



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Valerie Taylor

Town Clerk

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MEETING OF SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD AT THE BROADWAY CENTRE ON 7th FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7. 0PM

MEMBERS PRESENT. Cllr Mereweather (Mayor) Cllr Young, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Cowley Cllr Ward,
Cllr Woolley, Cllr Wright, Cllr Blezzard, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Teasdale.

The Mayor reported the death of a Richard Yates a previous Councillor and Town Mayor. The Council stood as a mark of respect for a minute.

Time allocated for residents of Sandown to speak to the Council on Town Matters.

8 Members of the public were in attendance of the meeting.

Mr Collins talked about the start time of the market.

Mrs Oakley raised questions regarding the Broadway Centre and also made comments on the Sandown Town Council update page on in the Chronicle.

Mrs Orman raised various questions including the Broadway Centre and Tourist Information point

18/07. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Beavers due to illness.

19/07. Declarations of interest

Cllr Blezzard declared an interest in the agenda items due to being a member of the IWC Scrutiny Committee and also a member of the SLCC.

20/07. To approve the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 3rd & 18th January 07.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the minutes of the Town Council meeting on 3rd January 07
were approved

RESOLVED:-

THAT the minutes of the Town Council meeting on 18th January 07
were approved

21/07. To note on the 8th February a further Public Consultation for the Sandown Bay Project will take place at the Broadway Centre at 6.30pm.
RESOLVED:-

THAT the date be noted.

22/07. To appoint 5 Representatives to attend the Town and Parish Meeting to be held on the 16th February 07 at Falcon Cross Hall, Falcon Cross Road Shanklin at 6.30pm.

RESOLVED:-

THAT Cllr Mereweather Cllr Young Cllr Cowley Cllr Rogers Cllr Blezzard attend on behalf of the Council.

23/07. To receive and approve the Finance Reports and update the Council Risk Assessment Policy.

- a. The Clerk made a statement regarding the 2004/05 accounts as an incorrect creditor was included in these accounts. She presented an adjusted balance sheet for 2005/6 and reported that it does not affect the bottom line and makes no difference to the balances.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the new Balance sheet for 2005-6 be accepted.

- b. The January 07 Income and Expenditure Sheet and also the running total sheet were presented to the Council.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the financial accounts for January 07 be approved.

- c. The Councils Risk assessment review has had a fire risk added to it.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Councils Risk Assessment with the addition of the Fire Risk be approved.

24/07. To receive the following recommendations from the Broadway Centre Committee:-

- a. **To recommend to the full Council that the Wight Fire Co. Ltd be asked to install a fire alarm system in the Broadway Centre.**

Cllr Young reported that due to new legislation a fire alarm system has to be installed or we have to close the building to the public.

RESOLVED:-

THAT Wight Fire Co Ltd is appointed to install a fire alarm system at the Broadway Centre.

- b. **THAT the Committee recommends to the Council a loan for £120,000 is taken up for the repairs and alterations that are required at the Broadway Centre.**

A wide ranging discussion took place about taking out a loan and also when a referendum could be held but no resolution was made as to when

a referendum would be held due to lack of information that can be put to the electorate.

It was proposed that the Council defer taking out the loan for 6 months and by then we should have an answer from the town.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this resolution was defeated.

It was proposed that the Council applies for a loan of £120000 to take advantage of a fixed low interest rate and that the money is held in abeyance for 6 months until the town decides on the future of the Broadway Centre.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council applies for a loan of £120,000 over a 20 year period to take advantage of a fixed low interest rate and that the money is held in abeyance for 6 months until the town decides on the future of the Broadway Centre.

25/07. To set the Town Council Budget for 2007-08

a. The Clerk presented to the Council the risk assessment on the proposed 2007- 2008 budget.

b. The Council discussed the start of the market and the setting up of the market from 8.0am.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council apply for the market to set up at 8.0am.

c. The Clerk presented a proposed budget for 2007-8 to the Council. Discussion took place on the proposed budget and the following resolutions were made:-

It was proposed that the Clerk's hours after consultation be reduced to that of a part time clerk.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this resolution was defeated.

It was proposed that the Mayors allowance be removed.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this resolution was defeated.

It was proposed that the Councillor training budget be reduced to £500.

RESOLVED:-

That the training budget be reduced to £500.

It was suggested that £2000 be put in the budget for the Partnership.

Cllr Mereweather and Cllr Rogers declared a prejudicial interest as members of the Partnership and they left the room. Cllr Young Cllr Teasdale Cllr Woolley and Cllr Stephenson declared a personal interest as they were Sandown Town Council representatives on the Partnership. Cllr Young (Deputy Mayor) took the Chair for this item.

