



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 27 November 2023 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs.

Present: Cllrs J Bright, K Bright (Chairman), R Farooki (from 7.05pm), M Garner, J Hobson, C Kemp, P Moore, A Munns, E Orhan, S Roberts,

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman, Cllr K Bright welcomed everyone and drew their attention to the openness and transparency legislation confirmed in several notices around the room.

295. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received and accepted from Cllrs J Bayford, C Leys and K Pressland.

Cllrs J Nichols & G Rusiecki were absent.

296. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

297. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That with an amendment to Date of Next Meeting, the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 October 2023 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the chairman.

298. MATTERS ARISING - none

299. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S.

300. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6 November 2023.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

301. EVENTS, LEISURE & TOURISM COMMITTEE

i) Members received and considered the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 November 2023.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

7.05pm Cllr Farooki entered the meeting

ii) Members received and considered the feasibility study/risk assessment for the under 18s party. Members suggested measures that could be taken to reduce the risk of some elements of the project.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk make the adjustments and the document can be accepted as fit for purpose.

302. COMMUNITY ASSETS COMMITTEE

i) Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20 November 2023.

RESOLVED: min 121.c) That the underspend from cost code Beach Security be vired to cost code Staff Salaries to allow payment for an adviser at Victoria Gardens prior to the appointment of permanent gardeners in the Spring.

ii) Members received and considered a quote to refurbish two sash windows. The Town Clerk explained the contractor was on the preferred contractors' list and had carried out similar work for the Town Council several times over a period of two years.

RESOLVED: That the quote from Ability Sash be accepted at a cost of £4420 plus vat. That future sash window works must be put out to tender to ensure best value for the taxpayer.

303. COMMUNICATIONS

i) The Town Mayor reported on the events at which he had represented the Council this month, including the Remembrance event at Maurice House, an awards evening at The Charles Dickens School, The Westwood Cross Christmas Lights switch on event, and the Thanet Wanderers supporters' celebration match and lunch. He has also spoken about the Council's Cleaner, Safer, Kinder Action Plan on Academy FM. He wished to thank Council staff for the recent Remembrance Day Service and Christmas Market which had both been well attended and appreciated by the community.

ii) The Town Clerk reported that she had received paper copies of the Sea Link proposal from National Grid which involves a cable link from Suffolk to Kent, making landfall at Pegwell Bay and ending at a converter station on the Minster Marshes. The Public Consultation runs until 18 December 2023.

RESOLVED: That a formal response be discussed at the planning committee meeting on 3 December, for approval at the Council meeting of 11 December.

iii) The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mike Garner informed those present of the sad passing of Camille Sutton who had been a volunteer with the Town Council for more than twenty years, firstly as tree warden and latterly as secretary and lead volunteers of Friends of Mockett's Wood. A floral tribute and card of condolence to be sent. Representatives of the Twon Council will attend the funeral on 13 December.

304. FINANCE

i) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 1 November 2023 to 22 November 2023. (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved

ii) Members received and approved a report concerning receipts for the period 21 October to 22 November 2023.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

iii) Members received information about works or services authorised between meetings under financial regulation 4.1c, 4.1d and 4.5, (see attached).

iv) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 22 November 2023 to 27 November 2023 when the agenda was sent out (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved.

305. COUNCIL VAN

Members received and considered options for a replacement electric van for the Town Council's Facilities Team. The Town Clerk explained that the matter had been discussed at the previous week's Community Assets committee meeting but Councillors had requested further options to consider.

The latest report compared leasing a vehicle, purchasing new or nearly new, and remaining with the current diesel van.

RESOLVED:

i) That the Council wishes to trade in the current vehicle for an electric one.

ii) One further option to be explored; a groundsman's vehicle such as is used on golf courses. This would be useful for the forthcoming work at Victoria Gardens but can also be used on the roads.

iii) All options to be considered at the next meeting and a final decision to be made.

306. VICTORIA GARDENS

Members received an update from the Town Clerk in which she explained all the key elements of the project were now in place. She proposed the establishment of a steering group to make final key decisions on overall vision and style of planting and to pull all the elements together.

RESOLVED:

i) That a steering group comprising the Town Clerk, the Deputy Town Clerk, the Operations Officer, Cllr Pressland, Cllr J Bright, Cllr S Roberts and Vanessa Hibbert be formed. Cllrs Nichols and Rusiecki also to be invited, along with representatives of the Town Team gardening group. Terms of Reference to stipulate that only councillors will have a vote on matters.

ii) That the Steering group decide on the overall strategy for the gardens before turning over the day-to-day management of the project to the Allotments and Land Committee.

iii) That TDC to be consulted on H&S matters and a risk assessment sought. If one is not available, SAMS be appointed to devise one.

307. KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME

Members received details about the scheme which recognises the contribution local people make to their communities.

RESOLVED: That members consider who they would like to nominate and a vote be taken at the January Council meeting.

308. POLICIES REVIEW

Members received and reviewed the Town Council's Commemorative Plaque (Blue Plaque) policy. It was noted that no changes were necessary.

RESOLVED: That the document be accepted as fit for purpose. However it only needs to be reviewed every two years rather than annually. (clause 7)

ii) Members received and reviewed the Town Council's Document Management and Archiving Policy. It was noted that no changes were necessary.

RESOLVED: That the document be accepted as fit for purpose.

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

309. TENANT ISSUES

Members received a report from the Town Clerk detailing the online meeting which had taken place on Thursday 9 November as requested by the tenant and reported at the last meeting under minute 292.

RESOLVED:

i) That the tenant's request to extend his lease cannot be granted.

ii) If the tenant wishes the Council to consider granting a new lease there are several conditions which must be met. The Town Clerk will contact him to explain and update Councillors in due course.

8.43pm Cllr Hobson left the meeting.

310. LEGAL ISSUES

The Town Clerk reported that despite having waited four months for a lease to be drawn up for the Viking suite, the version that had been received from the solicitor the previous week still falls far short of what the Council has requested. The delays are jeopardising the new tenancy.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council engage with another solicitor who can produce a robust commercial lease which fulfils the Council's needs.

311. STAFF ISSUES

i) The Town Clerk reported that the post of part-time, temporary events supervisor has been filled and the new member of staff will start in January.

ii) The Town Clerk's appraisal is due in January.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bayford be asked whether she would like to undertake it. If not, both Cllrs Bright and Roberts are willing to do so.

iii) Members received information on the rates of pay for all staff as agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services applicable from 1 April 2023.

RESOLVED: that the Council approves the implement of this pay award for all staff, including those who have left the Town Council's employ since April.

Members of the public were permitted to re-enter the meeting.

312. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 December 2023 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 8.58pm

Signed _____

Date _____