



# 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, Jordan Royl

MINUTE SUBJECT

DRAFT

44/24

PUBLIC FORUM

There was 1 member of the public present.

45/24

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

46/24

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

47/24

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Business and Community Committee meeting of 21 August 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 21 August 2024.

48/24

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Cllr Steph Toogood had met with the Town Clerk and had discussed potential options for extending the season. It was noted that Ventnor Day had taken place on different days and dates.

As per the paper, it was suggested that an event could be held over two days with a Food Festival on one day and a community day on the other. This could be held over the late May Bank Holiday.

It was noted that the financial loss for Ventnor Day 2024 was £683. Cllr Watkins suggested that Ventnor Day is held in August in 2025 and remains in Ventnor Park. Cllr Watkins suggested that there are ways to ensure that Ventnor Day does not make a loss including amending the admission fee and asking stall holders to pay for pitches in advance. Cllr Watkins suggested holding the event on a Sunday as Saturday can be a changeover day for accommodation.

It was suggested that Ventnor Day 2025 take place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August from 12 noon – 5pm.

Cllr Steph Toogood suggested that the Summer Festival proposal is presented to the Ventnor Business Association.

The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer would bring more details to the next meeting about Ventnor Day 2025. It was suggested that only one space is used for entertainment in the park rather than two as per previous years.

## 49/24 TOURISM

### A) TRAIL APP

The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer had looked at the App provider used by Ross-on-Wye and the cost would be £7000 with a further cost of £650 for support and maintenance. There is an option to add one trail on to the main App at a cost of £300 per year. The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer explained that there may be other options to link into the Ventnor Town Council website but it would not be an interactive option.

It was noted that there is no interactivity on the Heritage Board Trail. It was suggested that a QR code could be added to each Heritage Board.

### B) ORIENTEERING

The Youth Officer gave an update and had been put in contact with someone who could produce a map. A PDF of the map could be put on the website. The Youth Officer had procured ten markers and control punchers.

### C) HERITAGE BOARDS

There was a discussion about replacing the Heritage Boards and the work required to replace them due to the original designs not being retained by the printers. It was noted that the Assistant Town Clerk would be working on this matter.

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## 50/24 YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

The Youth Officer gave an update and explained that the group had been working on craft to be submitted to the MacNaughton Howe Festival.

Dance Lessons would be offered at St Margaret's Hall and a dance teacher has been hired. There will be a small charge of £8 for four sessions. There would be sessions for under 12 year olds and groups for 12 years old and over.

The Youth Officer explained that some funds could be raised from those who use Easy Fundraising and select the Youth Group to receive the money.

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## 51/24 CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Cllr Steph Toogood noted that Small Business Saturday is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> December. The Undercliffe Singers would have a concert on 13<sup>th</sup> December. St Catherine's School would be holding a Fayre on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Ventnor Carnival would be holding Christmas in Ventnor on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

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## 52/24 LEESON ROAD CLOSURE UPDATE

The Town Clerk explained that she had attended a meeting at County Hall. Colin Rowland, Strategic Director of Community Services at the Isle of Wight Council had asked about the needs of the businesses and the Town Clerk had explained that the Isle of Wight Council Officers could liaise with Ventnor Town Council. The Town Clerk followed this up with an email to the Strategic Director of Community Services who responded that Ventnor had to be considered with other areas of the island that had been affected economically and that this would be done in conjunction with the Island Economic Development Board.

The Isle of Wight Council were now estimating that works are likely to take six weeks rather than ten weeks.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 5.30pm

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The meeting closed at 6.30pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE

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DRAFT