



NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

www.newportwight.org.uk



**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 12th JULY 2021 AT CARISBROOKE
CASTLE MUSEUM, CARISBROOKE, COMMENCED AT 6.45 PM.**

Councillors Present: Cllrs Brodie (Chair), Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Joe Lever, Cara Lock, Vix Lowthion, Terry Martin, Matthew Price, Shirley Smart and Michael Smith.

Public: 0
Clerk: Joshua Tombleson
Other: 3

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Although there were no questions from the public received, the Chair welcomed the individuals who had joined to participate in the meeting. These were:

PC Livvy Peachey- Newport Safer Neighbourhood Team
Graham Biss- Natural Enterprise
Cllr. Martin Oliver- Isle of Wight Councillor for the Mountjoy & Shide ward

2821.	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>Apologies were received for Cllrs. Ballington, Bundell, Jones-Evans and Redrup.</p>
2822.	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST</u></p> <p>Cllrs. Brodie, Garratt, Lever and Price declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) as they are Isle of Wight councillors.</p> <p>Cllr. Brodie declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Pan Together as a trustee of the charity.</p> <p>Cllr. Martin declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Gunville as a member the Gunville Association.</p> <p>Cllr. Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest relating to the IW 70/30 as he is the treasurer.</p> <p>There were no written requests for dispensation received.</p>

2823. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting of full council held on 14th June 2021 were presented to members.

RESOLVED:

THAT, the minutes of the meeting of full council held on 14th June 2021 be unanimously agreed and signed as an accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

2823- Matters Arising-Apologies for Absence- The Chair informed members that there had been 3 candidates nominated for the upcoming by-election in the Carisbrooke & Gunville Ward. The election will take place on 5th August.

-Market Revival- Cllr. Lowthion described the last few weeks stall holder attendance as sporadic. The previous weeks market had been the first themed event, and this resulted in it being busy. The preceding few weeks had been disappointing, with one of the weeks having no stall holders and the other 3. There is marching bands and other activities planned for the coming week and therefore should be well attended. Lessons being learnt week by week.

NEWPORT SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Members received a brief from PC Peachey on the recent activities undertaken and trends identified by the Newport Safer Neighbourhood Team. They have been very busy, dealing mainly with anti-social behaviour, assaults, and violent crime in the town centre. The football has caused it to be busy in the town in recent weeks and anticipates this will only increase in the coming weeks with the release of lockdown next week. They are currently visiting all licensed premises and giving information on a new scheme aimed at giving people a contact if they feel unsafe when out and about in town. The Isle of Wight Police have new students who have joined the team. In next 3-6 months the Safer Neighbourhood Team should go from 3 to 6 PCs. As previously mentioned, each officer is owning their own areas and are trying to do more patrols in the Carisbrooke school areas, although there is still a focus on reducing street drinking, especially in the squares.

Cllr. Price mentioned the anti-social/intimidating behaviour which takes place in the Fairlee tunnel and suggested that a patrol in the area may reduce this. Cllr. Brodie, as a resident of the nearby area feels this is generally later at night, around 12pm.

PC Peachey informed members of some specific operations which will shortly be coming up.

Cllr. Lowthion, as a resident of Quay Street, has noticed increase in music and noise between the quay and town, with early evening being a key time for this. PC Peachey responded saying that they are aware of this and have been targeting the benches down by the quay. Cllr. Lowthion also raised concern over the mixture of protocols being adopted by businesses after the lifting of restrictions, with some

	<p>establishments requiring a mask to be worn and others refusing entry with masks. PC Peachey feels managing the night-time economy will be difficult and has also seen that some establishments will be actively celebrating the lifting of restrictions on Monday.</p> <p>Cllr. Smith asked for an update on how the bus station is being monitored and made safer for users, as this has been a hot spot for anti-social behaviour. PC Peachey feels that the area surrounding the library being closed has naturally helped discourage this behaviour as people do not congregate in the same numbers. The youth shelters within Church Litten also help keep people in one place. With the lifting of restrictions, it is likely that more issues will arise in the bus station again.</p>
	<p><u>NEWPORT TO WEST WIGHT OFF-ROAD LINK</u></p> <p>Members received an update from Graham Biss, on the Newport to West-Wight off-road link which will join up to the Gunville Greenway.</p> <p>Natural Enterprise are working with landowners to establish the route, which has been in discussions for 6 years so far.</p> <p>The route will avoid active farmsteads and be considerate to neighbouring properties. Graham believes that if landowners are willing to give up their land, they should be compensated, and this is what will happen. Where possible it will use the dismantled railway for logical reasons, though this could also conflict with not using active farmsteads at some stages. They are working closely with the IW Council rights of way team, but totally independently of them. Graham has a lot of praise for the team and how they have co-operated.</p> <p>A structure survey will take place to ensure that the costs of completing the project are on line with those which have been estimated. It is hoped that the creation of the route will stimulate economic benefits off the back of it.</p> <p>Although he admits its is ambitious, Graham wishes for the project to be completed by March 2023.</p> <p>Cllr. Brodie thanked Graham for attending and providing this informative talk and proposed that NCCC offer their overwhelming support to the project.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, NCCC offer its overwhelming support to the creation of the off-road link between Newport and West-Wight.</p>
<p>2824.</p>	<p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>Members were presented with payments made during June for approval.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the accounts paid in June 2021 be approved.</p>

Members received the income and expenditure report to 30th June 2021.

