



NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2024 AT 64 HIGH STREET COMMENCING AT 6.45PM.

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

<u>Clerk:</u>	Lucinda Bradley
<u>Public:</u>	2
<u>Outside Organisations:</u>	1
<u>Press:</u>	0
<u>Other:</u>	0

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public asked a question regarding the process for a planning application for Sylvan Drive. He has been unable to contact Isle of Wight Cllr Redrup and wondered how it would be called to an Isle of Wight Council planning committee. It was explained by Cllr Price that due to the size of the application it is likely it would automatically be considered by committee, but there is currently a backlog. Cllr Lever will contact the resident to discuss further.

Reverend Mark Evans from Newport Congregational Church advised that the church needed to employ someone to assist with the administration of a waste food hub. The Chair explained that the budget was being decided and the hub was being discussed later.

3312.	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs Robin Jordan and Shirley Smart.
3313.	<u>DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST</u> Cllrs. Brodie, Garratt, Jones-Evans, Lever, Oliver 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 trustees of the charity. Cllr. Jones-Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Newport businesses as a member of Newport Business Association. Cllrs. Ambrosini and Martin declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to Gunville as a member of the Gunville Community Association.

AGW

	<p>No written requests for dispensation were received.</p>
3314.	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 8th January 2024 were presented to members.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 8th January be agreed and signed as an accurate record.</p> <p><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>Cllr Lowthion will be bringing an agenda item on NCCC's role in children's provision to a future meeting as she was aware the February agenda was full.</p> <p>The Deputy Clerk reported that with regard to minute 3304, the Clerk has submitted an application to the Connect4Communities fund which will be reviewed by a panel in February. The application looked to top up the support fund to allow NCCC to continue providing food vouchers. The Clerk has applied for more funding than previously with a view that appropriate amounts can be given depending on the size of the household.</p>
3315.	<p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>Members were presented with payments made during January 2024 for approval.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the accounts paid in January 2024 be noted.</p> <p>Members received the income and expenditure report to 31st January 2024.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the income and expenditure reports to 31st January 2024 be noted.</p> <p>Members received the balance sheet for January 2024.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the balance sheet for January 2024 be noted.</p> <p><u>2024/2025 BUDGET PROPOSAL AND AMENDMENTS</u></p> <p>Cllr Brodie explained that the General Purposes Working Group discussed the budget bids and reduced the proposed precept increase down from 17% to 6.24%. With the tax base increase at 1%, this would bring the precept increase down to 5.1%</p> <p>Members had before them two amendments to the budget submitted by Cllrs Brodie and Ballington and a third amendment submitted by Cllr Jones-Evans.</p>

Amendment 1 (Proposed by Cllr Brodie & seconded by Cllr Ballington) – The proposed allocation of £10,000 to a proposed Central Waste Food Hub be deleted with money redirected as follows - £5,000 towards the D-Day 80 Event, £2,500 to Shaping Newport and £2,500 sponsorship of the 2025 Island Games with a commitment for a further £2,500 in the 2025/26 Budget.

After discussions with trustees at Pan Together, Cllrs Brodie and Ballington raised concerns over the practical logistics of running a Food Waste Hub including lack of storage space, strict timelines on re-distribution, unrealistically low set-up cost estimations and legal requirements around food hygiene. Cllr Brodie submitted the proposal so these issues could be considered fully by NCCC before the Budget is decided. Cllr Jones-Evans has visited the Congregational Church and is satisfied that they would be able to manage a Food Waste Hub successfully.

Cllr Brodie called for a named vote:

Ballington	For
Ambrosini	For
Martin	For
Brodie	For
Smith	For
Oliver	For
Price	Against
Jones-Evans	Against
Lowthion	Against
Matthews	Against
Lever	Against
Garratt	Against

As there were six votes for and six against, Cllr Garratt had the deciding vote as Chair, which he cast Against. That meant the proposal fell.

RESOLVED:

THAT, Amendment 1 is not agreed.

Amendment 2 (Proposed by Cllr Brodie and seconded by Cllr Ballington) – The Annual Grant of £1,500 to IW Citizen's Advice Bureau be re-directed to Pan Together CIO's money management and form-filling support service.

RESOLVED:

THAT, Amendment 2 is unanimously agreed.

Amendment 3 (Proposed by Cllr Jones-Evans and seconded by Cllr Vix Lowthion) – That a further £5,000 for Shaping Newport be added to the GPWP's proposed budget. Also that money saved from the probable cessation of the parking pilot later this month (circa £3,300) be vired towards Shaping Newport.

Cllr Jones-Evans called for a named vote:

Oliver	Against
Smith	Against
Price	Against
Brodie	Against
Martin	Against
Ambrosini	Against
Ballington	Against
Garratt	Against
Lever	For
Matthews	For
Lowthion	For
Jones-Evans	For

There were eight votes against and four votes for, meaning the proposal fell.

RESOLVED:

THAT, Amendment 3 was not agreed.

As the proposed virement of the parking pilot money was supported by all, it was

RESOLVED: The parking money virement was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

THAT, NCCC unanimously agree a precept of £784,765 for the 2024/2025 financial year.

3316. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Cllr Brodie explained the Assistant Clerk had gathered costings for a Housing Needs survey to take place with costs ranging from £1,500 to £13,000. It transpired that Housing Services at IWC would be able to provide information for free so the recommendation from the General Purposes Working Group is that NCCC do not pursue a Housing Needs Survey and IWC are asked for the information instead. Cllr Lowthion highlighted that it will be difficult to assess future need.

RESOLVED:

THAT, NCCC no longer pursue a Housing Needs Survey and instead contact IWC for information regarding housing needs in Newport & Carisbrooke.

3317. SHAPING NEWPORT

Cllr Jones-Evans reported a meeting is being held on 16th February. There will be replacement lamppost flags installed in town and the map by the County Hall car park replaced.

3318. HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

Cllr Jones-Evans provided a verbal update. Cllr Jones-Evans will circulate an update from Fiona Capewell which she believed had already been circulated but had not.

3319.	<u>64 HIGH STREET</u> No further update from the Clerk. Cllr Jones-Evans is awaiting response from the Repair Café.
3320.	<u>COST OF LIVING</u> Cllr Lowthion provided an update that there is currently no money left in the Connect4Communities fund.
3321.	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> No further update.
3322.	<u>REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES</u> IWALC – Cllr Garratt will take member comments back to IWALC. Cllr Brodie expressed concern that NCCC used to receive written reports from IWALC representatives on IWC Committees. He has not seen any reports recently and NCCC spend £3,000 a year on membership. Cllr Smith would like IWALC to improve training.
3323.	<u>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</u> Cllr Brodie reported that IWC are currently looking at governance arrangements and discussing public consultation elements and would like opportunity for town and & parish councils to comment. In April, possibly March, it may need to be an agenda item. Cllr Lowthion offered to provide information to members outside of the meeting on the impending split between the two local secondary schools and sixth form college, which are de-federating and planning to be academised.
3324.	<u>HEALTH & SAFETY</u> None.
3325.	<u>NEXT AGENDA</u> -Strategic Plan
3326.	<u>NEXT MEETING – DATE, TIME AND LOCATION</u> The next Full Council meeting will be held on Monday 4 th March 2024, commencing at 1845 at 64 High Street.

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

CHAIR

