

Minutes of a meeting of VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL held at The Winter Gardens, Ventnor, I.W. on 13th August 2007.

Present: Councillor Mrs.S.J.Scoccia Town Mayor
 Councillor Mrs.M.Cawley Deputy Town Mayor
 Councillors C.J.Elvers, J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond, R.J.Mew, S.B.Milford
 and Mrs.V.Taylor.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A.C.Bartlett, Mrs.B.Lawson, B.M.Lucas and C.D.Mortimer.

1. PRAYERS

The meeting opened with prayers led by Rev.B.Downer.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2007 were approved and signed.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CCTV IN VENTNOR

At the invitation of the Town Mayor, Mr.Simon Dennis of the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership attended the meeting and briefed members of the options and process involved in the proposal by the Town Council to instal a CCTV system in Ventnor.

He outlined the Procurement Policy of the IW Council which if the Town Council elected for the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership to implement the system would be followed. This would ensure that the Council would get the best deal for the investment. To do so it would be necessary to prepare a specification of what is required and for this purpose the Town Council were invited to appoint say three representatives to meet with the appointed consultants on 8th October 2007 at 2pm.

It was envisaged that Ventnor Town Council would let the IW Council adopt the cameras and hence the monitoring and maintenance costs the only remaining cost to the Town Council would then be the annual transmission costs. These costs would not be identifiable until further along the tendering process.

As part of the installation process it would be ensured that cameras could be added to the system in subsequent years if the Town Council wished to do so and were prepared to fund extra installations.

Members put a number of questions to Mr. Dennis seeking further information.

At this stage it was agreed that it would be very advantageous to attend the meeting on 8th October 2007 and obtain more detailed costs before making any firm commitment and Councillors Mrs.S.J.Scoccia, J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond and R.J.Mew were appointed to attend the meeting.

The Town Mayor thanked Mr.Dennis for his attendance and the information which he had provided.

5. WINTER GARDENS COMMITTEE

The report of a meeting of the Winter Gardens Committee held on 16th July 2007 was received.

6. GRANTS COMMITTEE

The reports of the meetings of the Grants Committee held on 23rd July 2007 and 13th August 2007 were received and the recommendations contained therein were approved.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Town Clerk circulated copies of the revised Code of Conduct for members now in force together with Guidance for Members. It was Resolved - To adopt the new Code of Conduct including Clause 12.2 and to give formal notice of this decision.

8. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL OFFICER

The written report of the Financial Officer was circulated to members.

9. TOWN MAYOR'S CHARITY

The Town Mayor announced that her Charity for the year is for the funds of Ventnor Together.

10. PARISH PLAN

Mr. Mark Compton-Hall reported on the Ventnor Health Check which he was preparing with the Town Mayor. He also referred to the opportunity to obtain funding towards the cost of preparing a Parish Plan. This will be considered at the next meeting of the Town Council.

11. VENTNOR GARDEN ESTATE

Concern was expressed regarding the present condition of the Garden Estate at Upper Ventnor. Rubbish and waste was being dropped on the site and the poor state of the area attracted vandalism and nuisance to adjoining properties. Some years ago the Town Council had been made aware of plans for the development of this area but since then nothing had happened.

The Town Clerk was instructed to ask the IW Council for an update on the present position and to say that the Town Council wished to have an opportunity to discuss any proposals for the development of this area of Ventnor.

Town Mayor