



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

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A MEETING OF SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD AT THE BROADWAY CENTRE SANDOWN ON 10th SEPTEMBER 08 AT 7.0PM.

7.0pm to 7.15pm Time allocated for residents of Sandown to speak to the Council on Town Matters.

No Members of the Public were present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:- Cllr Ward (Mayor) Cllr Mereweather, Cllr Woolley, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Beevers,
Cllr Wright, Cllr Stephenson. Cllr Blezzard left the meeting at 19.50hrs.

249/08 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Dupre, Cllr Cowley and Cllr Young

250/08 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH JULY 2008

Cllr Blezzard wanted recorded that he had raised concerns on item 244/08 and left the meeting at approximately 21.00hrs before the vote on this item was taken.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th July 08 with these additions were approved and duly signed.

251/08 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To invite members to declare any interest they may have in matters on the Agenda

Cllr Blezzard declared personal interest in the remaining items on the agenda as a member of the Isle of Wight Council Scrutiny Committee and item 259/08 as a Member of the Tonney-Charante Twinning Association and item 260/08 as a member of IWALC. Cllr Wright and Cllr Mereweather declared an interest in item 259/08 c. as the Council representatives on the Tonney-Charente Twinning Association. Cllr Beevers declared a personal interest in item 259/08 e.

252/08 TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM CLLR HUMBY AND CLLR WARD

Cllr Ward presented his Mayors report and raised the question of wreaths at the War Memorial. He reported that both he and Cllr Humby had talked to people about them. Concern about the names being obscured by wreaths was a valid concern. Discussion took place about the appropriate time to remove the wreaths from the Memorial. Councillors reported that people were still looking at them. Concerns were expressed that people who laid the wreaths should make the decision as to when they are removed. Cllr Ward proposed:- That the wreaths be removed in September. Cllr Blezzard proposed an amendment that was duly seconded:- THAT the wreaths be removed at the end of January.

The amendment failed.

The Substantive motion that the wreaths be removed in September was put to the Council.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the wreaths are removed in September.

Cllr Rogers proposed that after a suitable period of time we remove them to a place in the town with a plaque showing that they were in Memory of those who fell in the Great War.

RESOLVED:-

THAT after a suitable period of time we remove them to a place in the town with a plaque showing that they were in Memory of those who fell in the Great War.

Councillors are requested to find where they could be placed and wreaths would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

The Mayor finished his Mayors report and he thanked Cllr Stephenson and the Town Clerk for their work on the Skate Park Project.

Cllr Humby presented her County Councillors report. Regarding Wightaire she was disappointed that they have been granted a later Licence than 11.00pm. Problems with new litter bins as the lids are falling off. Concern regarding the bus at Yaverland for our elderly residents. Problem with the seats not being put out at the corner of Albert Road and the High Street. The problem with young people has now moved to the Library. The results of the Residents Survey are to be published in the Chronicle. Cllr Humby congratulated everyone on the skate park which was being well used.

Cllr Ward reported on his visit to Shanklin Police Station and that he had confidence that the Police now have a handle on it. The Police are arresting people and putting them into court. The Police have said the non drinking alcohol zones are not necessary as they can deal with the problems. The Adult problem

comes from our HMO's. The Police have offered for Councillors to go to Shanklin Police Station and be briefed. There are 11 illegal HMO's in Sandown. Many people in the HMO's have no ties to Sandown. Not much support is coming from the Council regarding HMO's and we will still have to continue pushing it ourselves.

253/08 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE WRITTEN REPORT FROM THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER.

The Town Centre Manager tabled his report. Concern was expressed about the lack of seating outside the Greek restaurant. The Town Centre Manager would pursue this matter for the Council.

A news letter from the IWC regarding Wightaire is being circulated to all residents of Yaverland.

Heather reported about the toilets at Yaverland. The Council agreed to write to the Isle of Wight Council regarding the lack of use for local people.

