject to the development being completed to a high standard of finish. Furthermore, the external appearance of the building should be sympathetic to, and in keeping with, the character and appearance of the surrounding properties.*

### NO COMMENT

**Application No: 26/00008/RVC Parish(es):** Shanklin Ward(s): Shanklin South Location: Former Sports Pitch On Eastern Side Of Luccombe Road Shanklin Isle Of Wight Proposal: Variation of condition 2 on 23/01856/FUL to allow for a revised layout

**Application No: 26/00183/HOU Parish(es):** Shanklin Ward(s): Shanklin South Location: 13 Hungerberry Close Shanklin Isle Of Wight PO37 6LX Proposal: Proposed extension at first floor level including new roof with dormer windows on front and rear elevations.

## 17. MEMBERS UPDATE

Pumping Station at Hope Road needs painting (Southern Water). Big Mead has too much water, Island Roads are to conduct a camera survey. Bay Place Plan meetings are not being communicated back to the Town Council, Shanklin art installation, it was confirmed that Shanklin has not been asked to identify a site, draft images were shown to Cllrs on close of the meeting.

## 18. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE

Cllr. Quirk – The IW Council's current administration reduced reserves from 35 million to 4 million, largely due to excessive spending on adult social care. The IW Council has an overdraft facility of up to 13 million to implement changes. Without changes the IW Council faces bankruptcy. Ongoing meetings with the Environment Agency about sea defences are positive. There are plans to create a performance space around the old pier, which would include resurfacing, and rebuilding parts of the sea wall. Funding for this project appears to be secured.

Cllr. P. Barry joined the meeting at 20.20.

Cllr. Beston – Osborne Steps remain closed. A £7 million grant for road improvements could potentially be used for the project, but much of it was allocated elsewhere. 2 engineering surveys have been completed, however recent vegetation removal may have uncovered new cracks. Proposals to charge for parking in Regent Street have been scrapped to protect local businesses.

PSPO signage after discussions with Hampshire constabulary and the IW Council an agreement is in place to produce the necessary paperwork to enforce PSPO rules. This will allow new signage to finally be installed to address anti-social behaviour. A community art installation created by year six students was unveiled this project was a joint effort involving the Town Council, the school and Men in Sheds.

Thursday 30 April 2026 .....