RESOLVED:-

THAT £2000 is given to the partnership to carry on running for this next year so that they can access grants.

Cllr Rogers and Cllr Mereweather returned to the meeting and Cllr Mereweather took the chair.

It was suggested that £1500 is allowed for the Christmas Lighting and that the High Street traders are circulated and asked to support the Christmas Lighting.

RESOLVED:-

THAT £1500 is allowed for the Christmas Lighting and that the High Street traders are circulated and asked for them to support the lighting.

It was proposed that the precept be set at £88,350 which is an increase of £2.78 per band D. property per year.

A recorded vote was requested.

Voting for the resolution Cllr Ward, Cllr Cowley, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Young, Cllr Woolley, Cllr Stephenson.

Voting against the resolution Cllr Blezzard

Abstaining Cllr Wright Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Mereweather.

RESOLVED

THAT the precept be set at £88,350.

26/07. Presentation by Cllr Ward on the recognition of a changing market and how change and rebalance has to take place on how Sandown earns its money.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this item is deferred until the next meeting.

27/07. Presentation by Paul Holbrooke

RESOLVED:-

THAT this item is deferred.

28/07. To receive the Councils comments in Respect of the Consultation on Subsidised Bus Services

The Council discussed the consultative document on subsidised bus services.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council wish to see all the Sandown Services retained.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council wish to see the reinstatement of Sandown to Cowes through service as this service also services St Mary's Hospital as well as the ferry port.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council wishes to comment on the lack of a Sandown to Ryde bus service and wonders if it can be reinstated.

29/07. CLERK TO REPORT ON:

a. Boundary Review Letter from Sue Chilton

RESOLVED:

THAT any responses are sent to the Clerk who would forward them to Sue Chilton.

b. Letter from Mhairi Bartlett re Priory School

The Council discussed the letter from Mhairi Bartlett asking the Council to support Priory School.

RESOLVED:-

THAT a letter of support for Priory School be sent to Mhairi Bartlett.

c. Post Office Network Consultation

The Town Council considered the Post Office Network Consultation Document.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council is totally opposed to the mass closure of any post offices as it destroys village communities.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Government should be looking at other ways of providing the post offices with services to make them viable.

RESOLVED:-

That this town does not want to lose any more post offices as it has caused hardship to some of our residents.

d. Consultation on amendments to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members

RESOLVED:-

THAT this is an agenda item for the next Council Meeting.

e. Community Speed Watch – Pilot Scheme

Proposals of a pilot scheme where residents operate speed monitoring equipment. The nominations of problem roads are requested from this Council by the Isle of Wight Council.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council submit the names of Perowne Way and the Broadway to be monitored.

e. Scoping Documents on the Ports.

The Council discussed the scoping document on the Ports and the problems with the ferries.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council objects to the cost of Ferry fares and consider them to be extortionately high.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council totally supports the introduction of a fourth ferry service.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council wishes to draw to the policy commission enquiry the high cost of going for a Hospital appointment before 10am. It has recently cost over £50 for someone to attend a mainland hospital and only be off the Island for 3 hours. This Council considers this to be unacceptable.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council want people who have to attend a mainland hospital to be given a form stamped by their local hospital that enables them to be entitled to a free/subsidised ferry fare for the hospital visit as many people cannot afford the fare.

30/07.To receives written reports from Councillors on outside bodies.

a. Cllr Blezzard to inform the Council on briefing with Representatives of the Boundary Committee for England in respect of the Boundary Review of the Isle of Wight Council Electoral Divisions.

He reported they would be looking t the size of the Council and seeking to equate numbers in each division. We could end up with 2 Councillors serving whole of Sandown and there would not be a requirement for the Town to be warded. Our town justifies having its own representation.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council will be discussing the consultation document when it is available.

b. Cllr Teasdale report on the Sandown Partnership.

Cllr Teasdale reported that the Partnership has been working with the Strategic Rail Authority and that the Partnership has been successful in obtaining £1500 towards the railway station project and he also hoped that the Project Officer's position is continued to be part funded by the Isle of Wight Council. She has already raised £100000 and there are bids in for £140000.

Discussion had taken place regarding the 1 Million Bloom Project. Bobby Locke suggested that the area at the end of the disabled ramp was one of the Bloom projects.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council support this area to be part of our bid.

c. Cllr Blezzard reported on the Tonnay-Charente Twinning Association.

He reported that an invitation had been received from Tonnay-Charente for a Sandown Twinning Association visit to take place at the end of March 07. The Mayor and Clerk had been invited. It was reported that an excellent Quiz evening was held and a lot of new people attended.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Clerk would go in the Council time and not her own.