

# SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**PRESENT:** Town Mayor Councillor S. Knight (in the Chair)  
Deputy Town Mayor Councillor D. Larner  
Councillors: R. May, S. James, M. Beston, C. Quirk, R. Priest, L. Fleming,  
J. Fleming, D. Cable, Town Clerk RFO. 6 members of the public. No County Press.

Before commencement of the meeting, Town Mayor Cllr. Steve Knight informed Members' of the death of Jean Docherty Green Towns Member who has contributed a lot to the Town. A Card has been sent to Jean's husband.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Points raised: None.

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

Councillors' S. Godden, E. Knight, A. Whittaker.

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

**2.1 s.106 APPLIES – 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 voice their declarations and/or complete the form – a copy of which is appended to the filed copy of these minutes.

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

**2.4 TO GRANT REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AS APPROPRIATE**  
Councillor C. Quirk & M. Beston have dispensations to participate (speak & vote) granted to them until May 2021 (or until the next election if sooner).

**2.5 TOWN CLERK RFO GRANTS A DISPENSATION TO ALL COUNCILLORS PRESENT WHO REQUIRE A DISPENSATION AND COMPLETED THE PAPERWORK FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**17. BUDGET 2020/2021**

**18. PRECEPT 2020/2021**

### **3. REPORT FROM POLICE REPRESENTATIVE**

PCSO Matt Wheeler submitted the following written report:

We continue to work with the council and partner agencies in relation to homelessness and the issues it is causing some of our residents. We are aware of the issues homelessness has caused some of our local residents. We are working to support IOW Housing team and Two Saints housing to resolve these issues. There has been a lot of work undertaken already which has helped to pave the way to identify options available to help the homeless in Shanklin. We hope to have a positive outcome in the very near future.

I have seen several reports concerning possible drug dealing and anti-social behaviour in Tower Gardens. High visibility patrols have been conducted through the gardens and appear to have deterred people from gathering there. The location, and other noted locations in Shanklin will continue to be monitored. Another issue on our radar is the small group of people who gather in Regent Street outside the Methodist Church. There have been reports of the group also causing some issues around the building works at Falcon Cross. We will be looking to work with the Council Community Safety Team to identify options for deterring the group from gathering in such public places. As always, I would encourage anyone who has witnessed, or is affected by crime or ASB to report it directly to the Police. 999 for emergencies, 101 or the new online reporting tool for non-emergencies. We are seeing a rise in the number of people using the online reporting tool on the Hampshire Constabulary website (link below), it does seem a much more effective use of time that waiting for the 101 service.<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/>  
Many thanks PCSO 15093 Matt Wheeler Shanklin Neighbourhood Policing Team.

### **4. GREEN TOWNS REPORT**

*Lesley gave Members a verbal update: Green Towns are in receipt of trees to be planted IWC say there is no where to plant the trees on the Island. The brook has been cleared at last. New Environment Officer hopefully can work together with Green Towns. Lesley is moving to the mainland, in talks with Plastic Free Shanklin as to the way forward. Terry will continue to do the War memorial garden. Town Mayor Cllr. Steve Knight thanked Lesley for all her hard work with Green Towns. Cllr R. Priest thanked Lesley also, and explained there is potential at the new library to have a stained glass window in memory of Jean and passed Cllr. Jack Luscombe.*

### **5. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR**

*Work is well under way with the new library at Falcon Cross Road. The second stage will be a new Town office and should be completed by the end of the summer. We continue to have an increasing problem with rough sleepers in the Town, on Big Mead and Esplanade area. Also with a group of men drinking in Regent Street. Although I have sympathy with people in this position it is not something we want to see in the Town. I know the IW Council are doing all they can to eliminate the problem.*

*It is the end of an era and career in the hospitality industry for Tina the landlady of the Crab Inn Shanklin Old Village. This must be one of the busiest pub/restaurants on the Island! So a well-deserved rest is in order. We were delighted to present a framed letter of congratulations and thanks from Shanklin Town Council. Tina and her family and staff have hosted the Town Council's Christmas carol service for*

many years. Good Luck for the future. We had great pleasure in presenting a framed recognition to Steven Oatham for five years of running his shop at 72 High Street Shanklin; All in ONE; he has a niche market selling hand crafted wares made locally and in today's difficult conditions it is a credit to his hard work that his shop is a success.

## 6. MINUTES

### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

**MATTERS ARISING:** Item 19. Office & Library builds: Cllr Priest updated Members' = *Library ahead of schedule, stakeholder preview before official opening. Public meeting going forward – invite Dave Stewart.*

## 7. ACCOUNTS

### 7.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT/APPROVAL JANUARY 2020

Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to approve.

