



RYDE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RYDE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2019 IN THE GARFIELD ROAD METHODIST CHURCH, GARFIELD ROAD, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT COMMENCING AT 7:00PM

<p><u>Present</u></p>	<p>Councillors: Adrian Axford, Henry Adams, Charles Chapman, Diana Conyers, Julian Critchley, Nancy Farrell, Phil Jordan, Michael Lilley (Mayor), Karen Lucioni, Sue Lyons, Malcolm Ross, Ian Stephens, Lou Temel, Tim Wakeley and Wayne Whittle.</p>
<p><u>In Attendance</u></p>	<p>Saskia Blackmore, Clerk, Ryde Town Council Adrienne White, Clerk, Ryde Town Council (Minutes)</p>
<p><u>Also Present</u></p>	<p>Members of the Public Isle of Wight Councillor Vanessa Churchman Sgt Warne – North East Wight Neighbourhood and Prevention</p>

	<p><i>Prior to the start of the meeting a Public Question Time was held for 30 minutes</i></p>
145/19	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillors Phil Jordan and Jim Moody. IW Councillor Vanessa Churchman also sent apologies.</p>
146/19	<p>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</p> <p>Councillor Ian Stephens declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 13 Coronation Gradens Improvement Scheme as it is within his ward.</p>
147/19	<p>REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>There were no individual requests for dispensation.</p>
148/19	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 2 September 2019 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Mayor subject to an amendment in 133/19 - the wording 'was readjourned' be replaced by resumed.</p>
149/19	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>Sgt Warne sent his apologies for the meeting. There were no police questions.</p> <p>Councillor Michael Lilley reported that the Police & Crime Commissioner had been postponed due to ill health and the Clerks would circulate a new diary date once this had been agreed.</p> <p>Councillor Ian Stephens reported that along with Councillor Karen Lucioni meetig had been held with Fellowship House and that positive progress was being made in addressing local concerns.</p>
150/19	<p>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</p> <p>Councillor Karen Lucioni asked if there was any further response from the Isle of Wight Council and Island Roads in repect of CCTV.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that since following the Notice of Motion previously submitted by Councillor Karen Lucioni, the office had undertaken work which was about to reach a conclusion around the possible use of deployable cameras, unfortunately due to the announcement of the closure of the control room by the Isle of Wight Council and Island Roads this work had to currently stop. The Finance Committee are currently waiting for a response to the letter sent in respect of Isle of Wight Council</p>

PFI cuts and see if the Town Council may be able to consider any options to support the affected services.

Councillor Lou Temel raised concerns about roadworks being undertaken and suggested a letter be sent to Island Roads requesting contractors do not entirely block pavements whilst carrying out road repairs.

In addition, Councillor Lou Temel asked if the current 'Wightfibre' works being carried out throughout Ryde's pavements will see Island Roads prioritising proper resurfacing following the temporary fixes.

Councillor Wayne Whittle reported that the temporary fixes were in place for approximately 6 weeks as this allowed Wightfibre to be able to check the connectivity is as it should be, following this resurfacing will be carried out.

Councillor Tim Wakeley asked if the Clerks could provide any advice to assist Council in respect of the Expression of Interest Horizons Fund that was a later agenda item, especially around capacity and resources.

The Clerk reported that it was not for the Clerks to comment on whether or not the Council should or should not be the lead organisation on any submission as that was for members to decide. Advice would be the same as when considering the acquisition of any asset or running of any service. Following any Statement of Intent or Expression of Interest, the organisation will still need to undertake a range of due diligence before making any decisions. In terms of capacity and resources the Town Council has a small staff team, which does not always contain the necessary expertise. The Clerk reminded members that this summer issues with capacity had resulted in the council's operation being severely challenged. It is important that Members receive the correct professional advice on all matters to ensure that any possible risk to the organisation is mitigated.

Councillor Julian Critchley asked if there was any further update in respect of Ryde Harbour.

The Mayor reported that he had today chased verbally for a response and that he hoped to be able to meet with Isle of Wight Councillor Stuart Hutchinson to prompt a reply.

Councillor Julian Critchley raised concerns for Ryde House and the eviction of residents and the impact on their families and could the Town Council provide any assistance.

It was suggested that the Community Connector be directed to assist with this.

Councillor Wayne Whittle reported that the Isle of Wight Council had withdrawn the removal of any residents at this time and that the Isle of Wight Council support Ryde House with approximately £8 million per year.

