



NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2024 AT 64 HIGH STREET COMMENCING AT 6.45PM.

Councillors Present: Andrew Garratt (Chair), Matthew Ambrosini, Joanne Ballington, Geoff Brodie, Julie Jones-Evans, Joe Lever, Vix Lowthion, Deborah Matthews, Matthew Price and Michael Smith.

<u>Clerk:</u>	Joshua Tombleson
<u>Public:</u>	1
<u>Outside Organisations:</u>	3
<u>Press:</u>	0
<u>Other:</u>	0

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The McDonalds Business Manager from the Newport franchise was in attendance and asked members what Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council is doing to support youth provision in the town and also how it works with local police to tackle anti-social behaviour. She said that this has become a particular issue in the Newport store as some members of staff have refused to work late shifts on the basis that they do not feel safe coming to or leaving work in the late evening and early hours.

Members shared examples of how NCCC participates in youth provision and the funds it allocates each year to local organisations which allows them to carry out their work. It was also noted the meetings which are held between NCCC and local police where such issues are discussed and feedback given from both parties.

After a short discussion it was suggested by Cllr. Lowthion that NCCC include youth provision as an agenda item for February Full Council to enable a fuller discussion to take place and a review of NCCCs involvement in youth provision.

3296.	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs. Martin, Oliver and Smart.
3297.	<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. Cllrs. Ballington and 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 vice-chair of Newport Business Association.

	<p>Cllr. Ambrosini declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to Gunville as a member of the Gunville Community Association.</p> <p>Cllr. Price declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Carisbrooke Castle Museum as the Newport & Carisbrooke Community Council representative on the group of trustees.</p> <p>No written requests for dispensation were received.</p>
3298.	<p><u>ISLE OF WIGHT SHORT STORY FESTIVAL</u></p> <p>Members were joined by Elspeth Giddens, representative from the IW Story Festival, who provided an update on the forthcoming event. She spoke of the success of last year's event and their aspirations for the activities planned, not only the festival in 2024 but also other Island wide community activities they are involved in both recently and throughout the year. Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council were personally thanked for their financial support each year which helps to enable the festival to take place, and Elspeth took the opportunity to highlight some of the other local organisations which sponsor the event.</p> <p>The IW Story Festival have recently run a "Dickens" project in Island schools, although heavily focused on the schools in the Newport & Carisbrooke area given the NCCC funding contribution. They were able to visit 14 schools, resulting in over 4000 children benefitting from the work.</p>
3299.	<p><u>HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE</u></p> <p>Members were joined by Fiona Capewell, Project Manager for the High Street Heritage Action Zone, who provided members with an in depth update on the remaining stage of the project, the People First Zone. The People First Zone is based on information which was obtained during the pedestrian safety audit which had been previously carried out in Newport, and aims to provide a safer and more appealing pedestrian experience on Newport High Street, including elements of St. James and St. Thomas Square.</p> <p>Fiona presented in depth design information on the project, including visuals and a summary of the Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) which is being built into the scheme and funded by Southern Water, as part of the works. Fiona said that there has been delays in commencing the works on the People First Zone due to the tender process involved, and an extension of the timescale allowed to deliver the scheme by Historic England is being sought. She reassured members that all is being done to achieve this and manage the publicity and impact to residents and motorists.</p>
3300.	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 4th December 2023 were presented to members.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 4th December be agreed and signed as an accurate record.</p> <p><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></p>