RESOLVED:

THAT, the income and expenditure report to 30th June 2021 be noted.

Members received the bank reconciliation for June 2021.

RESOLVED:

THAT, the bank reconciliation for June 2021.

Newport Harbour Toilets

The Clerk requested that members consider using £1343 from contingency and reserves to supplement the budget already allocated to bringing the toilets on the quay back into use for events. The Chair highlighted that there were sufficient funds in the previous years budget, however as the works had not taken place during the financial year the funds available were reduced.

RESOLVED:

THAT, the clerk proceed with the works to bring the toilets on the quay back into use for events, with an additional £1343 being made available from contingency and reserves.

Members had before them a grant application from Downside Youth Football Club applying for £725 to support the purchase of a line marker for the club so that they can mark youth football pitches in distinguishable colours on Downside recreation ground, enabling more youth teams to share the pitch.

RESOLVED:

THAT, £725 be awarded to Downside Youth Football Club from youth engagement and events budget.

Members had before them a grant application from Victim Support applying for £100 to support the purchase of much needed equipment to enable them to continue to support the residents of Newport & Carisbrooke.

RESOLVED:

THAT, £100 be awarded to Victim Support.

Members had before them a grant application from the Isle of Wight 70/30 Project applying for £300. Members shared some concern on how the money would be spent and requested assurance that the funds would be spent within Newport & Carisbrooke. Cllr. Smith, as treasurer for the trust, was able to confirm this.

RESOLVED:

THAT, £300 be awarded to The Isle of Wight 70/30 Project, though NCCC would like receive progress reports from the project if they are likely to request further funds in the future.

2825.	<p><u>PROPERTY REPORT</u></p> <p>Members had before them a brief which had been provided by the RFO. The brief provided information to members on the tax decision which is required to be made. The brief recommended that members opted to tax on the new building, as not doing so could lead to future limitations for its use.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the recommendation of the RFO be approved and once the property has been purchased NCCC will opt to tax.</p>
2826.	<p><u>COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT WITH STAFF</u></p> <p>The Clerk highlighted to members that a lack of engagement and responses when contacted by staff is leading to delays in projects and work being undertaken as well as direction on projects being pursued by staff with little input. The Clerk requested that members commit more time to providing response and offered alternative methods of ensuring all responses are obtained in a flexible, timely manner.</p> <p>The Chair reinforced this message and members responded well.</p>
2827.	<p><u>SHAPING NEWPORT REP</u></p> <p>At the annual meeting of the Council in May 2021, Cllr. Brodie (although not present) was nominated and subsequently re-elected as one of the NCCC representatives on the Shaping Newport steering group. However, Cllr. Brodie no longer wishes to hold this position and would not have sought re-election if he was present at the meeting and would therefore like a replacement to be nominated.</p> <p>Cllr. Smith put himself forward for the consideration and approval of members.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, Cllr. Smith be appointed as a representative on the Shaping Newport steering group.</p>
2828.	<p><u>NEWPORT PARKING GROUP</u></p> <p>Members had before them a proposal which had been created by the Clerk based on member feedback and ideas surrounding the Newport parking agenda item. The Chair provided an overview of the document for members. The proposal will go to the Newport Parking Group and then IW Council for consideration in 2022/2023 budget.</p> <p>Cllr. Price said it would be interesting to receive feedback from the Newport Business Association after the first full year of any implementations.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p>