**RESOLVED:** That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £35,056.91 be approved for payment.

### 7.2 BANK RECONCILIATION DECEMBER 2019

**RESOLVED:** Town Mayor Cllr. S. Knight confirmed the bank reconciliation for December 2019 was correct.

### 7.3 BANK RECONCILIATION JANUARY 2020

**RESOLVED:** Town Mayor Cllr. S. Knight confirmed the bank reconciliation for January 2020 was correct.

### 7.4 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW

**RESOLVED:** Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to note and adopt the quarterly budget review.

## 8. PLANNING/LICENSING/NOTIFICATIONS

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

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

### NO COMMENT

**20/00119/HOU** – Proposed dormer windows on side elevation with new balcony area; single storey rear extension to form sun room - **BAY VIEW COTTAGE THE HIGHWAY –SOUTH**

**20/00204/FUL** – Proposed three storey extension to form additional accommodation for two flats **MEAD VIEW 22 CHURCH ROAD.**

**20/00257/RVC** – Proposed variation of conditions 2 & 4 on appeal decision APP/P2114/w/15/3003527 to allow parking area/development to be completed in accordance with revised layout plan and to agree construction and drainage of

parking area for Appley Cottage **LAND ADJACENT TO APPELEY COTTAGE 7 POPHAM ROAD.**

- 9. GRANT REQUEST – ISLE OF WIGHT MUSIC DANCE & DRAMA FESTIVAL**  
Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to pay a grant in the sum of £100.  
**RESOLVED:** To pay a grant in the sum of £100 s.145 Local Government Act 1972 applies.
- 10. GRANT REQUEST – SHANKLIN CRICKET CLUB**  
**Cllr. R. Priest abstained from voting as he occasionally plays cricket for the club.**  
Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present except Cllr. Priest voted unanimously to pay a grant in the sum of £2000 s.19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 applies.
- 11. TRANSPARENCY CODE**  
**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Transparency code in line with legislation.
- 12. INVESTMENT STRATEGY**  
**RESOLVED:** To re-adopt the Investment Strategy in line with legislation.
- 13. RISK MANAGEMENT**  
Shanklin Town Council maintains an overview of the arrangements on an annual basis and as and when required. An assessment of risk was carried out during February 2020 by the Town Clerk RFO using the comprehensive Local Council Risk System, covering 21 areas/functions and the appropriate action taken. Insurance cover is regularly reviewed by the Town Clerk RFO.  
**RESOLVED:** Councillors reviewed, agreed and adopted the risk management/assessment and agreed for the Town Mayor to sign the risk management/assessment.
- 14. POLLING CARDS**  
To discuss whether to have polling cards if the current vacancy goes to an election.  
Cllr. Priest = *It concerns me that we are going to spend over £2000 on a potential bye-election when we could co-opt someone, it's ridiculous we are in this position whoever wanted to call it needs to own that decision but £2000 is the equivalent of what we could spend on beach safety down the seafront, sea weed clearance all of that stuff, the reality is by the time we have a bye-election it could be May this year in May next year there is purdah there will probably only be 3 or 4 meetings that persons attends and we spend £2-3000 on what I consider to be a needless bye-election others may want to call it but they needs to own that and again when we have a public meeting people need to be saying in public they are happy to spend £2-3000 of public money on an election rather than giving it to say the cricket club or spending it on the seaside whatever it is its £3000 the IWC took away from the library service, £3000 we have lost from plants/bulbs this year, it's a huge waste, I think of Town Council's resources, people made that decision rightly so but they need to own it in terms of the budget, £3000 is a lot of money and as we see tonight there are people that want to be co-opted so I don't get why we need to have an*

*election we are where we are, polling cards is a waste of money as well, we could have co-opted two people tonight and that would have been sorted.*

*Cllr. S. Knight = I fully endorse that it's a total waste of our money.*

*Cllr. C. Quirk = I agree the whole election is unnecessary but if you are going to have an election you should do it properly and have polling cards and let people know there is an election, we don't need an election but if we have an election I personally think we should have polling cards.*

Town Clerk RFO pointed out that we have always had polling cards for elections.

**RESOLVED:** To have polling cards if the current vacancy goes to an election.

**15. BUDGET REPORT 2020.2021**

Members' discussed the budget report. Cllr. S. Knight thanked Stella for her work on the budget.

**RESOLVED:** Members' noted the budget report.

**16. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – TO AGREE & ADOPT THE COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RESOLVED:** Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to agree and adopt the Finance Committees recommendations in their entirety.

