



NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9th JANUARY AT THE RIVERSIDE CENTRE COMMENCING AT 6.45PM.

Councillors Present: Shirley Smart (Chair), Andrew Garratt (Vice-Chair), Geoff Brodie, Julie Jones-Evans, Joe Lever, Vix Lowthion, Matthew Price and Michael Smith.

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| <u>Clerk:</u> | Joshua Tombleson |
| <u>Public:</u> | 0 |
| <u>Outside Organisations:</u> | 2 |
| <u>Press:</u> | 1 |
| <u>Other:</u> | 1 |

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Reverend Moneme attended and asked members if his letter, sent in June 2021, and expressed his concerns regarding the zebra crossing on Staplers Road. After a brief discussion it was concluded that the letter was sent to Cllr. Phil Jordan, IW Council Cabinet Member for Highways. Cllr. Brodie indicated that they had previously had dialogue on this issue as the crossing border his ward and would follow this up with Cllr. Jordan following the meeting.

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| 3093. | <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs. Ballington, Oliver and Redrup. |
| 3094. | <u>DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST</u> Cllrs. Brodie, Garratt, Jones-Evans, Lever and Price declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) as Isle of Wight councillors. Cllr. Brodie declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Pan Together as a trustee of the charity. Cllr. Jones-Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Newport Businesses as a member of Newport Business Association. Cllr. Jones-Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Item 4 on the agenda, Newport Free Parking Pilot, as the IW Council Cabinet Member for Regeneration. |

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| | <p>Cllr. Martin declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Gunville as a member of the Gunville Community Association.</p> <p>Cllrs. Smart and Lowthion declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to Newport Carnival Association as members of the Carnival committee.</p> <p>No written requests for dispensation were received.</p> |
| 3095. | <p><u>COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CO-ORDINATOR</u></p> <p>Suzanne Stant, the new Community Resilience Co-Ordinator employed by Community Action, gave an overview of her role which covers Newport and Carisbrooke, among other areas. Funding is in place for a minimum of four years.</p> <p>She highlighted that she has been engaging with local groups, individuals and organisations and discussing their work, their needs and how she can support them. She provided several examples of how she has been able to add value within her role so far.</p> |
| 3096. | <p><u>NEWPORT FREE PARKING PILOT</u></p> <p>Chris Ashman, IW Council Director for Regeneration, provided an update on the Newport free parking pilot, which has been able to be offered due to significant financial contributions being made by both NCCC and IW Council.</p> <p>The parking pilot has been successful and will the IW Council will continue to monitor and evaluate the data behind it.</p> <p>NCCC lead member for finance, Cllr. Brodie, informed Chris that £40,000 was being made available within the draft budget to allow the pilot to run for a further 12 months, conditional on assurance that the IW Council will continue its share of the funding. Due to the ongoing IW Council budget discussions, Mr Ashman was unable to provide these assurances and hoped that members would understand this. He added that Newport Business Association would also be approached to share some of the expense as their members a beneficiary of the free parking.</p> <p>Rich data is being obtained as part of the pilot and both IW Council and members are keen to explore what the themes which can be seen within the statistics available. The data is fundamental in decision making both for the free parking but also any future decisions which either party look to make in the town.</p> <p>Members were reminded of the £2 bus fares which Southern Vectis are offering until the end of March, and that this may impact parking in the town.</p> |
| 3097. | <p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 5th December 2022 were presented to members.</p> |

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| | <p>A comment was made that the minutes were lengthy and almost a report of the meeting, and it was desirable that the minutes return to a summary of decisions made, including any important context, and any members or the council or public wishing to obtain more detail on any agenda items can listen back to the recording of the meeting which is made available on the community council website. There were no objections to members with this approach.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 5th December be agreed and signed as an accurate record.</p> <p><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>None.</p> |
| 3098. | <p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>The finance lead presented. Members were presented with payments made during December 2022 for approval.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the accounts paid in December 2022 be unanimously approved.</p> <p>The Chair requested that Cllr. Garratt, Vice-Chair, take over the chairing of the meeting. As there were no objections from members Cllr. Garratt took over as Chair.</p> <p>Members received the income and expenditure report to 31st December 2022.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the income and expenditure reports to 31st December 2022 be noted.</p> <p>Members received the balance sheet for December 2022.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the balance sheet for December 2022 be noted.</p> <p><u>GRANT APPLICATIONS</u></p> <p>Members had in front of them three grant applications for consideration.</p> <p><u>Wessex Cancer Trust Newport</u></p> <p>The Application was for £820 to support the purchase of two folding tables and two “Revitives” for Wessex Cancer Trust Newport.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr. Brodie that £200 be awarded. Members briefly discussed this proposal and a further proposal received from Cllr. Lowthion to award half of the money requested.</p> |

The Chair took the proposals in order.

RESOLVED:

THAT, £200 be awarded to Wessex Cancer Trust Newport.

As the above proposal from Cllr. Brodie was resolved, no further proposals were voted upon.

Legacy Elite Gymnastics Academy

The application was for £500 to support the purchase of materials required to build new foam pits, with excess funds contributing towards coaching/first aid courses and a new disabled ramp.

No comments or proposals made by members, were made, so the item lapsed.

Robert Pettitt

The applicant is a scout at 7th Newport and was seeking a donation towards the costs of attending the World Scout Jamboree being held in South Korea during August 2023.

Cllr. Brodie proposed that £100 be awarded to the applicant to support with his costs of attending the World Scout Jamboree.

RESOLVED:

THAT, £100 be awarded to Robert Pettitt.