	<p>THAT, the proposal which had been produced by the Clerk be taken to the Newport Parking Policy group with a view to it being submitted to Isle of Wight Council for consideration as part of their 2022/2023 budget.</p>
<p>2829.</p>	<p><u>ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL</u></p> <p>Members received an update from Cllr. Price on the Isle of Wight Festival taking place at Seaclose park in September 2021.</p> <p>Cllr. Price stated that the event organiser has been involved in all of the experimental events around the country, with the IW Festival being the last event on the calendar and any concerns should be addressed by the time it takes place. Cllr. Price has already asked lots of social distancing and sanitisation related questions to the organisers and responses have been good. The attendance at the event will be capped at 50,000 with no requirement for testing on entry. It is believed that 40,000 of these tickets have been sold to Island residents. All staff will be having tests once a week and lateral flow every 2 days. There will be set routes around the site to control some crowds and there will also be an increase in the amount of toilets available.</p> <p>One of the big concerns currently over the event, is the time of year and the effect this will have on the ground at Seaclose Park. It is not yet known how well or how quickly it will recover.</p> <p>Cllr. Price extended an offer to members, which had been made by the festival organiser. The offer is to arrange a meeting with NCCC to discuss any potential concerns members may have ahead of the event, and also inform NCCC of any precautions which are already in place. Members wished to accept this offer.</p> <p>Cllr. Price made it clear that the final say if the event can go ahead will be made by Public Health.</p> <p>The Chair wished to express on record his disappointment that the event is going ahead this year.</p> <p>Cllr. Price also wishes to hold discussions with relevant people at IWC and in the IW Festival organisation team around the proposed location of the taxi rank on School Lane. All members agreed that this should be located on Fairlee Road</p>
<p>2835.</p>	<p><u>ASSETS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>Members had before them the draft minutes of the Assets & Facilities meeting held on 29th June 2021.</p> <p>Cllr. Martin, Vice-Chair of the Assets & Facilities committee, presented the minutes to members.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the Assets & Facilities Committee held on 29th June 2021 be noted.</p>

PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Members had before them the draft minutes of the Planning & Licensing meeting held on 24th June 2021.

Cllr. Smart, Chair of the Planning & Licensing committee presented the minutes to members. Cllr. Smart highlighted that the application discussed has since been approved.

RESOLVED:

THAT, the minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee held on 24th June 2021 be noted.

ENVIRONMENT AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE

Cllr. Lowthian presented the item to members and had circulated a document containing the proposed terms of reference, ahead of the meeting. This document outlined the expectations of the committee and the topics which would be under the scope of the committee to review and make decisions on. Cllr. Lowthion feels that many Councils of similar size to NCCC already have committees of similar nature to this and felt it was a suitable to bring it to members attention. Cllr. Price supported the idea.

The Chair provided his thoughts on the proposal and said that he does not usually like to encourage the setting up of additional committees due to the resources required to enable them to function etc. but working groups are usually very productive and their benefits can be seen. The Chair suggests that a working group is set up for the remainder of the financial year, servicing itself, and if it is seen to be successful then it could be formally proposed as a new committee at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2022. Cllr. Lowthion accepted this suggestion and stated that this she had considered this possibility.

RESOLVED:

THAT, an Environmental and Well-Being working group be established for the remainder of the financial year, open to any member who is interested in participating.

2836. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were joined by Cllr. Martin Oliver, the IW Councillor for the Mountjoy and Shide Ward. The Chair welcomed Cllr. Oliver and explained his invitation to members. He shall now be invited to all NCCC Full Council meetings, should he wish to attend.

Cllr. Oliver explained that he did not put himself forward for NCCC in the recent elections as he could not commit to the meeting dates and therefore did not wish to take up a position which he was not fully able to fulfil. Over the last few months he had been involved in an issue with Hot Air balloons travelling over the ward from an event being held at Robin Hill, which had caused concerned residents to contact him.

Foot paths and hedge issues have been a common theme, along with the diversion routes within his ward as part of the road works being carried out on St. Georges Way.

Cllr. Oliver shared a proposal which he will be propose to the upcoming IW Council meeting of full council. The proposal is to request that the Isle of Wight apply for City Status for Newport as part of several recognitions which have been made available as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There does not appear to be any costings related to this other than the officer time to submit an application.

Cllr. Price encouraged the idea and feels that any opportunity which comes to NCCC with little to no costs is worth exploring further.

Cllr. Lock asked Cllr. Martin if he could provide more information on any known pros and cons of receiving city status. Cllr. Oliver said that as far as he can see there are no associated negatives to receiving this status.

Cllr. Lowthion asked if there are any other towns on the Island applying for this status. The Clerk believes that East Cowes may also be looking to apply, though does not know much more than this.

Cllr. Lever was slightly concerned that the Isle of Wight could potentially lose an element of its charm if it has a city on it.

Cllr. Smart stated that although was initially surprised to see the proposal, it could be a good opportunity to bring prominence to Newport and therefore it should be explored further.

Cllr. Garratt said that with the immense history of Newport & Carisbrooke it is almost by accident that we are not already a city.

The Chair thanked Cllr. Oliver for his attendance and bringing this proposal to members attention and proposed that NCCC support Cllr. Olivers proposal to IW Council.

RESOLVED:

THAT, NCCC support the proposal by Cllr. Oliver to IW Council that Newport be nominated for an application to receive City status as part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee recognitions.

IWALC- Cllr. Smart apologised to members for the report of the recent meeting being provided late, though this was circulated earlier in the day by the Clerk at her request. Cllr. Smart reminded members of the date of the upcoming AGM.

2837. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

None received.

2839.	<u>HEALTH AND SAFETY</u> None.
2840.	<u>NEXT AGENDA</u> No items received.
2841.	<u>NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of full council will be held on Monday 13 th September 2021, at Newport Congregational Church, commencing at 18:45.

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

CHAIR

DRAFT