**17. BUDGET 2020/2021 – S.151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 TO AGREE & ADOPT THE BUDGET AS PRESENTED**

*Cllr. Quirk = Great budget we have increased grants there are couple of organisations who are likely to request grants we need to be aware of that. Town Clerk RFO= will increase grants by £5000 at the appropriate time.*

*Cllr. L. Fleming = There is nothing in the budget for buoys are they likely to happen?*

*Cllr. Quirk = I've got written confirmation from the monitoring officer that the officer concerned behaved improperly in removing the buoys without doing a risk assessment, I've had discussions with the leader of the council about this I am optimistic we will get enough money to replace them, we might have to look at the ongoing future maintenance of them but I'm optimistic we will get that money from the IWC, you can get buoys that do not need to be taken out of the sea every year, then Town and Parish councils will take responsibility for maintaining them, I suspect it's not coming out of this year's financial capital budget because that's pretty much sent, but I would hope that early in the new financial year*

*Cllr. Priest = Is it in the capital fund?*

*Cllr. Quirk = vaguely not as an actual figure but there £600,000 regeneration money taking £30,000 of that for the buoys wouldn't ruin the budget.*

*Cllr. L. Fleming = we need to keep on at them.*

*Cllr. Quirk = I have been fighting this since the first day I was in county hall, I think it's a nonsense it was done by an officer as far as I can ascertain without any actual support from the members at each stage the nonsense was that she had them destroyed not just removed but destroyed I think that's an absolute crime.*

*Cllr. Cable = we will have less reserves at the end of next year.*

Town Clerk RFO – the auditors are ok about excessive reserves if you can show they are allocated to specific projects.

Cllr. Priest = *Thanks to Clerk for putting this together, again we have ticked all the boxes, because we have generated more income through this building and the toilets we've acted as income generators as far as possible I apologise for saying it again but £2500 on an election could have bought the oars for the rowing club, sorry to go on about it Chair*

Councillor S. Knight = *no it's a good point.*

**RESOLVED:** Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to agree and adopt the budget in its entirety.

**18. PRECEPT 2020/2021 – S.41 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1992  
TO AGREE THE MONIES REQUESTED FROM THE IW COUNCIL BE SET AT  
PRECEPT £295,000 PLUS GRANT OF £2918**

Councillor Priest = *Support the precept – need for a public meeting to talk about the financial cuts from IWC on grants and the impact on the town, a major threat to tourism in Shanklin, also where we are moving the library we have an interest in the current library site, we have been approached again because we need to give reassurances to property services about the damage and condition survey on the library, there has been discussions on the potential use of the current library, we need to work with the theatre trust to ascertain what we can use that library for because it was effectively given to the residents of the town of Shanklin all of the residents there's a collective interest one of the groups said they have been given reassurance that there shouldn't be an issue about change of use permissions, if that's the case then we all need to be a part of that conversation, that could be held in a public forum, there's a whole list of stuff we need to be telling our residents about.*

Councillor S. Knight = *you are right – nice and transparent.*

**RESOLVED:** Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to agree the monies requested from the IW Council be set at Precept £295,000 plus grant of £2918.

**19. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD**

That the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

**RESOLVED:** Members' duly proposed, seconded and all present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee.

**20. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

Points raised: Southern Water planning application dosing plant sailing club, natural England have object to the application so it is on hold until they remove it.

The weather station on the theatre is operational again. Cllr. Quirk updated

Members = *Two organisations collect the data the Met office do not use automated systems commercial organisations do.*

Spa Site is it being actively advertised? Cllr. Quirk = *Yes but it is not a high priority.*

Other points raised: Dotto train – Southern Vectis were looking at putting figures together.

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

*Cllr. Beston = Anti-social behaviour problems, used to be a pub watch scheme for outlets selling alcohol, police licensing officer looking into it, Matt will report back. The new Public Protection Orders Shanklin is not on the list for banning alcohol in the Town; Mike has spoken to the IWC about adding Shanklin's hot spots to the list. (Town Clerk will email Cllrs' documentation so they can individually complete the survey and will write re adding Shanklin to the list).*

*Cllr. Quirk = IWC has opened a wet centre which allows alcohol in the shelter. Grant from central government. Everyone on the Island who is a rough sleeper has been offered a place to stay, you cannot force them, and they have a choice.*

**UNDER S.100A(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE PUBLIC AND PRESS TO 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 PAR 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 12 OF THE ACT**

**22. LIBRARY UPDATE**

Cllr. Priest updated Members' Library is ahead of schedule, problems with postal address but now sorted thanks to Clerk. Flooring problems sorted, painting done. Drainage problems sorted. Door coming from mainland. Library logo incorporated into flooring. Potential to remove library roof when new office starts, the roof is older than 25 years old so good opportunity to replace. Town Clerk has put provision in the budget. Councillor viewing of the site the evening before the officially opening, and a thank you to volunteers of the library, planting, schools involved, it will be a community event with inshore rescue, British Legion, it cannot include as many people as you would like due to the limited time frame, Members will be welcome in Falcon Cross Hall and hopefully Town Band trying to include as many groups as possible apologies to those not able to be include. Stained glass window in memory of Jack and Jean.

**23. TOILETS**

Members were in receipt of two quotes for cleaning.

**RESOLVED:** To award the two year cleaning contract to Danfo (UK) Ltd.

**24. CO-OPTION**

Two candidates for co-option. Members duly proposed, seconded and voted in Mr Trevor Thorne as Member for Central Ward.

30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.....