254/08 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:-

- a.** To receive 1st Quarter report from Mr G. Hughes internal auditor together with Statement of Internal Audit.

The Mayor apologised for keeping Mr Hughes waiting. The auditors report was circulated to the Councillors. There were no questions. The report was accepted and thanks given to him.

- b.** Payments and Receipts for July 08 and up until the 21ST August 08

The Clerk reported on the payments and receipts.

The Clerk reported that we are waiting for a bill for the Cold Calling Signs to complete that payment.

The Highways department is going to put up the signs.

- c.** July 08 and up until the 21st August 08 Summary of Payment and Receipts.

The Clerk reported on payments made and payments due on the Skate Park.

- d.** 1st Quarter spend against budget.

The Clerk reported that the 1st Quarter has been circulated to the Councillors.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the July 08 and accounts up to 21st August 08 financial reports be accepted

The Clerk requested that she was allowed to purchase the remaining two buoys that we have budgeted for so they were available for putting in the Bay next year.

RESOLVED:-

THAT we purchase the remaining 2 buoys.

The Clerk requested that the Council authorise the payment to Sandown Community partnership that was put in the budget.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council in accordance with its powers under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:-

THAT £2000 be paid to Sandown Community Partnership as identified in the budget.

The Clerk requested that a retrospect resolution be agreed to cover the payment of grants that were given last month under section 137 that were not minuted.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council in accordance with its powers under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:-

Sandown and Shanklin Inshore Rescue £500, Sandown Bay Lifeguard Training Club £500, Sandown and Lake Football Club £100 and Ryde Sea Cadets £250.

255/08 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR MEREWETHER ON THE FUTURE OF SANDOWN MARKET.

Cllr Mereweather reported on the meeting that she and the Town Clerk had with Mr Curtis-Botting regarding the changes and charges for the market and the implications that have arisen. Cllr Mereweather felt it was in the best interests of this Council that stall holders in future deal directly with the Isle of Wight Council. Changes have been imposed by the audit commission who insist that the Miscellaneous Provision Act 1982 is implemented. The audit commission are trying to crack down on benefit fraud. Stall holders will have in future to give National Insurance numbers, dates of births and other information. Market traders will have to have individual licences from the Council. Any body serving on a stall will also have to be registered.

RESOLVED:-

THAT we no longer run a market from the 2nd November 08 when our licence expires.

256/08

THE MAYOR TO REPORT ON A PROPOSED MEETING WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF SANDOWN.

The Mayor reported that now the skate park was opened, the Partnership was now concentrating on phase 2. The Mayor thought that we should get the young people together and form a representative group to meet with them regularly to be the liaison between the Council and them. The Mayor proposed that Cllr Dupre and Cllr Beevers are the Council representatives to meet with Youth on a regular basis. All the schools in the Sandown Area are going to be approached so all the Sandown pupils will know and be represented. The present team involved with phase 1 would step down.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Mayor sets up a committee of young people and Cllr Beevers and Cllr Dupre are the Council representatives on the committee.

257/08

TO CONSIDER IF AND HOW TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS:-

1. CODE OF CONDUCT STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND COUNCILLORS INDEMNITY

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Clerk looks into Indemnity Insurance re legal fees and bring it back at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:-

THAT this Council does not like guilty until proven innocent. Worried about lack of consistency across the Country with the local Standards Committee

This Council prefers a National Standards Board not local because we are insular on the Island and everybody knows everybody.

Concern over length of time cases for cases to be dealt with especially when cases have been on going for over a year.

2. BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLVED:-

THAT it is far too loaded in favour of National Government not local Government.

This Council would like to determine planning at local level. Quality Council was supposed to lead towards a degree of self –determination on planning applications but it has not.

THAT as a matter of principle we would like to see all decisions taken at the lowest level at which it can officially be done.

3. ELECTION DAY-WEEKEND AND E-VOTING

RESOLVED:-

THAT e-voting has got to be tried and tested first before it is implemented.

THAT this Council support weekend voting.

THAT concern was raised about not using local schools as there would be a problem over voting in Perowne Way and other outlying areas

4. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

RESOLVED:-

THAT we keep the ones that we have got.

THAT it was unfair on new parishes if the IOW Council withdraws fees for election next year and have to pay election payment of expenses in full. It must be more equitable.

There is a price being put on democracy and this will affect small parishes as well.

5. CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR THE THIRD SECTOR

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Council questions whether it is deliverable as the amounts of volunteers on the Island are going down. Concern that if volunteers are providing the service what happens if it folds.

It is seen as using unpaid workers doing voluntary jobs that are doing more and more is placed on them.

Stiff protocols are being put on the volunteers and voluntary organisations by the Council and the Voluntary organisations will sheer away from them.

It was agreed further comments on this item can be emailed to the Clerk.

6. PARISH CHARTER

Revised draft now includes 21 days on Planning. Concerns were expressed about the IWALC signing on behalf of all Councils. It was felt that it is not for us to volunteer what obligations the Isle of Wight Council want us to do and it is for us to agree or disagree with them.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the draft document as amended by Cllr Blezzard that has been circulated to Sandown Councillors is adopted and sent back to the Isle of Wight Council as our comments on the second draft of the Parish Charter. It was felt that it was up to the Isle of Wight Council to say what obligations they want us to do.

258/08

TO AGREE TO INVITE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE RCC TO ATTEND THE NEXT MEETING TO TALK ABOUT THE OPTIO CAR SCHEME.

RESOLVED:-

THAT a representative of the Optio Car Scheme is invited to the next Town Council Meeting.

259/08

CLERK TO REPORT ON:-

- a. French market
Could not receive in time each peoples details to meet the new regulations. With more time available they are hoping to come over at another time.
- b. Sandown in Bloom Competition.
More entries this year. The Awards Evening is on the 3rd October 08 Alan Titchmarsh is going to be our guest speaker. All entries this year have been invited to the awards evening.
Cllr Mereweather asked for help for the award evening. Cllr Woolley, Cllr Stephenson and Cllr Cowley volunteered to help.
- c. Tonnay-Charente
The Clerk had received a letter from John Howell who thanked the Council for the support they have received including the Civic Receptions and exchange of gifts that the Council have given.
- d. Letter received from Cllr David Pugh
Letter received from Cllr David Pugh offering to attend a meeting with the Town Council.

RESOLVED:-

THAT Cllr Pugh is invited to attend a meeting of Sandown Town Council.

- e. Letters of thanks received from Grant Applicants.
Clerk reported on letters of thanks that she had received from the various organisations who had received grants from Sandown Town Council.
A problem had arisen with the grant given to the Ladybird Gardening Club as they had no bank account.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the Ladybird Gardening Club is paid £50 in cash.

260/08

REPORTS FROM SANDOWN TOWN COUNCILLORS.

- a. Report from Cllr Cowley on Island Waste
RESOLVED:-
THAT the report be noted.
- b. Report from Cllr Blezzard on IWALC meeting held on the 16th July 08
RESOLVED:-
THAT this Council supports the IWALC donation to the chemotherapy unit in memory of Brenda Lawson.
THAT this report is noted.
- c. Report from Cllr Teasdale on the Partnership.
Cllr Mereweather gave a report on the Partnership in his absence. They were now concentrating on the next phase of Sandham Grounds as well as the Sandown Plan.
- d. Report of Power to the Parishes Conference.
Cllr Mereweather tabled a report on the Parish Conference. It was an excellent conference and there were nearly 300 people attended the Conference and many were from the mainland.

RESOLVED:-

THAT the report be noted.

261/08

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 8th OCTOBER 08

RESOLVED:-

THAT the date of the next meeting be noted.

Signed

Dated