



RYDE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RYDE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 2 MARCH 2015 IN THE RYDE METHODIST CHURCH, GARFIELD ROAD, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT COMMENCING AT 7:00PM

Present: Councillors: Henry Adams, Adrian Axford, Conrad Gauntlett, Brian Harris, Roi Milburn (Mayor), David Moore, Jill Moore, Malcolm Ross, Gary Taylor, Tim Wakeley, Phil Warren, Wayne Whittle and David Woodward.

In Attendance

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

Also Present

Isle of Wight County Press Reporter
Members of the Public
Sgt Matt Wilford, Ryde Safer Neighbourhood Team

Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

The Clerks received a note from a resident with a question to be forwarded to the police, who were unable to attend the meeting and had given apologies.

29/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Karen Lucioni, Ian Stephens and Ivor Warlow.

30/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

31/15 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no individual requests for dispensation.

32/15 MINUTES

RESOLVED the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 2 February 2015 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Mayor.

Councillor Malcolm Ross joined the meeting at 19.05pm and had no interests to declare.

33/15 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Councillor Henry Adams raised his concerns about the increase in dog fouling at Ryde Cemetery. It was agreed that this issue would be raised with the Isle of Wight Council as a matter of urgency.

Councillor Adrian Axford requested that the Parish Meeting take place prior to the Full Council scheduled to be held on Monday 13 April at 7pm, to try and improve attendance and to make best use of everybody's time. It was noted that this meeting was not a meeting of the Town Council but an opportunity for the electors of Ryde to hear the Annual Report of the Mayor and presentations from other groups in the community. It was agreed that the Parish Meeting be held from 6pm – to approximately 6:45pm on Monday 13 April in order to allow for a change over to the Town Council meeting.

Councillor Conrad Gauntlett asked that the replacement of street lamps in the Ryde Conservation Area be raised with Island Roads as the heritage lamps were not being replaced as like for like.

Councillor Wayne Whittle asked if there would be a consultation process around the proposal to pedestrianise the High Street. He was reassured that there would be.

Councillor Malcolm Ross asked when the new town council website would be ready. The Clerks advised that as soon as the transfer of the .gov domain had taken place the website would be ready to launch.

34/15 REPORTS

There was no police report.

There were no Isle of Wight Councillor reports.

35/15 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced

- he had attended the 85th birthday of the Isle of Wight Music, Dance and Drama Festival at Ryde School.
- he had attended a planning meeting for the Civic Service
- he had spoken with a researcher for BBC Radio about the Isle of Wight and in particular Ryde being a wonderful place and the 2nd most popular holiday resort according to a recent survey.

36/15 REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Councillor Adrian Axford reported that he had received letters of thanks from The Meeting Place and Historic Ryde Society for the donations of funding from his Ward allocation.

Councillor Brian Harris reported that he had attended a talk at the Riverside Centre with the police and fire commissioner.

Councillor Malcom Ross was pleased to report that he had attended a meeting about the Pearl Izumi Tour Series Cycle Race due to take place in Ryde on Thursday 14 May 2015.

Councillor David Moore had attended a meeting for Armed Forces Day and gave an update on the event planned for 2015.

Councillor Tim Wakeley had attended a briefing on the progress of the Area Action Plan. He had also attended a Masterplan presentation by the Chamber of Commerce with stakeholders and was pleased to report that on 10th March at The Methodist Church, the Town Council were pleased to be facilitating a wider public presentation by The Chamber of Commerce and Isle of Wight Council, where feedback would be received by members of the public and taken into consideration by Ryde Town Council when they asked to comment at a later stage.

Councillor Phil Warren had recently, with the Responsible Financial Officer attended an evening in Ventnor and heard a talk by a UK academic expert on the issues facing Coastal Towns. He also reported that The Down to the Coast initiative was progressing and he had recently met with Natural Enterprise and visited the Monktonmead Brook.

Councillor Phil Warren was pleased to report that he had been involved with the project on Platform 2, Esplanade and that work had already begun to create a viewable feature by constructing a garden with a Victorian plaque. It was hoped that this project be incorporated into Ryde in Bloom/South & South East in Bloom 2015.

37/15 MY LIFE A FULL LIFE

Mr Paul Saville from Community Action, Isle of Wight gave a presentation on the My Life a Full Life project.

