



## Sandown Town Council

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### A MEETING OF THE SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2011 AT THE BROADWAY CENTRE.

4 Members of the Public were present.

Mr Poole raised questions about the structure of the proposed new build of the Broadway Centre, if consideration had been given to the storage of the archives and he offered to work on redressing the stone for the new building free of charge 2-3 days per week.

Mr Blezzard raised questions about the website and also why no expenditure over £500 was published, why is the Isle of Wight Council employing Mr Burbridge as a consultant and do we need a Mayors allowance next year.

Mr Butler commented on the proposal for the Councils to run libraries and their lack of knowledge to do so as well as people being put out of work.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-** Cllr Mereweather (Mayor) Cllr Cowley, Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Beasley, Cllr Patel, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Dupre, Cllr Ward and Cllr Humby.

**578/11 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Beevers and Cllr Davies.

Cllr Blezzard was suspended as a Councillor by the Ethical Standards Committee and did not attend the meeting as a Councillor.

**579/11 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**580/11 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE  
23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 10**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 10 were approved and duly signed.

**581/11 a. TO REVIEW THE OUTCOME OF THE PUBLIC MEETING ON SANDOWN  
LIBRARY.**

The Council discussed what was said by members of the public that attended the Public Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 10 regarding Sandown Library. The feeling of the meeting was that the residents of Sandown want the Isle of Wight Council to keep the Library

- The local residents do not want their library to close.
- They do not want Sandown Town Council to raise the precept to pay for it.
- They wanted to fight to keep it open and for Sandown Town Council also to fight to keep it open.
- They want to know if what the Isle of Wight Council is doing is legal.
- They want to know why the libraries in the rest of the country are facing 8% cuts and the Island is facing an 80% cut.
- They wanted their Isle of Wight Councillors to vote against the budget.

**b. TO DECIDE WHAT ACTION THE COUNCIL IS GOING TO TAKE.**

Sandown Town Council did not get a mandate from its residents at the public meeting to take over the library.

**RESOLVED:-**

THAT the Council the Council will ascertain if what the Isle of Wight Council is doing regarding the closure of libraries is legal.

THAT the Council will write to the Isle of Wight Council in the strongest possible terms against the closure of Sandown Library.

THAT the Clerk will send a reminder email to Councillors with the dates of the march in Newport.

THAT the opinions expressed by the public at the meeting were noted.

**582/11 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:-**

- a. Payments and receipts for November and December 2010
  - b. November and December 2010 Summary of Payments and receipts against budget
- The Clerk presented the payments and receipts together with a summary of payments to the Council.

**RESOLVED:-**

THAT the November and December 2010 financial reports be accepted.

**583/11 TO SET THE TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT FOR 2011-2012**

The Clerk read out the Risk Assessment that she had undertaken when preparing the proposed budget and precept for 2011-2012. The proposed budget with a precept of £115,000 would mean £44.43 per Band D equivalent properties per year which is an increase per week of 10p. This means that the weekly cost of the Council tax per band D equivalent is 85p per week. The Councillors discussed the proposed budget and raised concerns about there being no lifeguards on the beach in Sandown. It was proposed and duly seconded that the precept for 2011-2012 be set for £115,000

**RESOLVED:-**

THAT the precept for 2011-2012 be set at £115,000.

This was unanimously agreed.

**584/11 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE/RESPOND TO THE LETTER FROM GEOFF BLAKE INSHORE FISHERMAN**

The Council discussed the letter from Geoff Blake, inshore fisherman.

**RESOLVED**

THAT the Council write to Geoff Blake acknowledging the letter and that we are still very concerned, expert advice is being sought and enquiries are still ongoing.

**585/11 TO CONFIRM SUPPORT FOR ST JOHN'S TOILETS TO REMAINING OPEN AND DEVONIA TOILETS TO BEING CLOSED.**

Councillors discussed this agenda item and they did not want any toilets closing in Sandown. It was felt that the Isle of Wight Council should increase its precept instead of loading the rates onto the town and parishes. It was agreed that the Council would lobby the Isle of Wight Council to raise its precept so that the cost of toilets is spread throughout the Island not just on some town and parishes as all parts of the Island benefits from tourism.

