

SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at Falcon Cross Hall, Shanklin, Isle of Wight on Thursday 16th January 2020.

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

Councillors: E. Knight, R. May, A. Whittaker, S. James, M. Beston, S. Godden, C. Quirk, R. Priest. Town Clerk RFO. 2 members of the public. No County Press.

PUBLIC FORUM

Points raised: VE Day. Cleaning of war memorials.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors' L. Fleming, J. Fleming & D. Cable & Guest Councillor P. Brading.

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

None.

5. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

May I begin with some sad news, past Councillor and Town Mayor Jack Luscombe passed away in January, he had been one of our longest serving Councillors, he will be sadly missed both as an ex-colleague and someone who worked tirelessly for Shanklin. Also on another sad note in early December I received a letter of resignation from Town Councillor Sara Sheath, we thank her for her support and hard work over the years

and wish her well for the future. December seemed to be a peaceful and joyful time in Shanklin. We opened the annual Christmas tree festival in Shanklin Methodist Church; it was a joy to listen to the children from St. Blasius who sang some carols and were told all about the Nativity. Thanks to Jenny Dyer for the invitation. We were delighted to be asked to open the pop up café in aid of National Grief Awareness Week held at Falcon Cross Hall. Cllr Sue Godden was the organiser; all went well with a number of people who were suffering from grief given the opportunity to talk to someone. We attended Shanklin Town Brass Band concert, including the Shanklin Town Youth Brass Band and the Shanklin Town Community Brass Band. The whole evening was fabulous, lots of Christmas carols, solo instrumentals a great start to the Christmas period, thanks to Malcom, Karen and all the musicians. The Cheshire Home invited us to join in with the fun and games at their annual Christmas Fayre this was excellent and lots of people attended what was a first class day for the residents and visitors alike. Shanklin Town Council's Service of Christmas Carols held at the Crab Inn Old Village Shanklin raised £143.17 pence for the Mountbatten Hospice a big thank to all those that donated. A special thank you to Stella Town Clerk for producing the program. We were very pleased to be invited by Lesley Parsonage to judge the art work of the Black Cat Art Group who meets at the Methodist Church Hall in Regent St. Shanklin. The art was of an extremely high standard and it was very difficult to decide the two winners, and excellent buffet was served. The Black Cat Art Group very kindly donated a cheque of £25.00 to my charity which is The Sophie Rolf Trust (Kissy Puppy) many thanks from Esther and me. Mid December saw the start of our project to convert part of the old toilet building at Falcon Cross into the new library which we hope will be well under way by early spring.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 28th November 2019 having been previously circulated be approved and signed & to note matters arising that do not require formal resolution.

MATTERS ARISING: Item 18. Office & Library builds: Cllr Priest updated Members' = *Building work progressing well, they worked over the Christmas period to ensure they hit the deadlines; the emphasis is on the library project first due to time constraints. A couple of extra costs: extra insulation, library services have been in and recommended new shelving, may or may not get scanning machines from the IWC. ECO stuff we talked about can be put in after, were are working on doing this phase and the ECO stuff part of it will follow through. We need to*

manage the opening; one way is to have a couple of tours before the official opening. Builders given tickets for parking – ironic when STC could have closed the public toilets and let them park outside, hopefully it is resolved.

7. ACCOUNTS

7.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT/APPROVAL NOVEMBER 2019

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

RESOLVED: That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £19,052.05 be approved for payment.

7.2 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT/APPROVAL DECEMBER 2019 **Councillor D. Larner declared an interest in 4740 being Carnival Chairman.**

Councillor R. Priest declared an interest being the Godfather of the recipient of cheque 4741.

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

RESOLVED: That the accounts as circulated in the sum of £6,619.50 be approved for payment.

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

19/00492/HOU – Demolition of rear flat roof extensions and pitched roof; construction of a new roof to form additional living accommodation at 1st floor level **82 VICTORIA AVENUE PO37 6QW.**

19/00498/HOU – Demolition of retaining wall; alterations to vehicular access; formation of two parking spaces and new retaining wall **40 CHURCH ROAD PO37 6QY.**

19/00560/HOU – Demolition of conservatory; proposed single storey side extension and associated deck/patio area and landscaping **17 VAUGHAN WAY.** Members' noted TPO's and Road Works.

9. SHANKLIN CARNIVAL SANTA SATURDAY WAIVING OF HIRE FEE FOR FALCON CROSS HALL

Councillor D. Larner left the meeting for this item being Chair of the Carnival

RESOLVED: Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to waive the hire fee for Falcon Cross Hall.

Councillor D. Larner re-joined the meeting.

10. NATIONAL GRIEF AWARENESS WEEK WAIVING OF HIRE FEE FOR FALCON CROSS HALL

Councillor S. Godden left the meeting for this item being the hirer of the Hall.

RESOLVED: Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to waive the hire fee for the Hall.

Councillor S. Godden re-joined the meeting.

11. VERNON SPENCER BEQUEST TRUST – SHANKLIN ROTARY CLUB RESIDENTS CHRISTMAS DINNER 2019

Councillors' S. Knight & E. Knight declared an interest in this item having helped with the Christmas dinner.

Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to pay a grant in the sum of £250.

RESOLVED: To pay a grant in the sum of £250.

12. SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

AW= We could change the meeting to the first Monday in the month except January when it would be the second; you could actually meet in August and December and still have the whole of the month off.

Town Clerk = Why Adrian? AW= A lot of things happen in August.

Town Clerk = we have met on Thursdays for ever how old is the Town Council now? AW= you could have it on the first Thursday.

RP= On a personal level there are bookings in the room so the dates fit in with our schedule, so there would be a practical issue and as Stella said most of the Town and Parish Councils have liaised to avoid clashing dates, other Parishes meet on different days, some Cllrs like yourself are on other Councils so that's why they avoid clashing dates, that's historical. AW= A big gap between July and August and I do think as we are a seaside resort and not to have a meeting in August. Town Clerk = we have never had a meeting in August. AW = my opinion is we are a seaside resort if anything is going to go wrong it's going to be in August. RP = as the Mayor said before if there was an urgent need for a meeting there would be a meeting we've had one called in August before when there was talk of a pop festival, the Clerk wasn't here but we still had a meeting because of the critical need to have one.

MB= Adrian, Richard is correct we have fall back of an EX meeting if we need one. RP= we spoke last meeting about organising a public meeting for February if colleagues agree I will liaise with the Clerk.

RESOLVED: Members' noted the meeting dates.

13. CASUAL VACANCY CENTRAL WARD

AW= Jon resigned tail end of August it seems to have taken a very long time to fill this vacancy the request went into the IWC there was no reason we couldn't have co-opted 4 months ago the Town Council is now short of two Cllrs, if the same was set for Sara's vacancy we probably would not co-opt Sara's position until using the same time scales about September.

Town Clerk = Why is that an issue Adrian? AW= because we are here to represent the people. Town Clerk = if there was an upcoming election within 6 months you don't have to do it anyway. AW= we are at risk now of having an election for Sara Sheath's vacancy I know the signatures have gone in I took them in yesterday. Town Clerk = why are we at risk of having an election Adrian. AW= because it's been called, the election has been called for Sara's seat. Town Clerk = and who called it Adrian? AW= I did. Town Clerk = Yes exactly. AW = we are now at risk of having Sarah's vacancy it will go to election now at risk of an election. Town Clerk = we are not at risk; you called the election so there is no risk. AW= we are going to have an election if only one person goes through for an election they will automatically be put on, I think there will be more than one person but we will have the election before Jon's vacancy is called because if only one person goes through.

RP= the situation I had someone called an election no one stood people may not want to stand. AW= we are on about Jon's vacancy. RP= Yes 2 different issues. Town Clerk = so why call an election? AW = On Jon's vacancy I think we should co-opt in 3 weeks' time and have an extraordinary meeting on the 6th February and co-opt. Town Clerk = we don't need to have an extraordinary meeting. RP= we have to follow the process. AW= the process is to advertise the vacancy for 2 weeks so we can have an extraordinary meeting on 6th Town Clerk= the process has already started it tells you that on your agenda so I don't know why you are even talking about it really. AW= the process starts on the 20th January that's Monday. Town Clerk = that's right.

AW= It hasn't started yet. DL= it is sorted for the 20 January. AW – I'm just saying we could have a meeting on the 6th February. DL= Why do we need a meeting on 6th February? Town Clerk = we don't need a meeting on the 6th February. SK= I don't see your point Adrian some Councils run for ages with vacancies. AW= I know there are people who want to go forward with co-option. DL= well they can. Town Clerk= they can then can't they no one is stopping them. AW= why has it taken so long. DL= there is a process to be gone through. CQ= a question, I know some people have put their names forward will they automatically be

given forms? TC= they will if the people who have given me their names give me their email and contact details because at the moment all I have is names and no way of contacting them. CQ =Ok. RP= Echoing Adrian's point to be open and transparent you cannot pre-empt the date the vacancy will be advertised on the 20th and people will apply after the 20th otherwise we will be seen to be favouring a candidate and we've never done that we've not got mates on here because we've asked people to stand prior to the 20th the dates the 20th that's open and transparent it's on the notice board for all to see, people who have said they have an interest may no longer have an interest who knows, that's why you have to follow a process that's open and transparent and the next meeting is whatever – no one may come forward or lots of people may come forward that's how it is, it's how we have always done it, it's open and transparent fair to everyone.

