

SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 17th January 2019.

PRESENT: Town Mayor Councillor S. Knight (in the Chair)
Deputy Town Mayor Councillor D. Larner

Councillors: E. Knight, R. May, S. Godden, J. Gilbey, A. Whittaker, R. Priest, S. James, S. Sheath, C. Quirk, M. Beston, D. Cable, Town Clerk RFO. Guest Councillor P. Brading. 2 members of the public, no County Press.

PUBLIC FORUM

Points raised: British Legion looking at a standardised date for removal of November wreaths. Shanklin Green Towns take ours away after one month.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors' L. Fleming & J. Fleming.

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 & M. Beston 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. GREEN TOWNS REPORT

No written report submitted so Cllr Sheath reported that Green Towns are keeping things up in Shanklin.

5. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

We were honoured to be involved with Shanklin Rotary Club and their Christmas lunch for the elderly of Shanklin in association with Age Concern Shanklin. Shanklin Rotary Club and Shanklin Town Council each gave a grant of £250, Shanklin Town Council provided the waiting staff, and Shanklin Conservative Club provided the catering staff. There was a fab raffle the proceeds of which goes towards next year's raffle prizes. Thanks to Ron & Olive Flegg from the Rotary Club for organising the Christmas lunch. I recently opened the New Johns Club at 62 High Street Shanklin; this move became necessary as the previous shop is due to be sold. I have massive praise for John Phillips as he manages the fund raising and staffing to run the shop. This year Johns Club has a football team who go on to the

mainland to play in a league. I wish John and his team the best of luck with the shop and the football. Councillor Jon Gilbey very kindly invited me to join him on a trip to the final of the Loo of the Year Awards ceremony where Shanklin Town Council once again won a platinum award, the ceremony was held in Solihull Birmingham and was a real eye opener there were 500 people from all over the UK this is a huge business and shows how Town and Parish Councils are upgrading their public toilets, many thanks to Jon for all his hard work. Esther and I were delighted to be invited to Shanklin Town Brass Band Christmas Concert at Shanklin United Reform Church, thanks to Rev Brian Harley for his hospitality at this beautiful church. As usual the band and music were superb under the MD of Malcolm Lewis and Karen. Shanklin Town Council's Service of Christmas carols was held at the Crab public house, thanks to Tina and staff for their hospitality once again, and Lynn Fleming for the mince pies. Shanklin Town Brass Band played superb music a great start to the Christmas festivities. Donations raised £150 for the Earl Mountbatten Hospice. This was a super evening, ending with the presentation of a certificate by Councillor Richard Priest on behalf of Shanklin Town Council to Malcolm Lewis for 25 years with Shanklin Town Brass Band; the certificate was signed by past Mayors of the Town.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 29th November 2018 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

MATTERS ARISING: Item 13. Grant request – Shanklin Carnival Santa Saturday – Cllr. Quirk = it makes comment that Cllrs' not present made negative comments about the carnival – I don't think we did, we asked that the money be spent directly to suppliers not a donation straight to the carnival committee, but with the press here I think it would have been totally inappropriate to suggest that it was wrong not have brought the evidence before this group and I think there was at least issues to be addressed there that were made known to the Mayor at the time and I think this impugns the people who questioned the use of the money there and I think that's inappropriate.

Cllr. Priest = The issue to me was and I've been quite open about it, not that I wanted to bring it up tonight. People voted against providing the carnival with funding a couple of years ago so that's what colleagues did so Shanklin carnival have been under threat of losing funding as a result of this Council not potentially funding it, that was a huge debate at the time and if colleagues had had evidence they should have gone to the appropriate authority and provided that evidence rather than go through this Town Council and make some of the comments it did at the time that were impugning the integrity of the carnival committee.

Cllr. Quirk = the issue at the time

Cllr. Priest = sorry if you want to interrupt, carry on if you want.

Cllr. Quirk = The issue was investigated by the police and no action was taken but it was investigated by the police.

Cllr. Priest = So this Council should not have voted against providing the carnival money, some Members did and that impugned the integrity of the carnival committee as a consequence of that the carnival committee potentially lost other

funding opportunities across the Town, so it did impact on the carnival. I don't want the carnival to cease in Shanklin, if appropriate address any issues that come up at the meeting. There was a potential that this Council were not going to fund the carnival at Christmas in terms of providing that facility for the young people of Shanklin and again I don't think that's appropriate so I made a comment and I stand by that comment because at the time colleagues voted against and if you knew the police cleared any issue then I don't see why people voted against.

Cllr. Quirk = at that point in time they hadn't.

Cllr. Priest = so why vote against.

Cllr. Quirk = because it was in the air as to whether

Cllr. Priest = Then it was clearly unproven, I think that was inappropriate I am sorry you brought it up tonight because I don't think it's helpful.