Councillors were concerned about the closure of St John's Road toilet but also acknowledged that the closure of Devonian toilets would cause problems.

It was proposed that 'All the toilets are kept open in Sandown and this Council oppose any toilet closure.'

Councillors were still concerned that St John's toilet would still be closed because the Council could not decide between Devonian or St John's being closed and that people in the town were unhappy at St John's toilets closing.

The vote was taken and the proposal was not carried. It was then proposed that we are happy to note that St John's toilet is staying open but we oppose any closure.

**RESOLVED:-**

THAT we are happy to note that St John's toilet is staying open but we oppose any closure.

This was unanimously agreed.

**586/11 TO AGREE TO THE SALE OF PART OF THE BROADWAY SITE TO FINANCE THE REBUILDING OF THE BROADWAY CENTRE. (as per diagram)**

**Cllr Teasdale left the room for this agenda item.**

**RESOLVED**

THAT Sandown Town Council agrees to the sale of part of the Broadway site as shown in the diagram to finance the rebuilding of the Broadway Centre. This was unanimously agreed.

**Cllr Teasdale returned to the meeting.**

- 587/11 TO AGREE TO GO AHEAD AND APPLY FOR PLANNING PERMISSION TO REBUILD THE BROADWAY CENTRE.**  
**RESOLVED:-**  
 THAT the Council agree to go ahead and to apply for Planning permission to rebuild the Broadway Centre. This was unanimously agreed.
- 588/11 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE CLERKS REPORT ON VOLUNTEER LIFE GUARDS.**  
 The Clerk gave this report to the Councillors during the discussion on the precept which was Councillors were concerned about no lifeguards on the beach and the blue flag for Sandown would be lost but the Council could not run the service.  
 The Council requested that the Clerk writes a letter to the County Council, Chamber of Commerce, Simon Dabell and Shanklin Town Council raising the Councils concerns and the effect it will have on tourism and the businesses in the town.  
 It was also agreed that the Council would talk to the RLNI during the year about lifeguards.
- 589/11 TO NOTE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM CLLR HUMBY AND CLLR WARD**  
 Cllr Humby reported that she had raised concerns about the proposal that there would be a fortnightly household rubbish collection and a weekly kitchen waste collection towards the end of summer which was not acceptable. She had concerns about tourism. TIC's and lifeguards and these costs should be shared throughout the Island. There are 9 empty shops in Sandown and it gives the impression of a seaside resort that is dying on its feet. There is a problem with shops shutting at different times.  
 Councillors were concerned and raised the question of business rates being slashed to encourage more businesses in the town. The amount being paid to promote the Isle of Wight this year was about £200,000 when it use to be one million pounds.  
 Cllr Ward reported he had been to a Police Liaison Meeting regarding an alcohol free zone. There was a budget gap with the amount of money that goes into Adult Social Services. On Community Buses at the Scrutiny Panel they were told that there is a sustainable transport fund and he is having meeting about buses. The Police are being very supportive regarding the problems with HMO's
- 590/11 TO REVIEW THE DAY OF THE WEEK THE COUNCIL MEETS**  
 Some Councillors were having problems with attending a Council meeting on a Tuesday. It was acknowledged that Wednesday was also difficult. Monday was suggested as a meeting day.  
**RESOLVED:-**  
 THAT Sandown Town Council meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Planning being held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday and Council being held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday.  
 The Clerk said she would circulate the new dates to Councillors.
- 591/11 TO RECEIVE FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE THAT IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**  
 The Clerk reported correspondence had been circulated or put on the agenda.  
 We have received an email from IWALC offering for Gill Kennett to come and talk to the Council about Sandown rejoining them.  
 The Council discussed the letter from IWALC and decided not to take up the invitation but to note the correspondence; observe what they do and review at a later date.  
 The Clerk had received an email from Mrs Bunkham requesting it be circulated to our Councillors and that was done this afternoon.  
 Correspondence has been received from the Isle of Wight Council regarding consultation on the Waterside Pool at Ryde and consultation on Public Conveniences and the Library Service.  
 These matters have been dealt with in previous agenda items.
- 592/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
 The date of the next meeting would be the 28<sup>th</sup> February 11.  
 This date was noted.

Signed

Date