RESOLVED: Members noted that Co-Option process will begin 20th January.

14. CASUAL VACANCY CENTRAL WARD

RESOLVED: Members noted that Notice has commenced.

15. IWC – THE FUTURE PROVISION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Councillor R. Priest re-iterated that IW Council should adopt Shanklin's model of a community library. CQ= it is under discussion.

RESOLVED: Members' noted the document.

16. IW COUNCIL – PROVISION OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES & SUMMER BEDDING TO SHANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Members' dismissed option 2.

16.1 OPTION 1 – TO CONTINUE TO FUND COMMUNITY PARKS OPEN SPACES AS LISTED IN THE ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENT

R.P declared an interest re football club.

Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted unanimously to continue to fund community parks and open spaces as in previous years.

RESOLVED: To fund community parks and open spaces.

SUMMER BEDDING

Members' dismissed options 4 & 5.

16.3 OPTION 1 – TO FUND THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACT ESTIMATED VALUE REDUCED TO £6400 FOR 2020.2021 (SEE ADDENDUM 1 & 2)

CQ = IWC has the statutory responsibility for principal parks they cannot pass it on, they are fobbing us off with a one off payment we should point out to them that they have the statutory obligation to maintain to a minimum level. If we want nice plants we need to pay for them. RP= Bedding plants on the Esplanade, the letter from John Metcalfe we asked for was very clear we said we were happy to take on principal parks if we were given the concessions we agreed that in 2015. We get all the responsibility none of the income, if we didn't fund it the IWC wouldn't get the income. the income should be shared. The same with libraries we fund ours 100% Sandown, Newport and Ryde don't, its inequitable it does not make sense. Town Clerk to write to Lee copy JM and send a copy of JM letter to him. Members' duly proposed, seconded and voted to fund the local authority contract estimated value reduced to £6400 for 2020.2021. Members' for the proposal D. Lerner, S. Knight, E. Knight, R. May, A. Whittaker, M. Beston, S. Godden, C. Quirk, R. Priest. Councillor S. James abstained.

RESOLVED: To fund the local authority contract estimated value reduced to £6400 for 2020.2021.

17. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Cllr. Godden would like to join the Health & Wellbeing Forum in place of Sara Sheath.

Cllr. Priest presentation to Shanklin resident seven decades of playing football. War memorial information panel/ VE day church service, bulb planting. Co-Options we have 3 part-time staff, extra work load falls on the Clerk we can create more work but it's not going to get done if you keep adding to it, Adrian is totally right Stella is now going to be tied up with election or two co-options when trying to get the library moved and the budget, we all need to be honest about it. Anti-social behaviour bus shelter, church. Crab Inn Tina is leaving this month, we present a letter. I did chase up the Esplanade clock waiting for a response.

Cllr. Quirk = Staffing levels Ryde Town Council have 17 members of staff. We need more resources, Stella needs back up.

Cllr. Lerner = Carnival this year is 130 years, want to get more businesses involved. (will write piece for the Beacon).

Cllr. Godden = History society exhibition may want to get involved with the carnival.

18. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR/S' UPDATE

Cllr. Quirk= Cllr Brading sends his apologies. IWC pension scheme rated the top government pension scheme in the country. Friends of the earth voted the IWC 2nd environmentally friendly Council to do with recycling. Tour of Britain coming to the Island in September 2021. so lots of media attention. (write Dave Stewart are they coming to Shanklin).

Cllr. Beston = Following a recent guest speaker to our meeting hand rails are being erected at Batts Copse. Light in Avenue Rd swapped to a lower voltage. Public Places Orders consultation will be happening soon my concern is concentration on dog walkers when they should concentrate on drinking, will bring back to future meetings.

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

19. OFFICE & LIBRARY BUILDS

This was covered earlier under the Minutes.

20. J. GILBEY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Chair read a report from the Town Clerk.

Members' discussed.

Members' duly proposed, seconded, and the vote was carried unanimously.

20th February 2020.....