



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS 5.30PM

24 SEPTEMBER 2024

Members present:-

Councillors: Steph Toogood (Chair), John Watkins, James Toogood, Linda Jefferies, Mark Jefferies (non-member of the Committee in attendance)

Clerk: Katherine Baldwin

VTC Officers: Catherine Hammond

MINUTE	SUBJECT	DRAFT
54/24	PUBLIC FORUM There were 5 members of the public present.	
55/24	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE There were no apologies for absence.	
56/24	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no Declarations of Interest.	
57/24	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the Business and Community Committee meeting of 24 September 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 24 September 2024.	
58/24	POVERTY The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer gave an overview of the Poverty Challenge Week event held at St Catherine's Church. It was proposed that further meetings could take place on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Approximately thirty people attended the event at St Catherine's where they discussed questions from the Challenge Poverty website. The event was attended by organisations including Living Well, Barnardos, Community Action Isle of Wight, Baby Box and Thursday Kitchen. There was some discussion about the collation of data to know whether the right people are being reached and the possibility of developing an umbrella group to access more funding was suggested. Cllr John Watkins noted that umbrella groups have to be organised and those already providing assistance in the community are stretched to capacity. Cllr Steph Toogood suggested having a meeting of the organisations to discuss the possibility of an umbrella group. It was noted that the film created by David George needs to be uploaded to YouTube and be made available to Councillors who have not had an opportunity to view it.	
59/24	YOUTH GROUP UPDATE This item was postponed as the Youth Officer was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.	

60/24 TOURISM

A) SIGNAGE FROM THE TOWN TO OTHER AREAS

Cllr Steph Toogood had obtained forms from Island Roads to request signage and posts had been identified. The Policy, Projects and Premises Officer would follow up on this matter.

B) LEESON ROAD CLOSURE UPDATES

Cllr Steph Toogood informed that Committee that there were no updates at this stage.

61/24 COMMUNITY HORTICULTURAL WORK

A) VENTNOR FRIENDS OF WIGHT HORTICULTURE

Cllr Steph Toogood informed the Committee that the Friends of Botanic Gardens had reformed to become the Ventnor Friends of Wight Horticulture and they had expressed an interest in getting more involved in the Town.

62/24 VENTNOR DAY/VENTNOR SUMMER FAYRE

It was noted that the proposed date for this event clashes with the Scooter Rally. A new date of 12th July had been proposed but it transpired that it would clash with the County Show. The preferred date would be Sunday 6th July from 12 noon until 5pm. The businesses could then make use of the Saturday.

It was agreed to:

- a) Hold the event on Sunday 6th July at Ventnor Park from 12 noon until 5pm with a focus on community and charity.
 - b) Rename the event to “Ventnor Summer Festival” as there is an indication that the businesses may make use of Saturday 5th July along the lines of Small Business Saturday.
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63/24 PIRATE FEST 2025

Cllr Steph Toogood explained that Pirate Fest 2025 would be slightly enhanced with three full days of programmes following the Carnival Procession on the Wednesday. Cllr Steph Toogood explained that holding an event during Carnival Week is a model that was used by Ventnor Fringe when it started until it was able to stand on its own.

64/24 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

In view of the confidential nature of the following items:

It was resolved under the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings (1960) Act: to exclude the Public and Press whilst the next items are under discussion as they are of a confidential nature.

The meeting closed at 6.35pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE
