



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S
TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MINUTES

MONDAY 26TH April 2021

Present: Cllrs, Bailey, B Bayford, J Bayford, R Binks, R. K. Binks, Buckley, Dexter Garner, P. Moore, W. Moore, Parsons, Rawf, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage.

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

Media and Marketing Assistant: Abi Barton

521. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

522. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

523. OPENESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman reminded those present of the right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

524. MINUTES

Members received and considered the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd March 2021

RESOLVED: that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman at the next opportunity.

525. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Members received the minutes of the following Committee Meetings:

- Planning Committee held on 1 March 2021 (confirmed) and 29 March 2021 (unconfirmed)

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

526. QUESTIONS

Two members of the public were in attendance and both spoke about the need for the Viking Bay lift to be operational this summer. They were also concerned about signage on the seafront encouraging disabled visitors to use a dangerously steep slope. The chairman confirmed the Council's commitment to access for all throughout the town and reported that a TDC cabinet report on the future of the Viking Bay lift and the Ramsgate lift was expected in June.

527. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman gave two reports. The first concerned Town Forum, a very positive meeting which had taken place the previous week and at which various groups from the town had reported on their activities and networked to ensure strong partnerships for the coming summer season. The second concerned the recent spate of anti social behaviour at Mockett's Wood. Cllrs Garner and Savage along with the PCSO, the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk had visited to discuss the problems with the volunteers. It was agreed to launch an education campaign in the first instance, with extra signage for visitors and a leaflet to be posted through the doors of neighbours by the PCSO reminding them of the importance of phoning the police whenever they were aware of anti-social behaviour occurring.

528. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY

i) Members received an update from Cllr Garner

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

ii) Members received and considered the action plan.

RESOLVED: That the plan be reviewed at the first meeting of the sub-committee, should the next item be approved

iii) Members considered a proposal to afford the group the status of a sub-committee

RESOLVED: That the Working Party become a sub-committee of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

iv) Members received and considered a draft terms of reference for the new committee.

RESOLVED: That the document be accepted with changes to the procedural point about budgeting arrangements.

v) Members considered the membership of the committee

RESOLVED: That this matter be considered along with the membership of all other committees at the Annual Meeting in May.

529. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

I) Members received information concerning remote meetings and considered the impact on the Annual Council meeting scheduled for May 17.

RESOLVED:

i) That it is not practical to bring forward the Annual Meeting to 5 May in order to hold it remotely

ii) That if the legislation is changed in time the preferred option will be to meet remotely.

iii) That the Council will also plan for a face to face meeting at Pierremont Hall following strict covid guidelines. Numbers of attendees will be limited to 30.

II) Members received a report from the Clerk concerning the proposed splitting of the role of chairman and mayor and considered how best to manage the various duties of the chairman.

RESOLVED: That having considered the four options presented by the Clerk, the council will continue with the option currently followed; this being one councillor to be appointed chairman and then assume the title of mayor with all its civic duties and functions should he or she wish.

530. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Members received the payment schedule for the period 19 March to 19 April 2021.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

531. VIKING BAY LIFT

i) Members received and considered a private motion from Cllr Mike Garner to address the short term future of the lift.

BSPTC does not support the permanent closure of the Viking Bay Lift and calls on TDC to explore all options, including investigation of alternate funding streams, to make sure the lift is opened as soon as possible.

Cllr Saunders proposed an amendment which was seconded by Cllr Ros Binks.

RESOLVED: Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council acknowledges the importance of safe accessibility to the Viking Bay beach and lower promenade. We welcome the promised TDC report on the Viking Bay lift in June and call on TDC to make the lift operational and safe as soon as possible."

ii) Members received and considered a private motion from Cllr Bailey to address the long term future of the lift.

BSPTC calls on TDC to receive a share of the Levelling Up fund as a longer term solution for the lift but also inclusive of a major regeneration project for the seafront infrastructure.

Members approved in principle but felt that the wording could be strengthened to enable the Town Clerk to approach TDC with regard to accessing funding.

RESOLVED: That the that the wording of the resolution be delegated to Cllrs Bob Bayford and Ruth Bailey.

[Final wording subsequently agreed: Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council instructs the Town Clerk to liaise with Thanet District Council regarding a bid for funds from the Levelling Up fund for a major regeneration project for the seafront to include the lift.]

532. KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Members received a document outlining the benefits of membership and considered renewing for 2021/22

RESOLVED: That the membership be renewed at a cost of £1749 plus vat.

533. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Members received and considered a draft calendar of meetings for the 2021/22 civic year and the rationale for change.

RESOLVED: that the draft be approved in principle with some minor amendments before presentation at the Annual Meeting.

The following item was discussed following a resolution to exclude the public under Standing Order 3d due to the confidential nature of the business.

534. STAFF ISSUES

See confidential minutes

Members of the public were readmitted to the meeting

535. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS

The date of the next meeting will be 17 May 2021 (Annual meeting)

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 20.53