38/15 FINANCE COMMITTEE

Members considered the recommendations from the Finance Committee meeting held on 25 February 2015 and it was **RESOLVED** that

DISCRETIONARY SERVICES

Principal Parks (Grounds Maintenance Contract)

- i. The Town Council is minded to make an annual contribution to the summer bedding element of the Grounds Maintenance Contract in the town's principal parks of around £23,000 in 2015/16, £24,150 in 2016/17 and £25,357 in 2017/18. These figures allow for an up to 5% annual contract uplift if required.
- ii. The Isle of Wight Council be asked to consult the Town Council on all aspects of the principal parks element of the Grounds Maintenance Contract going forward and that monitoring and review arrangements be agreed between both councils as soon as practicable.
- iii. No contribution be made at present by the Town Council towards the bin emptying or grass cutting elements of the Grounds Maintenance Contract.
- iv. The Isle of Wight Council be asked to monitor the implications of the proposed reductions in bin emptying and grass cutting and liaise with the town council to review these on annual basis.

Community Sites (Grounds Maintenance Contract)

- i. The Town Council is minded to set aside budget to make a contribution to the Isle of Wight Council Grounds Maintenance Contract for the current level of maintenance of the community sites named in the letter dated 23 January 2015 of around £12,000 in 2015/16, £12,600 in 2016/17 and £13,230 in 2017/18. These figures allow for an up to 5% annual contract uplift if required.
- ii. The Isle of Wight Council be asked to consult the Town Council on this element of the Contract going forward and that monitoring and review arrangements be agreed between both councils as soon as practicable.

Environment Officers

- i. The Town Council is minded to make a contribution to the Isle of Wight Council Environment Officer service that would enable Ryde to have a dedicated officer for three days a week at a cost of around £15,000 in 2015/16, £15,750 in 2016/17 and £16,537 in 2017/18.

2017/18. These figures allow for an up to 5% increase in oncosts.

- ii. The services be provided by the Environment Officer to be determined through ongoing discussion between the Isle of Wight Council and the Town Council.
- iii. Monitoring and review arrangements be agreed between both Councils as soon as practicable.

Playgrounds and Replacement Play Equipment

- i. A budget of £7,000 be set aside in 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 for the occasional replacement of play equipment should the Isle of Wight Council not fund these capital works.
- ii. A process for assessing the Town Council's funding for any replacement of play equipment be agreed between both councils as soon as practicable and that any Town Council expenditure be monitored by the Town Council's Finance Committee.
- iii. The Isle of Wight Council be asked to consult with the Town Council on any on-going or future review of playgrounds.

Beach Cleaning

- i. The Town Council is minded to make a contribution to retain the beach cleaning contract, including the mechanical clean element, in Ryde from 1 May 2015 and that up to £30,000 be set aside from the 2015/16 budget for this purpose.
- ii. The Town Council continue to work with other parishes and Isle of Wight Council in order to secure the best possible cost(s) and going forward.
- iii. Monitoring and review arrangements be agreed between both councils as soon as practicable,

WATERSIDE POOL

- i. A funding contribution of £30,000 in both 2016/17 and in 2017/18 to the Waterside Pool be approved in principle subject to future presentation by the Waterside Community Trust to the Finance Committee of the Trust's full Business Plan and cash flow forecasts up to 2018.

39/15 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that

- i. Payments of those invoices shown on Appendix 1, totalling £1001.13 be approved.
- ii. Payments shown on Appendix 2, which have been made under Standing Orders 65 (2) and (3) were noted.

40/15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 13 April 2015, Methodist Church, Garfield Road, Ryde.

41/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded for the following items and they are instructed to withdraw – in accordance with Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2) and Standing Order no.80 – staffing matters.

42/15 PERSONNEL AND GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT PANEL

Members considered the confidential recommendations from the Personnel and Grievance Management Panel meeting held on 27 February 2015 and it was **RESOLVED that**

- i. **The amended Job Specification and Job Description for the Planning and Administration Officer be approved.**
- ii. **Councillors Roi Milburn, Tim Wakeley and Phil Warren be appointed as the interview board for the recruitment process.**
- iii. **The appointment of the Planning and Administration Officer selected by the Panel be delegated to the Clerks.**

The meeting closed at 8:35pm.

Signed Mayor/Chairman

Date.....