



# NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 AT 64 HIGH STREET COMMENCING AT 6.45PM.

Councillors Present: Cllrs. Martin Oliver (Chair), Joanne Ballington, Geoff Brodie, Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Vix Lowthion, Matthew Price, Terry Martin, Deborah Matthews, Louise Rippon, Michael Smith and Sean Tiltman.

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

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Faulkner asked the council how much money it had donated, during the current financial year, to food banks and other local charities to help people with the cost of living. Cllr. Brodie said the council had provided £7000 to date. Mr Faulker said that the council recognises there is a need and that people are struggling to feed themselves in Newport, and asked why the council needed a chain of office and if it feels it is an appropriate use of money during the current time. He then asked that the council considers this when discussing and voting on the matter later in the agenda. The chair provided some reasoning for the item appearing on the agenda, and reassured Mr Faulker that a full discussion will take place later in the meeting.

<b>3431.</b>	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> Apologies were received from Cllr. Ambrosini.
<b>3432.</b>	<b><u>COUNCILLOR VACANCIES</u></b> Immediately prior to the meeting of full council, an interview was held with Sean Tiltman, applicant for the councillor vacancy in Mountjoy & Shide. Sean was unanimously approved onto Newport & Carisbrooke Community Council as a member for the Mountjoy & Shide Ward.  <b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> <b>THAT, Sean Tiltman be co-opted as a councillor on Newport &amp; Carisbrooke Community Council for Mountjoy &amp; Shide.</b>  Sean then read aloud to the council, and for the benefit of the meeting recording, his declaration of acceptance of office, which was then signed in the presence of the Clerk as the councils proper officer.
<b>3433.</b>	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST</u></b>

	<p>Cllrs. Brodie, Garratt, Jones-Evans, Oliver and Price declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) as Isle of Wight councillors.</p> <p>Cllrs. Ballington and Brodie declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Pan Together as a trustee of the charity.</p> <p>Cllr. Martin declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to Gunville as a member of the Gunville Community Association.</p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Newport businesses as Vice-Chair of Newport Business Association.</p> <p>No written requests for dispensation were received.</p>
<b>3434.</b>	<p><b><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 were presented to members.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, the minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September be agreed and signed as an accurate record.</b></p> <p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>3435.</b>	<p><b><u>THE “PORT” PROJECT</u></b></p> <p>Members were joined by Fiona Capwell, Shaping Newport Officer, and Beth Kidd, ERMCC, who provided a brief overview of the “Port” project, which aims to make use of the vacant unit on the South Street site, previously occupied by Shop Mobility. Beth provided members with a comprehensive overview of the project, specifically highlighting how and why the idea for the project had originated and what it hopes to achieve.</p> <p>After the presentation, Members were asked if NCCC can be utilised to take on the formal lease and submit any grant applications to awarding bodies, as and when required, as Shaping Newport is restricted in its capabilities in these areas as it is not a formal body.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, NCCC support the “Port” project, will take on the tenancy at will for 64 South Street, and submit grant funding applications on behalf of Shaping Newport as and when required.</b></p>
<b>3436.</b>	<p><b><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></b></p> <p>Members were presented with payments made during September 2024 for approval.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, the accounts paid in September 2024 be noted.</b></p> <p>Members received the income and expenditure report to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.</p>

**RESOLVED:**

**THAT, the income and expenditure reports to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be noted.**

Members received the balance sheet for September 2024.

**RESOLVED:**

**THAT, the balance sheet for September 2024 be noted.**

There was a short discussion between members regarding the minimal time to review the financial documents once they are issued ahead of meetings, sometimes only issued on the day of the meeting as in this instance, and they that they would like to explore alternative solutions. Cllr. Brodie highlighted again for members as to why this was, and it was noted that the interim reports produced by the RFO ahead of this meeting were helpful. Cllr. Brodie proposed that the RFO be asked to produce reports up until the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month going forward on a trial basis, to allow for the documents to be submitted in good time, so that members can review accordingly ahead of the meetings.

**RESOLVED:**

**THAT, The RFO produce financial reports up until the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, on a 3 month trial basis.**

**GRANT APPLICATION**

Members had before them a grant application from Sight for Wight looking for £150 to support entry into the short story writing competition for children who are residents of Newport & Carisbrooke.

**RESOLVED:**

**THAT, NCCC unanimously agree to award Sight for Wight the full £150 requested.**

**CHAINS OF OFFICE**

Members considered a virement of £600 from the 64 High Street budget to support the purchase of a set of chains of office for NCCC, which can be worn by the Chair, and future Chairs, of the council at formal events so that it is clear to other organisations and attendees as to who the Chair is representing and in what capacity.

Members were broadly in agreement with the comments shared by the member of the public in attendance at the meeting, that it may not be the best use of public funds at the current time, however, were largely agreeable that it is appropriate that the council have something to be recognised by when representing at functions.

Cllr. Jones-Evans suggested that she speak with the IWC again in an attempt for NCCC to access and use the original chains of office, originally held by Newport Borough Council, which are now securely held in the Guildhall. Members appreciated that this conversation was unlikely to be successful, but agreed that it was worth Cllr. Jones-Evans asking.

	<p>Several members shared the view that it may be worth exploring what can be produced locally for the council, and that there may be alternative ways of raising the funds, potentially either through local businesses or subscription from individuals willing to make a contribution that may be interested in the civic side of Newport.</p> <p>Cllr. Rippon said she thinks it is an opportunity and, as a new councillor, appreciates that when in attendance at a local event, it may not be instantly recognisable as to who you are. The way members represent in public goes hand in hand with the brand of the council. Cllr. Rippon suggested that the council approaches local businesses, asking them to sponsor a link, and anything produced could have aspects of local design and be made from recycled metal to show we are sympathetic to views expressed and that the council is prepared to do things differently.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, Cllr. Jones-Evans explore ideas and options available to the council which can then be considered at a future meeting.</b></p>
3437.	<p><b><u>EXTERNAL AUDIT</u></b></p> <p>Members were asked to note the conclusion of the 2023/2024 Annual Governance and Accountability Return and note any recommendations and future requirements.</p> <p>The council wished to note their thanks to RFO, Vikki Wright, as to the hard work that she puts in to achieving this clear bill of health for the council.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, NCCC note the conclusion of the 2023/2024 Annual Governance and Accountability Return.</b></p>
3438.	<p><b><u>ASSETS &amp; FACILITIES COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>The Chair of the Assets &amp; Facilities committee, Cllr. Matthews, presented the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to members for noting.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, the minutes of the meeting of the Assets &amp; Facilities committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> September be noted.</b></p> <p>The item concerning the public footpath between Nelson Road and Nine Acres Recreation Ground was moved to Clerks Reports, as it was felt that only items discussed or considered previously by the committee should appear under this agenda item.</p> <p>Cllr. Brodie left the meeting.</p>
3439.	<p><b><u>PLANNING &amp; CONSULTATION</u></b></p> <p>Due to their involvement as members of the IWC Planning Committee, several members wished to confirm their declarations and level of participation in the item.</p>

	<p>Cllr. Jones-Evans temporarily left the meeting and did not participate in the discussion.</p> <p>Cllr. Price said he would be remaining in the meeting and although he will summarise the item, he will not be providing personal comment or opinion on the application.</p> <p>Cllr. Oliver said that he will not be participating in the discussion or making personal comment, however he will be remaining in the meeting and happy to chair the item.</p> <p>Before the main item was discussed, members were asked to consider approving Cllr. Rippon as a member on the Planning &amp; Consultation Committee.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, Cllr. Rippon be approved as a member onto the Planning &amp; Consultation Committee.</b></p> <p><u>21/02423/OUT</u></p> <p>Members had before them a paper from Cllr. Lowthion, which summarised the comments and recommendation made previously by the Planning &amp; Consultation Committee, along with proposed amendments, for member consideration.</p> <p>It was requested that in addition to the amendments requested within the paper, it is included that a critical part of the development is that there is safe pedestrian access to the development from Long Lane and Staplers Road, along landscape lane.</p> <p>Cllrs. Oliver and Price abstained.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, Members agree the comment outlined, including all proposed amendments, in PAPER I be agreed. Newport &amp; Carisbrooke Community Council wish to recommend REFUSAL to this application.</b></p> <p>Cllrs. Oliver and Price abstained from the vote.</p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans returned to the meeting once the vote had taken place.</p>
<b>3440.</b>	<p><b><u>SHAPING NEWPORT</u></b></p> <p>Members received a verbal update on the Shaping Newport project from its Cllr. Jones-Evans. The written update will be emailed to the Clerk and subsequently sent on to members.</p>
<b>3441.</b>	<p><b><u>COST OF LIVING</u></b></p> <p>Cllr. Lowthion asked if the council could be doing more it could be doing in regards to the cost of living, and that what it is doing could be communicated more widely.</p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans asked how the council had been involved in commenting on the poverty reduction policy.</p>

	Cllr. Rippon Left the meeting.
<b>3442.</b>	<p><b><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p><b><u>FOOTPATH BETWEEN NELSON ROAD AND NINE ACRES RECREATION GROUND</u></b></p> <p>Members had before them a diagram showing a public footpath which runs between Nelson Road and Nine Acres Recreation Ground. NCCC have been asked by the IWC if it would consider adopting this area into its maintenance arrangements.</p> <p>Members agreed that there is currently sufficient access onto Nine Acres Recreation ground for its users, and as the main beneficiary of the footpath being parents involved in drop offs and collections of children to the local school, it would be more suitable for the school to take on this responsibility if they feel there is sufficient benefit to these users.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, NCCC do not wish to take on maintenance responsibility of this public footpath at the current time.</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that NCCC now hold the tenancy at will for the Downside MUGA, and work is still progressing for a formal lease and community use agreement. The maintenance team have been working on this for the last few weeks and should be back into use soon.</p> <p><b><u>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DIVERSITY POLICY</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk presented an amended version of the Environmental and Diversity policy for member consideration and provided verbal background as to why the document has been reviewed.</p> <p>Cllr. Jones-Evans requested an amendment to page 1, to promote that Newport is the capital of the IW Biosphere.</p> <p>Cllr. Ballington left the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr. Garratt requested that "and herbicides" be included after the word pesticides on Page 2.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b>  <b>THAT, the updated Environmental and Diversity policy be adopted, including the requested amendments.</b></p>
<b>3443.</b>	<p><b><u>REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES</u></b></p> <p>IWALC- As the IWALC representative, Cllr. Ambrosini, was not present, no update was received.</p>
<b>3444.</b>	<p><b><u>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>3445.</b>	<p><b><u>HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</u></b></p> <p>No items to report.</p>

<b>3446.</b>	<b><u>NEXT AGENDA</u></b> To the Clerk in good time.
<b>3447.</b>	<b><u>NEXT MEETING – DATE, TIME AND LOCATION</u></b> The next meeting of full council will take place on Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024, commencing 18:45 at 64 High Street.

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CHAIR

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