2023/2024 DRAFT BUDGET

Members had in front of them a draft budget proposal from the General Purposes Working Party. Cllr. Brodie, lead member for finance, informed members that when the GPWP met to discuss a draft proposal, all councillors present agreed a goal of not increasing the precept given the economic climate and then worked to try and establish a frozen budget. The draft budget would see a 0.2% increase. However, once the 2023/2024 tax base is made known, this could ultimately see a decrease in the budget.

Cllr. Brodie provided members with an overview of the draft budget proposal and highlight key items which had been included or excluded.

Key budget lines included:

- Allowing for the council's loan repayments for both the works which have taken place at Post Office Lane Toilets and also for the purchase and development works to 64 High Street.
- Continuing support for local organisations such as Gift for Nature.
- A significant contribution towards the continuation of the Newport Free Parking Pilot, however if the IW Council do not commit funds within their budget then the funds could be used for the implementation of a community development role.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain a sufficient level of reserves which auditors would expect the council to have. - Provision of Christmas lights for Newport and Carisbrooke as well as a small increase in budget for the “Day of Christmas” event to reflect the rise in costs. - Continued funding for 2 environment officers for Newport and Carisbrooke. - School crossing patrols where needed. - A planning enforcement for the area - Providing and maintaining services which IW Council have previously passed on such as public toilets and recreation grounds. - Funding for the number 39 bus service. <p>An allowance for a 25% increase in utility costs has been made, which the RFO is satisfied is sufficient. Some fees were to be increased, such as a 10% increase in playing field fees and increases of £5 and £10 to half and full allotment plots respectively.</p> <p>Many bids which had been made by councillors had unfortunately been cut to arrive at this proposal, and although the lead finance member hoped members would be understanding of why this, he also understood that some members would be disappointed. Cllr. Brodie said that every £7000 included as in a bid would result in a 1% increase in the precept. is a 1% increase.</p> <p>Councillors thanked the lead finance member for putting this proposal together and agreed that keeping the precept increase as close to zero as possible was vitally important for residents at this time.</p> |
| 3099. | <p><u>64 HIGH STREET</u></p> <p>A verbal update was provided by the clerk on the improvement and development works to 64 High Street, which had started on Monday 5th December 2022. The bulk of the works to date being the removal of the existing fixtures, fittings and materials. The Clerk will be meeting with the contractors for the first site meeting on Wednesday 25th January 2023. A short-written update will be presented at the next meeting of Full Council.</p> |
| 3100. | <p><u>COST OF LIVING</u></p> <p>The Clerk provided members with a few of the main items of discussion from the December meeting of the Winter Pressures Partnership, which was followed by members sharing examples and information of what is being done to assist residents in their local areas.</p> <p><u>Newport and Carisbrooke Community Support Fund</u></p> <p>NCCC launched the Newport and Carisbrooke Community Fund after a successful grant application of £12,500 to Connect4Communities. The fund aims to support those who may fall through the gaps from any help or assistance that is provided by the unitary authority.</p> |

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| | <p>Since the fund opened in September 2022, NCCC has helped 62 households by providing food vouchers (£3,575 of support). With another round of funding becoming available, the clerk will apply for £10,000 to top up the community support fund and allow it to run for a longer period of time. The Clerk will be meeting with Laura Hales, Connect4Communities, in a few weeks' time to discuss the progress of the fund and will also be asking if any progress has been made regarding vouchers becoming available from utility companies for purchase.</p> <p>Members shared some stories of hardship which has been seen within their wards.</p> |
| 3101. | <p><u>SHAPING NEWPORT</u></p> <p>No Shaping Newport meetings have taken place since the last meeting of full council and therefore no updates to share.</p> |
| 3102. | <p><u>PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The Chair of the Planning & Consultation Committee, Cllr. Lowthion, presented the draft minutes of the meeting held on 15th December 2022.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the Assets & Facilities committee meeting held on 15th December 2022 be noted.</p> |
| 3103. | <p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Advertisement has gone out to news outlets for the co-option vacancy in the Parkhurst & Hunnyhill ward. Outlets included On the Wight, IW County Press, Carisbrooke News, Island Echo, Isle of Wight Observer and IW Radio.</p> |
| 3104. | <p><u>REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES</u></p> <p><u>IWALC</u>- Cllr. Smith reported that no meeting took place during December but reminded members of the first aid course which is available.</p> |
| 3105. | <p><u>MEMBER'S QUESTIONS</u></p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans asked if members were happy for minutes to be reduced to a summary of decisions made and further context can be obtained through the recording available on the council's website. No objections received.</p> <p>Cllr. Martin asked if the Chair is aware of the current state of the roads, including significant potholes, around Newport and Carisbrooke. Cllr. Martin indicated that he has been recording these through "FixMyStreet" and urged other members to do the same. Cllr. Price asked if the local steward for Island Roads could be invited to a future meeting to assist members understanding of the process involved and how different issues can be progressed.</p> |

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| 3106. | <u>HEALTH & SAFETY</u> The Clerk informed members that some of the play equipment which had been installed on Downside Recreation ground is currently being fixed due to some damage/faults which have occurred. |
| 3107. | <u>NEXT AGENDA</u> Any items which members wish to be included as part of the next full council agenda should be sent to the clerk in good time in the usual way. |
| 3108. | <u>NEXT MEETING</u> Cllr Smart resumed chairing the meeting. The next Full Council meeting will be held on Monday 6 th February, commencing at 1845 at the Pavilion, Newport Victoria Recreation Ground. |

Contact: Joshua Tombleson – 01983 559119 or clerk@newportwight.org.uk

CHAIR
