

Minutes of a meeting of VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL held at The Winter Gardens, Ventnor, I.W.on 10th November 2008.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.J.Elvers and J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond

1. PRAYERS

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

2. CASUAL VACANCY - VENTNOR EAST WARD

The Town Clerk formally reported the election of Mr.C.Welsford at the election held on 6th November 2008. Mr.Welsford had made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

The Town Mayor welcomed Mr.Welsford to membership of the Town Council.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2008 were approved and signed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. REPORT OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The report of the Town Centre Manager was received. He stated that further to his last report regarding the Community Safety Service his title would be changed to Environment and Neighbourhoods Officer with effect from 1st December when he would become part of a team of five in Patrol Area 5 which will extend from Lake to Chale in the west and from Arreton at its north boundary to Ventnor in the south.

The new town notice board would be erected in the central car park on 13th November. Advertising boards around the Ventnor town area had been inspected - some would be removed and others repaired or modified during the winter.

6. NO COLD CALLING AREAS

Further to Minute no.4 of the meeting held on 14th July 2008 the Council discussed what areas of Ventnor should be made subject to No Cold Calling designation. It was agreed that to be properly effective and useful the designation should apply to the whole area and that the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership be informed accordingly. Provision would need to be made in the budget for 2009/2010 to meet the costs of this measure for which estimates would be obtained.

7. PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS - EASTERN CLIFFS

Councillor S.B.Milford expressed his view that this proposed site was unsuitable for allotments and would reduce the amount of public open space in the area especially considering the plan to create a childrens playground on the Eastern Cliffs on land immediately behind The Winter Gardens. He moved that the proposal be abandoned. Councillor R.J.Mew said that this was the only are which was available at the present time and he was sure that with proper control and layout it would be satisfactory. On being put to the vote the Motion by Councillor Milford was lost.

## 8. IW ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

A report was received from Councillor R.J.Mew. He said that the Association had set up two Committees, one to deal with Strategy and the other Finance. He was pleased to be serving on the latter. Arising on the question of representation on the Association Councillor Mew said he opposed the suggestion by some Local Councils that larger councils should have additional representatives and believed that each local council whatever its size should have just one representative member. He was sure that this was the view of the majority.

## 9. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL OFFICER

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

## 10. VENTNOR YOUTH CENTRE YOUNG ADULTS

A letter signed by eight members of the Youth Centre asked the Town Council for financial assistance towards the cost of Friday evening football sessions in which they wished to participate at Rew Valley Sports Centre. Details were given of the costs involved. It was Resolved - That the Club be given a grant of £200 towards these expenses.

Note: Councillors R.J.Mew and Mrs.S.J.Scoccia declared personal interests in this matter and did not vote thereon.

## 11. QUESTIONS

Councillor Lucas asked what direct financial benefit the Town Council could gain from its Quality Council status. He was informed that there were now no specific Government funding available but Quality Status might enhance the opportunity to obtain grants from other sources.

Councillor Lucas also asked what was the present position of Ventnor Community Partnership and the Town Mayor replied.

Councillor R.J.Mew expressed his concern at the works taking place on the Eastern Esplanade and in particular the poor standard of the new walling and the fact that it appeared that the area around the Paddling Pool available to children was being made smaller. He said that the Town Council had never been given any details of these works and he asked if appropriate officers of the IW Council could be requested to attend the next meeting to explain what was taking place. The Town Mayor said this request could be passed to the IW Council.

Councillor M/s D.Robinson referred to the request made by Councillor Cawley at the beginning of the meeting when she had asked that Councillor Robinson who did not stand for prayers should leave the meeting until after prayers had been said. Councillor Robinson objected to the words used by Councillor Cawley and asked that she withdraw her remarks and apologise. Councillor Cawley did so.

Town Mayor