



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS 5.30PM

8 JULY 2024

Members present:-

Councillors: Steph Toogood (Chair), John Watkins, Cassie Bailey, James Toogood

Clerk: Katherine Baldwin

VTC Staff: Catherine Hammond, Teresa Preston

MINUTE SUBJECT

14/24 PUBLIC FORUM

There was one member of the public present.

The matter of a Tourist Information point for Ventnor was raised. It was noted that the Post Office previously had leaflets. Cllr Steph Toogood noted that she had recently been in the Red Funnel terminal and there were no leaflets on Ventnor. Cllr Steph Toogood explained that the previous Business Development Officer had been tasked with arranging for a Town Map to be created. The current status of this project is unknown. Cllr Steph Toogood asked Members and staff to look for the Town Map that had previously been distributed by Ventnor Exchange. Cllr James Toogood noted that leaflets had previously been available outside the Beach Safety Hut. It was noted that walking maps had also been requested. Cllr Steph Toogood asked Members and staff to look at other leaflets in town to see if Ventnor is featured. Cllr Toogood suggested that some work would be needed on Tourist Information to have something in place for next year.

15/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Dave Logan.

16/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

17/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Business and Community Committee meeting of 12 June 2024, having been previously circulated to Members were taken as read.

It was unanimously resolved to:

Accept the minutes of the Business and Community Committee meeting of 12 June 2024.

18/24 MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY FUND AND GRANTS TO LOCAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The Town Clerk explained that the Committee needed to consider whether to have a sub committee for the Community Support Fund or whether to absorb it into the main Business and Community Committee. It was noted that the preference was to include the Community Support Fund in the Business and Community Committee rather than forming a separate sub committee. Cllr Steph Toogood explained that the Community Support Fund originally supported initiatives connected with VTC but the remit was widened to other charities and organisations in Ventnor. Cllr Steph Toogood asked the Town Clerk to report back to the Committee with a financial report for the Community Support Fund.

19/24 USE AND HIRE OF THE GREEN ROOM

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that more requests to hire the Green Room had been received as a result of groups being told they will no longer be able to hire St Wilfrid's Hall from the end of August. The Town Clerk explained that the current system for hiring the Green Room

was confusing for both staff and users as it was not always clear which category to use in terms of allowing the room to be used for free or whether to charge for hire. Cllr James Toogood suggested that the Terms and Conditions or hire are reviewed. Cllr John Watkins suggested that the Committee review the Terms and Conditions and then recommend changes to Full Council. It was agreed that an emergency meeting of the Committee should be held on 24th July to review the Terms and Conditions and charging system for the Green Room.

The Town Clerk suggested that the room could be split using the partition depending on the size of the groups wishing to use the room. It was noted that the piano took up some space and could be donated elsewhere. Catherine Hammond and Teresa Preston would follow up on the matter of the piano.

20/24 SKATE PARK

Cllr Steph Toogood noted that the Skate Park looks good and is always busy. It was noted that there would be a memorial plaque installed at the Skate Park in memory of a local recently deceased.

21/24 UPDATE ON LIST OF LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Catherine Hammond and Teresa Preston informed the Committee that a comprehensive list of local community groups, charities and organisations already exists in the form of Ventnor Local website. It was suggested that the website link could be added to the VTC website.

22/24 SUMMER BUSKING

Cllr Steph Toogood explained that she organises the Summer Busking every year. It was originally at Spring Hill Gardens but it is now held by the Paddling Pool. The season this year will start on 27th July and will finish on 31st August. The busking takes place on Saturdays between 12 noon and 2pm. Catherine Hammond would do a poster to advertise the busking. Cllr Steph Toogood explained that the money goes to a charity chosen by the performer or group. Cllr Steph Toogood explained that a Councillor would usually greet the performer or group. Cllr Steph Toogood would contact Councillors to set up a rota for the meet and greet.

23/24 PIRATE FEST

Cllr Steph Toogood gave an overview of the Pirate Fest 2024. Wednesday 14th August would be the Children's Procession for Carnival week. Teresa Preston would send Cllr Steph Toogood a list of entries. Thursday 15th August would take place at the Spyglass with music, lollipop limbo, pirate limbo and singers. Friday 16th August is Ventnor Day but there will also be live music at the Spyglass. Saturday 17th August would be games on the beach. Teresa Preston would be organising a Treasure Hunt. Sophie Blake has offered some small pirate treasure chests for the Treasure Hunt. Cllr Steph Toogood would liaise with Teresa Preston regarding the treasure chests. The Town Clerk would liaise with Cllr Steph Toogood regarding the poster and displaying it on the VTC website.

24/24 ACTION LOG

Cllr Watkins confirmed that the service for hearing aid checks was no longer available. Anyone requiring assistance would need to go to the ENT at St Mary's Hospital.

Cllr Steph Toogood had distributed copies of the surgery newsletter to various groups and organisations in town. Catherine Hammond had distributed copies to the Wellbeing Group and had received some feedback which she would pass on to the surgery. Catherine Hammond had also flagged the newsletter on Facebook.

There is due to be another meeting to discuss the possible new Ventnor Business Association.

25/24 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Extraordinary Meeting Wednesday 24th July at 5.30pm

Committee Meeting Monday 19th August at 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE
