



RYDE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RYDE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2017 IN THE RYDE METHODIST CHURCH HALL, GARFIELD ROAD, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT COMMENCING AT 7:00PM

Present

Councillors: Henry Adams (Mayor), Adrian Axford, Charles Chapman, Diana Conyers, Julian Critchley, Nancy Farrell, Christine Hall, Phil Jordon, Michael Lilley, Karen Lucioni, Sue Lyons, Jim Moody, Malcolm Ross (Deputy Mayor), Ian Stephens, Tim Wakeley and Wayne Whittle.

In Attendance

Saskia Blackmore, Clerk, Ryde Town Council
Adrienne White, Clerk, Ryde Town Council (Minutes)

Also Present

Members of the Public
Isle of Wight County Press
Leader of the Isle of Wight Council – Councillor Dave Stewart

Public

Question Time

Questions were raised about the following:

- Reporting a faulty lamp post in the Upper High Street.
- Youth, regeneration plans and the possibility of an iconic building for Ryde seafront.
- A thank you for the autumn planting. Concern was raised about the weed 'Oxalis' that is quite prominent in some of the Isle of Wight Council planting scheme. The Clerks responded that the IWC were currently liaising with their contractor and keeping the Town Council informed of any future plan to deal with the problem.

177/17 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

178/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Henry Adams declared a non pecuniary (personal) interest in agenda item 11A (ii) as he is a member of Ryde Carnival Association.

Councillor Malcolm Ross declared a non pecuniary (personal) interest in agenda item 11A (ii) as he is a member of Ryde Carnival Association.

179/17 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no individual requests for dispensations.

The General Dispensation granted by the Clerk to all Members in respect of the setting of the 2018/19 budget and precept was noted. Full Council minute 11/13 refers.

180/17 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 6 December 2017 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Mayor subject to an amendment of 169/17 – Councillor Karen Lucioni was not in attendance...

181/17 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no Members questions.

182/17 REPORTS

Councillor Charles Chapman reported that the British Legion have partnered with Age Concern to provide a 'drop in' service at 147 High Street, Newport. He also reported that Island Roads were clearing weeds in the Oakvale area.

Councillor Ian Stephens reported that CCTV was being considered for the the area of Slade Road/Oakfield by Sovereign Housing. He also reported that the Ryde SW action group had wound up and as a result any residue funding was to be split between the Military College, Historic Ryde Museum and Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY).

Councillor Adrian Axford reported overhanging shrubs on the highway.

Councillor Michael Lilley reported that he was hosting a series of meetings within his ward for residents and local developers. The first in relation to Regeneration, the second – Pennyfeathers and the third – Captiva

He was also hosting a meeting for all interested parties, to include the IWC Officer about the possibility of Appley Tower being transferred to the Community.

183/17 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced

- he had attended a talk about the pubs of Ryde by Mr Tony Gale and was pleased to report that all the ticket takings had been donated to the Mayors charity.
- he had attended the Ryde District Cup Final
- he had attended Ryde Remembrance Services
- he had attended Ryde United Reform Church in recognition of 200 years since Reverend Thomas Guyer was ordained minister of Ryde's first free church.
- he had attended the Vernon Square Christmas Carol concert.

184/17 REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Councillor Jim Moody had attended a seminar hosted by the Isle of Wight Council. The Isle of Wight Council Planning Services, Head of Place asked to be informed by Parish & Town Councils of where Section 106 money should be spent. A reminder that the Island is now in Year 5 of the 7 year Core Investment Period of the 25 year Island Roads contract. After 2 more years of renovation of the roads of the Isle of Wight there will be a 18 further years of repairs under the current contract.

185/17 THE LEADER OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

Councillor Dave Stewart, Leader of the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) updated the Town Council on the Isle of Wight Council's 2018-19 budget setting process and on partnership working initiatives with town and parish councils. He indicated the IWC needs to make £7.5 million savings over the coming year and this is currently on target. He was asked about any further devolution of IWC Services and he mentioned that the youth service may be a service that parish and town councils will need to take more responsibility for in the future. Mention was made by Councillor Stewart of the Local Boundary Commission's assessment of the IWC Governance processes.

Town Councillors then raised a range of issues including:

- Whether the IWC would consider transferring IWC property in Ryde to the Town Council for community use
- The likelihood of Community Highways Fund being reactivated by the IWC
- Whether the IWC will be setting a date for the Community Right to Challenge/Bid processes
- Whether any additional IWC services will be devolved to town and parish councils as a result of the IWC's budget setting process
- Whether the IWC would consider transferring parks and beaches to the Town Council
- The future of community fire stations
- The use of income generated by amenity hire in Ryde
- Why the IWC had not made use of the budget Ryde Town Council had set aside for Planning Enforcement – this wasn't intended to fund an officer as Cllr Stewart had been advised by the Head of Place at IWC.

- Parking issues

In response to the questions asked Councillor Stewart indicated that:

- The IWC may well reinstate the Community Highways Fund
- The IWC is compiling an asset register that will be sent to parish and town councils.
- The Town Council will be provided with details of any services or assets that the IWC may be considering divesting itself of as soon as possible given the timeframe of the Town Council's own budget setting process.
- The IWC may make capital expenditure available to parish and town councils for projects that improve the quality of life for residents

In response to a query about the cutting of the power supply to the former Ryde Theatre, and the impact of this on Ryde's pub watch and shop watch schemes, Councillor Stewart asked Councillor Axford as local Member to take this issue forward. The Clerk agreed to supply Cllr Axford with all relevant correspondence about this issue to date. Questions were also asked about why Newport is always the focus for support services for drug users and it was indicated by Councillor Lilley that Aspire may be bidding to provide these services at the former Ryde Youth Centre. Councillor Lilley also asked about the future of the Bus Shelter project.

186/17 VISION STATEMENT FOR RYDE TOWN COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the following Vision Statement for the Town Council be adopted.

“To support and enhance the health, well-being and economy of Ryde to the benefit of residents, local businesses and visitors within a culture that makes best use of our heritage and the beauty of Ryde”.

187/17 FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

The recommendations arising from the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 22 November 2017 were considered and it was **RESOLVED that**

A. MARKETING GRANTS:

- i. **That a grant of £2,000 be awarded to IW Pride**
- ii. **That a grant of £4,000 be awarded to Ryde Carnival Association**

Councillor Tim Wakeley was pleased to report that a total of £17,500 in marketing grants had been distributed to a range of community groups around Ryde and this had helped assist groups to put events of for the Town.

B. BEACH SAFETY AND FIRST AID CONTRACT

- i. That the existing specification for the beach safety and first aid service be retained and that a procurement process be commenced in accordance with the Council's approved Contract Standing Orders so that new contract arrangements can be put in place to enable the continuance of this service.**
- ii. That the contract be awarded for a period of 4 years, with a potential maximum of one-year extension to be agreed by the Council, to maximise contractor interest in the service, enable economy of scale to be achieved and give best value to the Council.**

C. TOILET CLEANING CONTRACT

- i. That Option 2 as detailed in the report be approved as the best value and most economic option.**

188/17 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 19 September 2017 were received.

189/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 5 February 2018 - Methodist Church, Garfield Road, Ryde.

The meeting closed at 9:04pm.

Signed Mayor/Chairman

Date.....

