



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11 PRESENTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR COUNCILLOR JACQUIE MEREWEATHER



Sandown Town Council

Since the last Annual Town Meeting the Council has met on 11 occasions. We continue to act on behalf of the local Community on many wide and varied issues. We respond as a Stakeholder Consultee Central Government and other Bodies. The Isle of Wight Council no longer consult Town and Parish's separately but we still send in our comments on Isle of Wight Council consultations. The Town Council has been well supported by Isle of Wight Ward Councillors, Heather Humby and Ian Ward who regularly reports on events at County Hall as they affect Sandown and the Bay Area.

Grants

Grants amounting to £8,200 were given to various local organisations to support many activities in the Town.

Awards

Our Sandown Community Partnership worked hard and obtained a grant of £49,000 from Community Spaces that allowed us to have a new Multi-Play area at Sandham Grounds for children to be able to play five a side football, basketball, netball and other sporting activities. The Council worked in partnership with the Isle of Wight Council to obtain funding for the adiZONE which is a well used facility by people of all ages within our community. Sandown Town Council has taken over the responsibility of the adiZONE from the Isle of Wight Council. The facilities that have been put in Sandham Gardens for our young people and also the adiZONE have resulted in the reduction of crime in the town.

Town Councillors.

There are Town Councillors on The Yar Working Party, Sandown Partnership, Tonny-Charente Twinning Association, St Pete Beach Sister City, Island Waste Advisory Group, South Wight Youth Theatre, Sandown Youth Club, Sandown Forum, and the Isle of Wight Beach Environment Advisory Committee. A Police Liaison Working Party has been established to create stronger links between the Police and the Council. Our Councillors and our Clerk are committed to training and have been on various training courses throughout the year.

Town Council Meetings

The Council continues to support the need for appropriate Regeneration for Sandown. The Council continue to bring to the notice of the Isle of Wight Council problems that affect residents of the town including the state of some of the buildings in Sandown, the state of the roads and HMO's.

The Council has responded to the following consultations:- Local Bus Consultation, Isle of Wight Council Sex Establishment Policy, Eastern Yar Draft Flood and Erosion Management Strategy, Community Governance and Polling Places and District Review. Public Libraries, Outsourcing Lifeguards, Closure of Toilets. The Council held a Public Meeting about the proposed closure of Sandown Library.

We have lost our Town Centre Manager Mike Rowlands who use to attend our meetings. I would like to place on record the Councils appreciation of the work he did in our town. Our Council is still concerned about the Set Netting in Sandown Bay. This is an issue that the Council continues pursue.

The Council received a presentation by Mr David Ball on behalf of the Island Games. Sandown is being used for the Wind Surfing and the Sailing Events. The High School is being used for Athletics and Volleyball. The Council agreed to sponsor the medals for the Windsurfing and Sailing Events. We also received a presentation from Mark Birch on behalf of the Sandown and Shanklin Inshore Lifeboat.

Concerns were raised about the lack of lighting for the residents and visitors to walk through Sandham Gardens and this has been addressed by the Council. The Council are supporting the Battery Gardens Project that the Partnership is pursuing. The Council had the towns decorative lighting refurbished.

The Council continues to review its Risk Policy annually. Mr Gareth Hughes our Internal Auditor reports regularly to the Town Council.

Sandown in Bloom

Sandown Town Council continues to run the Sandown in Bloom Competition. The entries were wonderful and we had in the end more entries this year. Our Judge Richard Hayes came and presented the prize and instead of holding the prize giving in the evening we held the awards ceremony in the afternoon and people attending had afternoon tea. The change of time and style of the event was liked by all the people I talked to. I thank

everyone who took part for making this event a success especially our Clerk who organised the tea and made the scones for our guests.

Tonney-Charente

A visit of the Mayor from Tonney-Charente took place in October 2010. This was to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Sandown being twinned with Tonney-Charente. A scroll was presented to the Mayor of Tonney-Charente to mark the anniversary. I shall be going to Tonney in September to enjoy their celebrations of the last 25 years.