Cllr. Quirk = This issue was the suggestion that payment was made directly to the suppliers so there was protection of this Council if in the event there was something proven, at the time nothing was, nothing to prove one way or another, I think that Members who actually objected did it in a way it did not seek to harm the carnival, in fact thinking back to that meeting I suggested we should give the carnival more money.

Cllr. Priest = We need to move on.

Chair = We need to draw a line under it for the moment but we clearly need to get this sorted, so we will put it on the back burner for now.

Cllr. Larner = I thought it was sorted.

Cllr. Priest = I thought it was. Thank you Chair.

Item 15. Scotscombe allotments = Cllr. Quirk updated Members' on his meeting with the landowner.

7. ACCOUNTS

7.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT/APPROVAL DECEMBER 2018

Several Members' declared interests in payment items details on the interest form.

RESOLVED: That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £10902.73 be approved for payment.

7.2 BANK RECONCILIATION OCTOBER 2018

RESOLVED: Town Mayor Councillor S. Knight confirmed the bank reconciliation correct.

7.3 BANK RECONCILIATION NOVEMBER 2018

RESOLVED: Town Mayor Councillor S. Knight confirmed the bank reconciliation correct.

7.4 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2018-2019 (INTERIM) REGULATION 5(1) ACCOUNTS & AUDIT REGULATIONS 2015

Town Clerk RFO informed Members' no recommendations were made. Town Mayor Cllr. S. Knight thanked the Town Clerk RFO for all her hard work; she has done an extremely good job, a good audit report. Cllr. Quirk asked that the thanks be formally minuted as a resolution. Cllr. Priest = The large page of the report highlights the situation, we have three part time members of staff 2 doing all of this work for Shanklin I know we have had

this conversation before it's one of those things we are gratefully fortunate about, there is a potential for having another member of staff or apprentice, we need to build that into our plans. Cllr. S. Knight = It puts too much pressure on one person it's not fair.

RESOLVED: Members' thank the Town Clerk RFO for all her hard work; she has done an extremely good job, a good audit report.

**8. PLANNING/LICENSING/NOTIFICATIONS
COUNCILLORS' C. QUIRK & M. BESTON DECLARED AN INTEREST BEING ON THE IW COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

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

NO COMMENT

P/01312/18 - COUNCILLORS' E. KNIGHT & S. KNIGHT DECLARED AN INTEREST HAVING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY - Proposed extension and alterations to roof to provide an additional flat 57 HIGH STREET (PEARLY BOISE).

P/01346/18 – Partial change of use proposal from existing commercial space into 2 x 1no bedroom private flats with separate commercial space. Two storey rear extension internal alterations 51 HIGH STREET (TOTESPORT).

P/01388/18

COUNCILLORS' S. KNIGHT, D. LARNER, E. KNIGHT, S. GODDEN, J. GILBEY, R. PRIEST, S. SHEATH, C. QUIRK, M. BESTON, D. CABLE DECLARED AN INTEREST ALL KNOWING THE APPLICANT. Proposed detached dwelling with access and parking (revised scheme) **LAND ADJACENT 36 BLYTHE WAY.**

Members' noted TPO's, Licensing and Road works.

9. IW COUNCIL FINAL DRAFT ISLAND PLANNING STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councillor Quirk said this is a good document; it identifies changes to make it easier to complete sites. No automatic renewal of planning permission after 3 years. We need to be building more houses. IW Council can compulsory purchase empty properties more robustly than the previous plan.

RESOLVED: Members' agreed for Cllr. Priest to draft an appropriate response and circulate. Agenda item for February.

10. IW COUNCIL BROWNFIELD REGISTER

Cllr. Priest = who put the car park on the register? there must be a process of what is a brownfield site.

RESOLVED: Members' agreed for Cllr. Priest to draft an appropriate response and circulate.

11. IW COUNCIL LOCAL GREEN SPACE NOMINATION – PUBLIC CONVENIENCES RYLSTONE GARDENS POPHAM ROAD (COUNCILLOR J. GILBEY)

Cllr Gilbey updated Members', the IW Council putting public conveniences as Green Space seems odd, particularly as the Town Council owns the site. Cllr. Gilbey spoke to IW Council who are happy to take the site of the Green Space list. Is the idea behind it to off-load principal parks? Cllr. Quirk said he is not aware of any intentions to change the status of principal parks.

RESOLVED: Members' noted the information.

12. IW COUNCIL BUDGET PLANNING 2019-20 COUNCILLORS' J. GILBEY, S. KNIGHT & E. KNIGHT DECLARED AN INTEREST HAVING BUSINESSES IN THE VICINITY.

Cllr. Gilbey = Evening charges for car parking will impact on theatre goers. The parking strategy was never finished. Cllr. Quirk = IW Council is looking at a new parking strategy; the whole parking strategy is under review.

