



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 22 April 2024 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs.

Present: Cllrs J Bayford, J Bright, K Bright (Chairman), R Farooki, M Garner, J Hobson, P Moore, S Roberts, G Rusiecki

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.

388. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received and accepted from Cllrs Kemp, Leys, Munns, Nicholls and Orhan.

Cllr Pressland was absent.

389. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

390. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 March 2024 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

391. MATTERS ARISING

Min 370: the Town Clerk reported that no-one had contacted her regarding setting up a group to comment on proposed boundary changes. Cllr Garner remarked that there was still time to comment. He offered to send round notes after attending a briefing the following day and prompt a discussion after that.

Min 374: The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk had held a site meeting with the new Open Spaces Manager at TDC and discussed various projects. He will pursue the possibility of installing signage at each of the three entrances to Pierremont park.

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

none

393. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 April 2024.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

394. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27 March 2024.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

395. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 April 2024 and noted that the recommendations at min 152 would be dealt with later in the meeting.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

396. COMMUNICATIONS

i) The Town Mayor gave a report on his activities on behalf of the Council over the last month. (see attached).

ii) The Town Clerk reported that there were still spaces available on the Dementia Awareness Training course and these had also been opened up to the public. She also reminded councillors of the Community Festival taking place at Pierremont Hall on Saturday 27 April. Cllr Garner added that he had publicised the event during an interview at Academy FM over the weekend. The Town Clerk asked members to complete the committee nomination forms prior to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

397. FINANCE

i) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 26 March 2024 to 17 April 2024 (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved

ii) Members received and approved a report concerning receipts for the period 26 March 2024 to 17 April 2024.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

iii) Members received information about works or services authorised between meetings under financial regulation 4.1 as follows: -

- £3310.08 plus vat to Cyber Central for annual email licences (No.30)

RESOLVED: That the payment be approved.

iv) Members received a summary of staff salaries totalling £25,463 for the month of March.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

v) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 17 April 2024 when the agenda was sent out until 22 April 2024 (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved.

vi) Members received and considered a summary report of payments and receipts as to 31 March 2024 (end of Qu. 4) in line with Standing Order 17d

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

vii) Members received and noted the bank reconciliation report dated 31 March 2024 (end of Qu 4) in line with Fin Reg 2.2.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

398. STANDING ORDERS

Members received the document and considered whether it was fit for purpose.
RESOLVED: That with the recommendation made by the F&GP committee to increase the threshold at which procurement legislation applies (clauses 18.a.v and 18.c) from £25,000 to £30,000 incl. VAT the document can be accepted and approved.

399. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members received the document and considered whether it is fit for purpose.
RESOLVED: That with the recommendation made by the F&GP committee to increase the threshold at which procurement legislation applies (clauses 11.1.b and 11.1.h) from £25,000 to £30,000 incl.VAT the document can be accepted and approved.

400. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

i) Members received the document and considered adopting it for 2024-25
RESOLVED: the document is fit for purpose and can be adopted for 2024-25.

ii) Members considered moving funds from the current account to an interest bearing account. The RFO recommended one of the accounts linked to the current accounts: Unity Trust Instant access, or a new NatWest 35 or 95 day account.

RESOLVED: that contrary to the recommendation, £250,000 be moved from the Unity Trust Account current account to the Nationwide Instant Access account in order to take advantage of higher interest rates.

401. PRIVATE MOTION

Members received and considered a motion from Cllr Garner on the Thanet Fairtrade initiative.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Garner will ask a representative to attend a future meeting to discuss the initiative and see how the town Council can support it.

402. SCHOOL LIAISON COUNCILLOR

Members received Cllr J Bright's report and considered a proposal for a new project.

RESOLVED That Cllr Bright will assist the assistant head teacher at the Charles Dickens School to develop a School Forum comprising six members from each of the four secondary schools to meet quarterly at Pierremont Hall and discuss issues of importance to young people.

403. COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Members received the risk assessment for the new event and considered whether it is fit for adoption by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the document may be adopted by Council.

404. KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Members received the annual subscription for 2024-25 membership.

RESOLVED: that the subscription be approved at a cost of £1870.82 plus vat.

405. MAYORESS AND MILLENIUM CUPS

Members received a report on previous recipients and considered who to award this year.

RESOLVED:

i) That the Town Team be awarded the Mayoress Cup.

ii) That Sue Elliot and Brian Sleightholm be awarded the Millenium Cup for their work with the St Peter's Village tour.

406. POLICIES

ii) Members received an updated Flexible Working/Working from Home Policy and considered whether it is fit for adoption by Council.

RESOLVED: That the policy is fit for purpose and can be adopted by Council.

iii) Members received a new Safeguarding Policy and considered whether it is fit for adoption by Council.

RESOLVED: That the policy is fit for purpose and can be adopted by Council.

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

407. TENANCIES

i) Members received an update on tenancies and noted one tenant was still in arrears with rent and another owed more than £10,000 in unpaid electricity charges and legal fees.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk take legal advice on pursuing these monies owed to the public purse.

ii) Members received the draft Deed of Surrender requested by a third tenant.

RESOLVED: That the document is acceptable and can be used in the early surrender of the tenancy.

408. LEGAL MATTERS

The Town Clerk updated members with legal advice received from Brachers and TDC.

RESOLVED: that the consultancy role for Phase III will be put out to tender on Contract Finder by the end of the week.

Members of the public, had any been in attendance, would have been permitted to re-enter the meeting.

409. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 13 May 2024 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 8.53pm

Signed _____

Date _____