Remembrance Day

There was a large turn out for the Remembrance Day Service at the Memorial and I must thank the Sandown and Shanklin Military Band for playing at the Service. I must also thank the Reverend Chris Feak for arranging and for conducting the Service, the Ryde Sea Cadets who carried out their duties so professionally, to all our veterans who took part and our brownies, cubs, guides and scouts who helped make the parade a success. Lastly I must say a special thanks to Lance Corporal Barnett a Piper in the Scots Guards who led the Parade and piped laments during the laying of the wreaths.

Broadway Centre

The Council has taken the decision to rebuild the Broadway Centre. Plans were put on display in December for the public to make comment on. They are in the process of being submitted for Planning Approval. To fund the new build the Council will be selling a portion of land. Included in the new Broadway Centre will be a main hall that will seat 150 people so allowing amateur groups to have a venue to put on show and it also can be used for wedding receptions.

The Mayor's Events.

I have attended many events over the last year and I thank everyone for the kind welcome I have received and my apologies to those organisations whose events I was unable to attend. I attended the Wight in Bloom presentations, Sandown Carnival, Sandown Regatta, the official opening of the Multi Play area and AdiZONE, joined with the Rotary Club in meeting the children from Romania, and also the switching, on of the Christmas lights, Veteran's Day, Memorial Day for 40 Commando Royal Marines, officially opened the St Johns Church Web Cam Project, the Lights of Love Service, and the prize giving to the students of the Kumon education system, A highly memorable event was attending the Sandown Bay Primary School's Christmas Fayre

Mayors Charity

My Mayors Charity was Help for Hero's. With a lot of help from many people we raised £500 I would like to thank Jean Ormond and her ladies and all the other helpers, our Town Clerk for all their work and support. My husband for the many lonely evenings he's had, and also for accompanying me to many of the events. The County Press for attending our meetings and giving a balanced report. I am extremely grateful to the residents of Sandown and my fellow Town Councillors for giving me the privilege of being Mayor of our town of Sandown.

Lastly I must say how proud I am to have been your Mayor during this past year to such a forward looking Council. This Council has proved itself able to look to a future in providing facilities for the Town which has not been possible in previous years.

Report on the Planning Committee presented by Cllr Cowley Chairman of Planning.

Planning

The Committee met on 15 occasions over the past year and considered 71 planning applications which were more than last year. Of these applications the Council supported 57 and objected to 11 and made no comment on 3.

The Committee was consulted and made comments on the Island Core Plan Strategy, Area Action Plan for the Bay, Conservation Area for Sandown, Island Transport Plan and the Planning Service Consultation.

It also was consulted on variations of premises licences as well as applications for new licences and also street trading licences. The Committee made comments on various Planning Inspectorate Appeal Applications.

I would like to thank the members of the Planning Committee for their commitment to planning.

SUMMARY OF SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2010-11
Presented by Valerie Taylor M.I.L.C.M. Town Clerk

Accounts

The accounts for 2010-11 show the cash brought forward at the beginning of this financial year for 2010-11 is £169,405 which included the PWLB loan of £119,975.

The Council has received for 2010-11, receipted payments of £183,171. The Councils total expenditure has been £185,923. The balance at the end of the year was £46,678 plus the PWLB loan of £119,975 giving a total balance of £166,653.

I have continued to meet the target that was set when I was appointed Clerk 6 years ago, to bring the balances up to a minimum of £30,000. This has continued to be achieved and has been exceeded over the last two years. This will prove to be beneficial with all our projects coming to fruition at Sandham Gardens. This working balance is in line with the Audit Commission recommendations. Included in the 2010-11 accounts is outside funding of £49,000 that was obtained by the Partnership from Community Spaces for the Multi Play Area.

Our internal auditor is Mr Gareth Hughes who thoroughly audits our accounts on a regularly basis. Income and expenditure is presented to the Council together with the Councils spend against the budget on a monthly basis.

Sandown Town Council received a clear Auditor's report from Mr Gareth Hughes the Councils internal auditor and also from the Audit Commission for their 2009-10 Accounts.