Cllr. Gilbey = STC were unhappy with the parking strategy. There is a lack of signage as to where people can park. Cllr. Priest = Why not have parking with the beach hut. Cllr. Gilbey = item 39 verge cutting, etc., could affect tourism.

Cllr. Priest = Shanklin's theatre and library models are both better than when they were run by the IW Council.

RESOLVED: Members' agreed for Cllr. Priest to draft an appropriate response and circulate.

13. COUNCILLOR R. PRIEST

13.1 REMEMBRANCE DAY PROJECTS

Thanks to colleagues for their involvement over 4.5 years of projects, D. Day service, war memorial restoration etc. There is potential for defibrillators across the Bay. I am attending the Royal British Legions AGM and will reflect Terry's comments re the removing of wreaths after Remembrance Day. Unfortunately wrong times were circulated for the remembrance service in November and no apologies have been received. Latest concerns I have are that there has been politicisation of wreath laying that political parties names have been put on the wreaths in Shanklin which are IW Council wreaths I don't think that's appropriate I don't think that is where the IW Council are at and it's pretty sad that IW Council wreaths are having political names on them it would be nice to have that addressed and apologies for whatever. Colleagues who have spoken to me are really concerned that's not how it works they don't want to get involved in future they've asked is this what happens Island wide or nationally?, it's been a lot of grief, so I bring it here and if colleagues have done that it would be nice to apologise for that and correct that. I will ask for copies because there are pictures of said wreath so I will circulate that as appropriate.

13.2 SHANKLIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY UPDATE

Thanks to the Mayor and colleagues, a positive meeting with the architect, we are moving that forward in a progressive way, thanks to Steve and Jon for sorting that out. The sketch is as colleagues already know to consolidate, better use of toilet space for library and Town Office. Revamp of the library is a good opportunity to generate TIC and other activities, all of that's a positive where the project team has taken it forward, to re-indorse it to use the architect to commission the people to provide the service we don't have the capacity or time to drive forward the building works the architect could and as long as we address the quotes, and all those issues it would be appropriate to hit the time table about enabling the architect to commission that process with us and report back to Town Council it's exactly the same as we did with the Town Clock and toilets, it's just a more efficient way, otherwise we could be here in a years time. There is an issue with the

current library situation costing money and the need of people in the Town to see that the Town Council are making an investment in the heart of the Town that benefits not just library users but the wider community it says we have confidence in Regent Street as a viable commercial activity going forward. If colleagues are comfortable with that model which is exactly what we did with reporting back it would be helpful.

Cllr. S. Knight = we thought it would be far more beneficial to have the architect oversee the job because this job is big enough to warrant that and it's quite complex.

Cllr. Quirk = I am totally supportive that we get someone to do it, the only question is just ensure the architect is comfortable some architects do that sort of thing some don't, as long as it's an architect who is hands on throughout the project.

Cllr. Priest = We will be on the case like we were with the toilets; it's about making it move quicker than we can move it.

Some practical issues to protect our interests we need to consolidate for the purposes of the auditor other concerns that have been raised, we need to make sure sub leases formal or informal with Amey, Chris's usage of the library facilities for personal use, Rotary, if we can consolidate that just to confirm with the monitoring officer things we've done so that we have done nothing inappropriate just to protect our interests re Amey etc. any damage caused etc. I know the theatre trust raised that issue to make sure we protect ourselves as a Town Council. Then going forward we need to be receiving from any sale of library site we need to protect that any income from that needs to offset the cost incurred up there and re-invested in the new library we shouldn't be disadvantaged by giving up a building that could generate income for the IWC in line with the savings they require, we need to get a benefit. That's a benefit of having the architect do his bit we can free ourselves to protect the Town Council.

13.3 BAY REGENERATION

Chris Ashman is holding a presentation in Falcon Cross at the end of the month it's of benefit to the Town. (Free hire agenda item for February).

13.4 SEASIDE AWARD UPDATE

South South East in Bloom, Green Flag and Seaside awards has been submitted.

14. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Cllr. James. = Plastic Free Shanklin held a beach clean, 90 people turned up.

Cllr. Cable = Southern Water Arthurs Hill are doing a good job.

Cllr. Quirk = Stored at the theatre are several 150 anniversary pictures, they could go in the new library.

Cllr. Whittaker = Bay Day, Cllr. Priest said he is arranging a meeting with the 2 Bay Mayor's & Chair and Robin Courage to sort.

Cllr. Beston = To respond to Richard and the remembrance service, that was a 2 digit typo on my part it was never meant to cause upset I thank you Richard for the email and that particular post was corrected in hours, so I do appreciate that. I wasn't going to say this but I will, what I didn't appreciate from that was the return

email that all Members' received on the 10th, that particular email I found unjust and quite disrespectful. My message is if we are going to email each other just to use a bit more decorum and respect. Everyone has a copy of the email that was sent.

15. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE

Cllr. Beston = John's Club have had difficulty with parking their mini buses, they have a concession in the railway car park overnight. Southern Water Cllrs' Sheath, Quirk and I went down a chamber; it will take 7 weeks to dig the chamber out. They are still on for finishing before Easter. The re-surfacing works may go into May. Southern water will cover the cost of re-surfacing Arthurs Hill, hats off to Southern water.

Cllr. Quirk = S. Water Pump Station submitted outline plans complication with IW Council owning the site and long term lease with Southern Water and they having short term lease with the sailing club, IW Officers are working with sailing club. Issues with anti-social behaviour are being addressed. IWC fire service review completed fire service got a good report. IWC voted to combine IW with Hampshire and Portsmouth into one service, the worry is will we maintain our service in Shanklin which has the best turn out. In May IW Council Cabinet will be meeting in the Bay in Sandown.

Guest Cllr. Brading = Children's Services Ofsted puts Island in the top 15-20%. Guest Councillor Paul Brading submitted the following written report:

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OFSTED REPORT The IOW Council had a 3 week full Ofsted inspection in November, with outcomes announced public ally on the 7th January. As background in December 2012 we were judged inadequate in all areas, and were "forced" into our partnership with Hampshire CC, which as you know we have recently voluntarily renewed for another 5 years. A further visit occurred in November 2014 when green shoots of progress were seen, and judgement of requires improvement was given. The recent inspection was very tough, and my Director of Children's Services said it was the most in depth, and challenging, he has ever experienced! Judgements are on 4 area, Impact of Leadership on the Service; Progress of Children when need help and Protection; Progress of Children in Care and Care Leavers; and then overall effectiveness. I am very proud to say that we received a GOOD rating in all 4 areas, which is a fantastic achievement. To put this in perspective there are 150 local authorities in total, and we are only the 26th to be GOOD in every area. There were 4 areas to focus on, which we had already identified, so Outstanding is now our goal. The report was so positive with comments like, Highly Skilled and Ambitious Leadership; Clear and Shared vision; Total understanding of the strengths and improvement areas of the service; prompt and effective interventions, and many more....please have a look at the report on line of yourselves. I had a 75 minute interview with the Lead Inspector, and the really pleasing thing for me is the comment, she put in the report...."Political leaders are engaged with, and visible to, children and staff. They have a good understanding of the service and have secured significant financial investment. This increased understanding has ensured more vigorous scrutiny and challenge and a greater focus across the council on meeting the needs of vulnerable children."

EDUCATION Believe it or not, 3 Island Schools has Ofsted visit the week before Christmas. Summerfields, and Nettlestone Primaries has full reports, and both retained their existing good ratings. Carisbrooke Secondary, which is currently RI,

had a monitoring visit only, and the outcome is that they were deemed to be on their way to good. Overall our Education aim remains firmly on track. We have also been successful in securing £263.7k from Government, for each of the next 2 years, to help fund the losses on our Special Educational Needs budget...will help us a lot

BAY REGENERATION Bay Councillors have now seen the final version of the Bay Regeneration Vision Plan. The plan is centred around the development of Dinosaur Island. But also looks at connectivity; short/medium/long term goals; use of the water more: moorings and a marina; cliff path sculpture gardens; and better signage on the revetments and the cliff path. The plans are really exciting, and must be used to form the basis of the any Town Plan that are done.

DRUGS I recently met with a couple of residents, who must remain anonymous, to discuss the growing issues of drugs in the bay area. Young teenagers are drawn into this by cycling drugs around the area for easy cash. The story we heard was truly horrible how a young clever boy had been turned, it's ruined his life, and he has been kicked out of school. I was aware there was a problem but it seems much worse than we thought, and the Police are not dealing with it, or due to lack of officers not able to?. I am trying to set up a meeting with Bob Seely, and Michael Lane the PCC to discuss urgently.

WARD ISSUES Puffin crossing at Broadlea School working well and good feedback from the School; KFC is expected to open end January; Morrison's alterations on track; Groundwork's at rear of Spithead completed, but earth not fully removed, concerns about the tree planting scheduled for March, so still an open enforcement case against the Business Park in general still exists, as there are other issues too!

MEETINGS ATTENDED -IW Youth Council, to discuss plans for YoVA awards in Schools, which is Youth Voice Awards -Annual Awards at the Military Preparation College in Ryde -Meeting to discuss attracting Arts Council funding, to help set up museum links for IW Schools -Dept for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy seminar of energy savings in Schools -IW Red Box, to discuss growing issue of period poverty in Schools (Cllr Paul Brading).

Thursday 21st February 2019.....