



## **RYDE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING PARTY HELD ON MONDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2018 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, LIND STREET, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT COMMENCING AT 10.30AM**

**Present:** Diana Conyers, Sue Lyons, Jim Moody, Malcolm Ross, Tim Wakeley (Chairman)

**In Attendance** Saskia Blackmore, Ryde Town Council (Clerk and notes)

Ady White, Ryde Town Council (Clerk)

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#### 34/18 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Christine Hall.

#### 35/18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 36/18 **NOTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The notes from the meeting held on 23 July 2018 were agreed.

#### 37/18 **SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY**

Saskia Blackmore explained to the Working Party that, following the introduction of the GDPR earlier in the year, the Town Council had adopted a Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy based on a template provided by the National Association of Local Councils. Since this Policy was adopted Southampton City Council has published guidance for elected Members on their use of their own social media and it was the Clerks' view that this guidance could also be useful for Ryde Town Council Members. The Southampton Guidance merely acts to remind Members of their need to be aware of a range of matters when using social media and of the need to observe the Code of Conduct. A range of amendments to Town Council's Policy that

include reference to Southampton City Council's guidelines were therefore being proposed. Councillor Jim Moody made several suggestions about the rewording of the new text in the Policy and a discussion took place about whether the new guidance should be separately attached to the Policy as 'guidelines' or whether any amendments should remain within the text of the Town Council Policy. The Chairman noted that separate guidelines are unlikely to be enforceable in any way if breached where as Policy would have more weight in terms of enforcement. After further discussion it was agreed that further changes should be made to the Policy and that this would be brought back to a future meeting for consideration. The Clerk reminded the Working Party that the original Policy will remain as the adopted policy of the Town Council until any changes are agreed by the Full Council.

38/18 PRESS AND MEDIA PROTOCOL

Saskia Blackmore explained that the Town Council's Standing Orders currently make no mention of how the Council interacts with the media nor how press releases should be formulated and published. Several Members of the Town Council had also identified that the Council needs to be more proactive about promoting itself. Councillor Conyers felt that paragraph 3c needed to be amended to clarify how Members who identified an opportunity for the Town Council to issue a press release should take this forward. After some further discussion it was

**RESOLVED**

That the Press and Media Protocol be recommended to Full Council for approval.

39/18 LAND AND BUILDINGS REGISTER

Saskia Blackmore explained that under the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 the Town Council is required to publish a Land and Buildings Register. Since the publication of the agenda for this meeting the Town Council had completed on the lease with the Isle of Wight Council for the Beach Lifeguard Station, and this will need to be added to the Register. The Chairman requested that details of any leasehold demise be added so that Councillors can see when these will be ending. The Working Party noted that the Register will be published on the Town Council's website and a copy will be sent to all Members.

40/18 CCTV POLICY FOR 147 HIGH STREET

Saskia Blackmore explained that a Policy outlining how the CCTV camera at 147 High Street is used and managed is required. This development of this Policy has been entirely separate to the other work that the Town Council is undertaking in relation to the feasibility of additional CCTV on the highways network. During the brief discussion that took place the Working Party agreed that the Policy should be considered by the Network Ryde Steering Group prior to its adoption.

41/18 BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN – NETWORK RYDE

Saskia Blackmore advised the Working Party that a Business Continuity Plan is required for Network Ryde should a catastrophic incident occur that adversely affected the delivery of this service from that premises. During the brief discussion that took place the Working Party agreed that the Plan should be considered by the Network Ryde Steering Group prior to its adoption.

42/18 VISION FOR RYDE

Saskia Blackmore advised the Working Party that Isle of Wight Council officers are currently preparing a response to the questions raised by the Working Party at its last meeting. The Chairman indicated that should a response not be received before the Christmas break that a follow up meeting be arranged with the Isle of Wight Council in the new year.

43/18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Clerk would notify the Working Party about the date of the next meeting. It was also noted that meetings of the Working Party could be called at short notice.