



Sandown Town Council
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00PM
ON MONDAY 28th MARCH 2011 AT THE BROADWAY CENTRE.

PRESENT: Mayor: Cllr Mereweather

Cllrs: Beasley, Beevers, Blezzard, Cowley, Dupre', Humby, Patel and Stephenson.

In attendance: Locum Clerk Tina Bailey, one member of the public and IWCP reporter.

606/11 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr's Ward, Harris and Teasdale. Cllr Humby apologised in advance of leaving the meeting early.

607/11 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Blezzard declared personal interest in agenda items by reason of being a member of Havenstreet and Ashley Parish Council and as a member of IWALC.

Cllr Beevers declared a personal interest in 615/11 by reason of being a member of the transport forum.

Cllr Humby declared a personal interest in 618/11(2) by reason of being as a member of Sandown Community Partnership

Cllr Mereweather declared a personal interest in 618/11(2) by reason of being a member of Sandown Community Partnership.

608/11 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 28TH FEBRUARY 2011.

Councillor Blezzard drew attention to Minute 603/11 – 2 Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils and raised his concern about the incorrect advice given to members both by the Clerk and by the Chair in respect of this item regarding the rescission of a previous resolution. The previous resolution (Minute 591/11 of the 25 January 2011) was in respect of a request by the Chair of IWALC to come and talk to the Council about the possibility of Sandown rejoining IWALC. It did not, unlike Councillor Blezzard's motion of 28 February 2011 deal with whether or not the Council should rejoin IWALC. It therefore did not invalidate Councillor Blezzard's motion of 25 February 2011 under the six month rule in Standing Orders. Councillor Blezzard was concerned that this incorrect advice probably dissuaded members from seconding his motion.

RESOLVED

1. Cllr Blezzard's comments regarding min 603/11 are recorded.
2. That the minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2011 were approved and duly signed.

609/11 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:-

- a. Payments and receipts for February 2011
- b. February 2011 Summary of Payments and receipts against budget

Queries raised regarding payments of skateboard finances and ferry fare costs

require clarification from the Town Clerk. A review of mileage costs was requested to be placed on the next agenda.

RESOLVED

Adoption of finances deferred until the next meeting.

610/11 MAYOR TO REPORT ON LIBRARY OPENING HOURS.

The Mayor reported that the library will be open four full days on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.00- 12.30 and from 1.30 – 5.00 and will be closed on Mondays and Wednesdays. Councillors discussed the changes and the current legal challenge and reaffirmed their resolve to continue to fight to return the library to its former operating times.

611/11 MAYOR TO REPORT ON OPENING OF THE ST JOHN'S CHURCH WEB CAM PROJECT

The Mayor reported on the webcam placed at the top of the spire of St John's Church which is beaming the view of Sandown down onto the north wall. The project will be available on-line in the near future and will include services being held to allow participation of housebound parishioners. An exhibition of the Island games will be re-opened again nearer the start of the games.

612/11 MAYOR TO REPORT ON COST OF MEDALS FOR SAILING EVENTS AT SANDOWN FOR THE ISLAND GAMES AND THE COUNCIL TO AGREE TO FUND THESE EVENTS.

The number of medals required for events held within the town boundaries are 24 for sailing and 24 windsurfing at a cost of £10 each – total £480. (LGA 1972 s.144)

RESOLVED

Agreed purchase of 24 medals for windsurfing and 24 for sailing at total cost of £480, conditional to appropriate recognition of the Town Council's sponsorship of these two events.

613/11 REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE BATTERY GARDENS PROJECT FROM SANDOWN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
RESOLVED

That the Town Council will provide a letter of support.

614/11 REPORT FROM POLICE LIASON WORKING PARTY.

Cllr Cowley reported on the reduction of one sergeant from Shanklin Police Station and that all calls are being diverted to the mainland. The police will not be moving into Sandown Station due to its lack of facilities and cannot justify the expense needed to bring the room up to the required standard. The Police have no plans to move into anywhere else in Sandown.

615/11 CONSULTATION ON LOCAL BUS SERVICE.

Cllr Blezzard reported that Southern Vectis has offered to provide a school bus to replace the Wightbus numbers 22 and 24 services from September between the two school runs Monday to Friday only and is subject to the buses being staffed by volunteers. It is understood that if this offer is not taken up a minimal service only will be provided. The volunteer staffed community buses would not provide through ticketing with the Southern Vectis services.

It is understood that ticket income from non-bus pass holders could be kept by the Town Council and Cllr Blezzard suggested that this should be ring fenced to be re-invested in trying to roll out a longer service (eg evenings/weekends). Concern was also raised about

the cutbacks to the Number 2 service which now does not run to Ryde and ends at teatime and it was suggested that subsidies could be given to extend this service.

RESOLVED

1. The proposed subsidised services should be seen as an absolute minimum especially as they are all high or medium high priority.
2. Service 3 should be kept
3. Service 2 needs to be subsidised, extended to run via Godshell and Merstone to provide a service throughout the evening.

616/11 TO NOTE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM CLLR HUMBY AND CLLR WARD

Cllr Ward reported on the grant for £260m for the Highways PFI; Sandown library opening; progress on the community bus for Perowne Way, Broadway and Yaverland and residents concerns regarding the new licence application for Westfield Hotel.

Cllr Humby reported concerns about the proposed fortnightly refuse collection; the search by Southern Vectis for suitable premises as a Tourist Information Centre; community bus provision; offered congratulations to Sandown Football Club for winning the cup; has requested answers regarding the cost of the work in Station Avenue car park and the reason for its necessity; expressed regret that the alternative budget was not successful and offered a thank you to Yaverland residents' for their community spirit.

617/11 TO CHANGE THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TO MONDAY 9TH MAY

Noted.

618/11 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE AND ALSO FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE THAT IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

1. Lifeguard funding

Correspondence from John Metcalfe was read with a request for confirmation if the Town Council wish to accept funding and take responsibility for the provision of lifeguards. The Council's discussion included the following:

- It was noted that the IWC are not complying with their own protocol in allowing a period of a month for consultation
- RNLI have stated that it is too late for this year and £6000 is insufficient funding to provide the service
- How can the budget be cut by 75% and be expected to continue to be run on the reduced funds- where have the figures come from?
- The IWC is not recognising that the Island's economy exists on tourism in the summer and this matter is an Island issue not just local.
- If a lifeguard is provided and publicised it must be available for 7 days a week from 8 am – 8pm.
- Need extension of at least another month.

RESOLVED

That a stern letter will be sent in reply with a request for an extension to the time limit to enable the Town Council to investigate whether lifeguard provision in Sandown can be provided this year.

2. Correspondence from Sandown Community Partnership re:- The Queen Elizabeth 11 Fields Challenge.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council accept the Community Partnership's recommendation of Sandham Gardens.

3. Cllr Blezzard raised a matter regarding correspondence sent by the Clerk

RESOLVED

Agenda item for next meeting to be discussed under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

619/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Due to the Easter Bank Holiday, the meeting will be held on **TUESDAY 26TH APRIL.**

The meeting closed at 20.20.

Mayor.....

Dated