151/19	<p>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Mayor previously circulated a report of all visits/events attended in August and September. The Mayor announced events and activities for October. He also mentioned that as part of his Mayor's Appeal that he would be launching a new Ryde Pub Walk Guide and leading the inaugural Pub Walk on 12 October at 12pm from Ryde Bus Museum and that on Monday 22 November at 7pm he would be hosting a showing of The Italian Job at Ryde Castle.</p>
152/19	<p>REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS</p> <p>Councillor Diana Conyers previously submitted a report to the clerks' office and this had been circulated. Councillor Diana Conyers mentioned that one of the reports had been a joint report from herself and Councillors Adrian Axford and Phil Jordan.</p>
153/19	<p>APPLEY TOWER FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT</p> <p>Mr Graham Biss, Managing Director at Natural Enterprise spoke to a presentation, previously circulated, on the findings of the draft Appley Tower Feasibility Study Report and welcomed any feedback from Councillors. The Mayor thanked the presenters and summarised that the Town Council supported positive action for the Tower and the work that was being undertaken to look for a viable and sustainable project. The Town Council looks forward to receiving the final report.</p>
154/19	<p>EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – RYDE THEATRE</p> <p>The Mayor introduced correspondence from Mr Chris Ashman, Director of Regeneration at the Isle of Wight Council asking the Town Council to consider submitting an Expression of Interest to the Heritage Horizons Fund in respect of Ryde Theatre.</p> <p>Councillor Tim Wakeley put forward a proposal that was seconded by Councillor Wayne Whittle. Following a unanimous vote it was RESOLVED that</p> <p>' This Council agrees to submit an Expression of Interest bid to the Heritage Horizons programme and take the lead, with the support of the Isle of Wight Council and local community groups, in continuing to explore all options for the future ownership, operations and management of the building.</p> <p>The capacity of this Council to act as a community driver for this initiative needs to be assessed and resources put in place to ensure the success of the initiative and the well-being of staff. Any additional staff and resources should be put in place as a matter of some urgency with funds drawn down from our reserves, as required.</p>

	<p>That given, the timescale for the submission that the content of the EOI, (circulated to councillors separately), be approved and signed off by the Mayor, Chair of Planning, and Vice Chair of Finance.</p> <p>There was also agreement that the next two years should be spent on building a community coalition which could/should become the natural inheritors of the Theatre in very much the same way as Shanklin, with whom a dialogue must be established to learn the lessons that they have.</p> <p>155/19 GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING PARTY</p> <p>The notes of the General Purposes Working Party meeting held on 26 November 2019 were received.</p> <p>156/19 NETWORK RYDE STEERING GROUP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The 2018/2019 Network Ryde Annual Report was received and noted. ii. The notes of the Network Ryde Steering Group meeting held on 17 July 2019 were received. iii. It was noted that at a meeting held on 18 September 2019 the Network Ryde Steering Group had agreed to submit a bid to the Police and Crime Commissioner Safer Communities Fund for funding towards an outreach 'Street Work' initiative. <p>157/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Councillor Diana Conyers introduced a recommendation arising from the Planning Committee meeting held on 23 July 2019 in respect of the Public Realm Strategy and it was RESOLVED that the revised attached Public Realm Strategy, that includes the increase in project approval level delegated to the Planning Committee from £1500 to £5000 be approved. ii. The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 13 August and 3 September 2019 were received. iii. Councillor Diana Conyers introduced the recommendations arising from the Planning Committee meeting held on 24 September 2019 and it was RESOLVED that <p>RYDE PLACE PLAN</p> <p>The Isle of Wight Council Ryde Regeneration Working Group report regular progress on the development of the Ryde Place Plan to Ryde Town Council's Planning Committee and any relevant recommendations arising from the Plan are made to Full Council.</p>
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CORONATION GARDENS IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Expenditure of £9,341.00 towards the total cost of the improvement scheme at Coronation Gardens as outlined in the public realm application be approved.

158/19 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 30 July 2019 were received.

159/19 NOTICE OF MOTION – 07/19

Councillor Nancy Farrell introduced the Notice of Motion from Councillor Phil Jordan in respect of raising the delegated financial approval limits of the Finance Committee to £10,000. An amendment was proposed and seconded to decrease the amount from £10,000 to £5,000 to bring the amount in line with Planning and it was **RESOLVED that the delegated financial approval limits of the Finance Committee be increased to £5000.**

160/19 NOTICE OF MOTION – 08/19

Councillor Michael Lilley withdrew his Notice of Motion in respect of both a 'Ryde Day' and of strengthening the Town Council's links with Portsmouth City Council and the University of Portsmouth.

161/19 NOTICE OF MOTION – 09/19

Councillor Karen Lucioni introduced her Notice of Motion in respect of the establishment of a Facilities and Assets Management Committee.

Councillor Adrian Axford reported that although he was in broad agreement of the establishment of this committee he would like to be aware of the Terms of Reference for the committee upfront. He therefore proposed an amendment to defer the Notice of Motion until November. This was seconded by Councillor Wayne Whittle. Speaking to the amendment Councillor Diana Conyers also mentioned that she was broadly in support of the establishment of the Facilities and Assets Management Committee but had some concerns and felt further discussion was warranted around the restructuring of the Town Council. Councillor Julian Critchley reported that he felt Councillor Adrian Axford was mistaken in putting forward this amendment as the Notice of Motion clearly stated that the Terms of Reference would come back to Full Council for approval. Following a vote the amendment fell.

It was then **RESOLVED, by the Mayors casting vote, that a Facilities and Asset Management Committee not be established.**

162/19	<p>VACANCY – PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>Councillor Karen Lucioni be appointed as a representative on the Planning Committee following a resignation.</p>
163/19	<p>PAYMENTS</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Payments of those invoices shown on Appendix 1, totalling £28,235.92 be approved. ii. The payments shown on Appendix 2, which have been made under Standing Order 39 (b) and (c), either by online transfer or by cheque be noted.
164/19	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 4 November 2019 – Methodist Church, Garfield Road, Ryde.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8:45pm</p> <p>Signed.....Mayor/Chairman</p> <p>Date.....</p>