	3281. Newport Repair Shop at 64 High Street- Cllr. Jones-Evans will be meeting with individuals from the repair shop soon and will progress the conversation.
3301.	<p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>Members were presented with payments made during December 2023 for approval.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the accounts paid in December 2023 be unanimously approved.</p> <p>Members received the income and expenditure report to 31st December 2023.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the income and expenditure reports to 31st December 2023 be noted.</p> <p>Members received the balance sheet for December 2023.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the balance sheet for December 2023 be noted.</p> <p><u>GRANT APPLICATIONS</u></p> <p>Members had before them a grant application, supported by the Chair for the purpose of being brought forward for discussion at the meeting, from the Isle of Wight Scouts, requesting a financial contribution towards their travel and attendance at the Essex International Jamboree.</p> <p>It was suggested by Cllr. Brodie, lead member for finance, that a contribution of £500 be made by the community council.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, a donation be made to the Isle of Wight Scouts for £500 to support their attendance at the Essex International Jamboree.</p> <p><u>2024/2025 DRAFT BUDGET</u></p> <p>Members had before them a document containing a draft budget proposal for the 2024/2025 financial year. The proposal had been constructed and brought forward by Cllrs. Brodie, Garratt, Lowthion and Price.</p> <p>The draft proposal was summarised by Cllr. Brodie in his role as lead member for finance and invited members to make comment accordingly.</p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans spoke on the amounts allocated within the draft budget proposal, for the Food Poverty and Shaping Newport items, indicating that she would be considering an amendment to the budget proposal to increase the amounts allocated to these, and highlighted the reasons for this. Cllr. Brodie confirmed this would be the correct process to follow for any amendments which members wish to be considered and reminded every member that they are entitled to do this. The proposed amendments will then be discussed and considered at the meeting of Full Council in February ahead of the budget being agreed.</p>

	A few members expressed a desire for the real cost implications of the budget and any increases be provided to members of the public in pounds and pence, as well as the percentage increase, to enhance the tax-payers understanding of the precept being collected.
3302.	<u>SHAPING NEWPORT</u> Members received an update on the Shaping Newport Project from its representatives on the partnership group. Cllr. Smith said that the removal of the one-hour free car parking in Newport was discussed at the last forum, however it was noted that the item was being discussed by the IW Council as part of their budget setting process.
3303.	<u>64 HIGH STREET</u> Members received a verbal update from the Clerk on 64 High Street, the heritage group and other activities involving the building. Items included the success of the Christmas event and positive feedback and expressions of appreciation received from those who attended, the upcoming Heritage talks and exhibitions, and also the developing usage of the shoplets.
3304.	<u>COST OF LIVING</u> The Clerk informed members that the funds had now been fully spent from the Newport & Carisbrooke Community Support Grant scheme. There is another round of funding available through Connect4Communities which will open shortly, and he will apply in to allow the scheme to continue, unless members had alternative suggestions for the funding or expressed objections to him submitting an application. Until further funding has been received, there is still an option for people to apply directly into Connect4Communities for support. No objections or alternative suggestions were received, therefore the Clerk will apply to the fund once open. Cllr. Brodie said that the community larder run by Pan Together continues to be well used and due to the sustainable model which it operates, it will continue to be able provide to residents for at least the next 5 years. Cllr. Brodie also provided an update on the money advice and debt management advice which Pan Together has been providing since the summer and is now able to support residents from across the Island with this service. In addition to this, Pan Together are working with Frontline Debt to enable them to be able to support residents with debt relief orders in the near future. Further information on this will be provided once available.
3305.	<u>PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE</u> The Chair of the Planning & Consultation Committee, Cllr. Lowthion, presented the minutes of the committee meeting held on 4 th December 2024 to members. <u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the Planning & Consultation committee meeting held on 4th December 2024 be noted.
3306.	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> The Clerk had received a request from Cllr. Jones-Evans that NCCC include the signage required by residents to offer a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, under its public liability insurance. The Clerk did not see any sufficient reason to not do this in order to allow the scheme to be set up as the maintenance and risk is very minimal. He sought members' views, and noted if members approve then this can

	<p>be something which is also done in the future for other areas. No objections were received to this approach.</p> <p>The Clerk provided a verbal update on the costs involved in supporting the “Park That Bike” scheme and suggested that if members wished to explore it further then it would be appropriate to wait until the 2025/2026 budget setting process.</p>
3307.	<p><u>REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES</u></p> <p><u>IWALC</u>- it was noted that an invitation for community, town and parish councillors to take part in a meeting with IWC Cabinet members had been circulated.</p>
3308.	<p><u>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3309.	<p><u>HEALTH & SAFETY</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3310.	<p><u>NEXT AGENDA</u></p> <p>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.</p>
3311.	<p><u>NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The next Full Council meeting will be held on Monday 5th February 2024, commencing 1845 at 64 High Street, Newport.</p>

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

CHAIR
