



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS 5.00PM

4 MARCH 2025

Members present:-

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

Non-Committee Councillors: Sam Smith

Clerk: Katherine Burden

VTC Officers: Catherine Hammond, Morgan Williams, Jordan Royl

MINUTE SUBJECT

DRAFT

14/25 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

Cllr Sam Smith noted his interest in the Library as his grandparents were heavily involved in the Library campaign. There is an indication that there may be a reduction in Ventnor Town Council's contribution. It was asked whether Isle of Wight Council will pick up these costs.

15/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies received.

16/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

17/25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2025

The Minutes of the Business and Community Committee meeting of 6 February 2025, 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 6 February 2025.

18/25 VENTNOR LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

It was noted that there is a lot going on at the Library and could become a more valuable asset.

The Policy, Projects and Premises Officer gave an overview of the contributions, the history of the agreement. In 2019 the current agreement expired although Ventnor Town Council continued to pay the costs. The steering group meetings with the Isle of Wight Council were not held during Covid.

The Isle of Wight Council and officers at Ventnor Town Council would like to re-engage with the Steering Group to have a meaningful input.

Cllr Steph Toogood asked if someone from Isle of Wight Council could give a presentation to the Town Council prior to any decisions being made as to the new agreement.

It was noted that the Library can offer a range of services.

The Youth Officer noted that there was a scheme at Christmas to give a Library Card as a gift.

It was asked whether there could be some negotiations in relation to the cleaning and staff costs.

It was noted that Ventnor Town Council should work on increasing footfall to the Library.

It was unanimously resolved to:

Invite the Isle of Wight Council officers to give a presentation at the May Town Meeting with a decision on negotiations to be made at the June Town Council Meeting.

19/25 **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 5.40pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE

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