

SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 8th February 2018

PRESENT: Town Mayor Councillor J. Gilbey (in the Chair)
Councillors' C. Quirk, R. May, L. Fleming, J. Fleming,
S. Sheath, R. Priest, D. Larner, S. Godden, M. Beston, S. Knight,
D. Cable, Town Clerk RFO. seven members of the public, Cllr Paul Brading, No County Press.

PUBLIC FORUM

Anne Sayer from Green Towns talked about the problems of dog mess, and litter around the Town. IWC have signed up to a project to reduce plastic litter (Plastic Aware), looking towards a zero tolerance for litter. It is about education. There are beach clean boards – like an A frame with the necessary to do a quick beach clean. Cllr. Quirk said the Plastic Aware scheme got unanimous cross party support. It was suggested that Anne talk to Sam EO. Cllr. Priest pointed out that there is a limit to what a Town Council can do and the IWC is better placed to do more. Last year we were instrumental in having recycling bins on the seafront which has been very positive. It used to be in the agreements that Longshoremen were responsible for keeping their part of the beach clean.

Mr Adrian Whittaker said that on the 28th August 2017 he emailed the Town Mayor regarding overflowing dual recycling litter bins on the Esplanade.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor E. Knight.

Town Mayor Councillor Gilbey informed Members' that Sonja Ward has resigned as a Councillor with immediate effect. The Town Mayor has thanked her for her work over the past few years.

Town Mayor Councillor Gilbey informed Members' that there is an urgent item of business to take after item 12 for which there will be an exclusion of the public.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

2.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Members were invited to voice their declarations and/or complete the form – a copy of which is appended to the filed copy of these minutes.

2.2 DISPENSATIONS

Councillor C. Quirk & Councillor M. Beston both have dispensations to participate (speak & vote) granted to them until May 2021 (or until the next election if sooner).

2.3 TO GRANT ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AS APPROPRIATE

3. REPORT FROM POLICE REPRESENTATIVE

None present.

4. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

Not many formal events this past month. I was guest speaker at the Women's Institute, there was plenty of cake. I opened the Rotary Club annual sale by cutting a bra. The total raised was just under £38,000 so a big thank you to all those involved. I am now Chairman of Abbeyfield – I have updated my Registration of Interest form. I attended St Blasius Church on Sunday there was a good attendance. The locks on Hope Road toilets have all been replaced. Tower Cottage has a new flush system.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 11th November 2018 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

MATTERS ARISING – Item 14. Cliff hedge cutting and Rylstone Gardens to be completed before Easter.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 25th January 2018 having been previously circulated be adopted & to note matters arising, which do not require formal resolution.

MATTERS ARISING: - Item 6. Planning Elmdon application s. 106 what do we want for the playground at Big Mead. IWC are to obtain costs for the Groynes on the beach.

Public Forum - Mr Adrian Whittaker said he spoke in public forum as a resident and not a Lake Parish Councillor (Town Clerk RFO to amend the minutes accordingly). Cllr Priest reminded Members' that they need to be aware of the cost of the nonsense of non-complaints, last week approximately 11 hours and a lot of resources was spent on clarifying the legal advice etc. It's a huge amount of resources and work for a part-time Clerk. The toilets are open for 120 hours a week compare the two. When people raise complaints that are not genuine complaints it is time consuming, we have £10,000 in the budget for elections because some people will insist on calling an election instead of allowing us to co-opt. It's a waste of a resource. Cllr. Quirk said when it comes to democracy you have to allow people the right to call an election. Councillor Priest said yes I believe in democracy if an election is necessary but there is co-option, the cost of an election could be up to £3000, that's the school crossing patrol for a year. A few weeks ago fly tipping at the County Ground occurred when volunteers went to clear it up they were abused. People need to own the consequences of their actions which could be major.

7. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT 8th February 2018

Town Mayor Cllr. Gilbey informed Members that 4167 was a re-issue and would be discussed under item 13.

Councillor S. Sheath declared an interest in cheque 4183 as she is a steward at the festival.

RESOLVED: That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £198819.92 be approved for payment.

8. PLANNING

Councillors' M. Beston & C. Quirk declared an interest being IW Councillors and on the IWC Planning Committee.

RESOLVED: The recommendations of the Council on the following applications are as listed below: **NO COMMENT P/00022/18** – Alterations to shop front to provide separate access to residential accommodation over **PRING & WHEELER 61-63 HIGH STREET. P/00081/18** – Proposed balconies; new bi-fold doors; undercover storage; fencing and retaining walls (revised scheme) **LUCCOMBE HALL HOTEL 8 LUCCOMBE ROAD.** Members' noted Island Roads notices.

9. ISLAND ROADS - NEW ROAD NAME REQUEST

RESOLVED: Members' support the new road name.

10. TO CONSIDER THE REDUCTION OF 'TOWN COUNCIL' MEETINGS TO ONE A MONTH

This will see a reduction in the amount of administration work before and after meetings. The Town Clerk's RFO work load has increased enormously since we have taken on 5 toilets, library, beach safety, school crossing patrol etc. Maybe we should look at taking on an administrative assistant. Councillor Priest pointed out that Ventnor have 9 staff and a £109 band D precept. Cllr. Knight said it is short sighted of us to agree to think we can take more things on and not take on extra staff; we have the right to employ more staff in order to manage what we do.

Councillor Priest said we will this coming financial year be moving the library into the centre of Town and the Office.

Members' agreed to have one Town Council meeting a month and if necessary to begin the meeting earlier or finish the meeting later. We can call an extra meeting if needed. There will be a rotation of Chair i.e. Town Mayor & Deputy Town Mayor. Planning & General Purposes Meeting ceases to exist from April 2018. Town Clerk RFO will furnish Members' with the new meeting dates. To review the situation in 12 months and act accordingly.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to have one 'Town Council' meeting a month with a rotation of Town Mayor & Deputy Town Mayor chairing.

11. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Hope Road toilets are in a state due to them being made of resin the only way to clean them is to sandblast them, which means they will then stain quicker.

Cllr. Priest updated Members' re Town Clock hopefully this should be solved soon.

Cllr. Cable empty shops instead of becoming charity shops IWC could give free business rates for six months. Cllr Lerner pointed out that if that was the case other shops paying business rates would close and then re-open. Cllr Quirk updated Members the IWC do have a scheme whereby if a business has a low turnover they can apply for a reduction in business rates but it is not widely advertised. (there is a trial of rate retention, if shops are empty for more than three months then rates become payable).

12. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE

Guest Cllr. P. Brading said Sandown Bay are awaiting confirmation of approval for the free school option which should come this week, things are happening behind the scenes ready for September.

Councillor Beston – December and January have been quiet Island Roads survey raised a few queries. Car park access licences Atherley Rd, Vernon Car park are historic, Orchardleigh Rd 3 flats, Poppins shop is using hard standing IWC want to work with residents and land owners, IWC do recognise there could be hardship to pay the licence. Library car park has a right of way access as does Winchester House.

Councillor Quirk – Road safety – bend on Westhill Road has safety issues; there will be a new list of issues being drawn up if you know of any issues let Cllrs Quirk & Beston know.

IWC budget – IWC in line to set a legal budget despite huge cuts, cuts do not always mean a worse service, bed blocking at St. Marys an example they now rotate beds and argue about the money later.

Under s.100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press 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 .

13. URGENT BUSINESS

13.1 BANK MANDATE

RESOLVED: To authorise Town Clerk RFO, Cllrs' J. Gilbey and D. Larner to sign the updated bank mandate.

Thursday 8th March 2018.....