

Minutes of a meeting of VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL held at The Winter Gardens, Ventnor, IW on 13th October 2008.

Present: Councillor Mrs.S.J.Scoccia Town Mayor
 Councillor Mrs. M.Cawley Deputy Town Mayor
 Councillors A.C.Bartlett, C.J.Elvers, J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond, B.M.Lucas, R.J.Mew,
 S.B.Milford, M/s D.Robinson and Mrs.V.Taylor.

1. PRAYERS

The meeting opened with prayers led by the Town Mayor.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2008 were approved and signed.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs.V.Taylor declared a personal interest in agenda item no. 8 relating to Medina High School.

4. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The report of the Town Centre Manager was received. He gave details of the extension of the system of using Town Centre Managers to cover the whole of the Island from 1st December 2008. The Safer Neighbourhood Partnership would now be known as the Community Safety Service and would merge groups including Town Centre Managers, Community Support Officers, Dog Wardens, the Drug Action Team and CCTV Management. The Island would be divided into 5 areas and all staff in the teams would be known as Community Support Managers.

5. REPORT OF THE WINTER GARDENS COMMITTEE DATED 22nd SEPTEMBER 2008

The report of the Committee was received. The Chairman was pleased to report that the repair of the drains at the side of the kitchen had now commenced.

6. UNDERCLIFF DRIVE - OPTIONAL APPRAISAL REPORT

A letter from Mr.M.Smith ofc the IW Council gave an update regarding the timetable for the preparation of the report which will evaluate all options for Undercliff Drive and the Whitwell Road route. The procurement procedure had commenced for the employment of a suitable consultant to identify and evaluate all possible options and it was expected that this appointment would be made by the end of March 2009 and for work to commence early in April. The study and report is likely to take three months with a draft being available during July 2009. Ventnor Town Council and Niton and Whitwell Parish Council will be consulted at key stages throughout the process and initial contact is likely to be during April 2009.

7. MEDINA HIGH SCHOOL

Correspondence was received from the Governing Body of Medina High School giving details of the decision taken to consult about changing the school category from Community to Foundation so that it can then acquire a Trust to become a Trust School. An explanation of the reasons was given to the Town Council who were asked to give their views on the proposals. It was Resolved - That the Town Council support the proposal that Medina High School should become a Foundation School and then a Trust School.

Councillor Mrs.V.Taylor did not vote upon this matter..

8. REPORT OF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The written report of the Financial Officer was circulated to members. Arising thereon it was agreed that the Winter Gardens Committee should give consideration to the use of a wind turbine reduce the cost of electricity to the building and consult with the IW Council who were soon to undertake an energy review for all their premises.

9. QUESTIONS

Several questions were asked and answers given.

Town Mayor