



## LAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 14 SEPTEMBER 2023

Minutes of the Meeting of Lake Parish Council held on **THURSDAY, 14 September 2023** at **Lake Methodist Church** at **19.15pm**.

**PRESENT:** Cllr Paul Brading, Chairman  
Cllrs Michelle Abbott, Naomi Goodall, Jenny Hicks, Adrian Whittaker, and Bette Young

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr Richard Priest (Clerk) Raine Elliss (Admin Officer)

There were seven members of the public present. Cllr Brading welcome colleagues from Wootton Parish Council, and answered questions on article in Lake Ripples, and noted the planned replacement of New Road Toilets following ongoing vandalism, with Revetment Toilets project a separate initiative that the Council had tried to progress.

### **39/23-24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Pauline Evans, Sue Hardy, John Marshall and Tig Outlaw. The Chair and members asked the Clerk to contact Cllr Evans regarding attendance.

### **40/23-24 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS**

Declarations of interest were as previously registered and recorded.

### **41/23-24 CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2023**

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes of 13 July 2023 as a true and accurate record of the meeting, and the Chair signed them accordingly.

### **42/23-23 MATTERS FROM THE MINUTES NOT REQUIRING A RESOLUTION**

Members congratulated Cllr Abbott on her son's recent sporting success for Team GB U18 in Istanbul.

### **43/23-24 UPDATE FROM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS POLICING TEAM**

PCSO May had forwarded Report for circulation, and members noted reduction in number of incidents in the Bay.

### **44/23-24 FINANCES**

- a) To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for July and August 2023.

The Chairman proposed and Cllr Whittaker seconded, with members unanimously proving the payments and receipts list as presented.

b) To receive and note the verified bank reconciliations for July and August 2023.

Members unanimously agreed and noted the bank reconciliation for July and August 2023 and the Chair signed accordingly.

c) To receive and note the expenditure against budget through August 2023

Members noted the Report and thanked the RFO for the detail and ensuring the Parish Council are financially responsible, given the cost pressures faced.

The Clerk and RFO highlighted the cost pressures, especially unplanned spend proposed on Revetment Toilets, and Signage Project, with additional costs for Youth Project and Bay Place Plan, with members noting importance of these projects, prioritised by residents and need to reflect in Budget preparations for 24-25 onwards.

d) Budget Process 2024/2025

Members discussed the Budget process for 24-25, and possibility of a briefing later in the year, given the present financial pressures and planned projects for 2024 onwards, with members identifying Hanging Baskets, and other projects for funding consideration.

e) New Road PWLB Application

The Clerk outlined the correspondence with IWALC regarding the submission of the PWLB loan application, and members confirmed Cllr Brading and the Clerk/RFO signing off further documentation to support the application, and thank Jenn for the work involved in preparing the application which had been previously circulated to all members.

#### **45/23-24 NEW ROAD TOILETS CORRESPONDANCE**

Members noted recent correspondence circulated by the Clerk, and confirmed by 5 votes to 1 the previous decision of the Parish Council to keep the Toilets open, if possible, until replacement; as well as noting the coverage in local and national media outlets, with discussion regarding removing Radar access to accessible toilet and making a Gents Toilet with access for Disabled Users, with women's toilets remaining. The Clerk highlighted potential unbudgeted costs, and possible legal implications in respect of Equality Legislation.

Cllr Whittaker proposed and Cllr Goodall seconded proposed removal of Radar Key access, and re-signing of accessible toilet for use by Gents and disabled users. 3 members voted in favour, 2 members against and 1 abstention. It was resolved that Radar access be removed and the facility resigned as Gents with disabled users able to use, subject to further clarification from the Clerk.

#### **46/23-24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: TO RESOLVE COMMENTS ON APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

The Chair updated members on local planning issues.

#### **47/23-24 EVENTS COMMITTEE**

Cllr Brading updated members on discussions with Cllr Marshall on Remembrance Sunday plans, with Members agreeing to fund Sandown Green Town Volunteers £175 for planting of Memorial. The Clerk/RFO highlighted this was further unbudgeted

spend, and members unanimously agreed to fund the project, and asked Clerk to use grants funding for the project, and this would be part of future budget discussions.

#### **48/23-24 RIPPLES**

The Chair thanked Mrs Marshall for work on Ripples and positive feedback from Bay Place Plan Consultation, and noted recent increase in costs for larger publication and plans for next edition.

#### **49/23-24 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr Brading read our Cllr Outlaw's report, including the issue of the land at the back of Kingdom Hall, as well as proposals from Sandown & Lake FC for sit-on mower grant application.

Cllr Brading updated members on status of Speed Review by IW Council, with issues in Green Lane and Sandy Lane, issues about the land adjacent to KFC, actions about abandoned cars in Araluen Way and contact with DVLA, possible replacement of dangerous tree near to Memorial, and ongoing issue at Junction outside of Tesco's. Cllr Brading also reminded members of briefing on Tuesday 19 September at 10am in Sandown Broadway Centre regarding Sandham School proposals, as well as possible meeting regarding Traffic Regulations Review.

Cllr Hicks noted attendance at Cycling and Walking Consultation facilitated by the Clerk, and Cllr Brading thanked Cllr Hicks for work on Memorial.

Cllr Hicks noted attendance at Expo 2023, and forthcoming sustainability meeting; and Cllr Young reported on possible availability of meeting rooms at new facility next to New Road Toilets.

Cllr Brading updated members on Bay Place Plan, with publication likely at the end of September or early October, discussions with Broadlea on after school club project, and stalled IW Council plans for Berry Hill site.

#### **50/23-24 CLERKS REPORT**

Members thanked the Clerk, Jenn and Raine for the actions taken and this would form part of discussions on review of SLA. Members noted correspondence from External Auditors, and this would be reflected in report at future meeting, as well as information on website revised following correspondence. Raine highlighted recent verbal abuse incident regarding New Road Toilets, and members noted increased workload generated by PWLB process, issues at New Road and Revetment, and with Utility Suppliers as well as increased public engagement with back office team.

#### **51/23-24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Cllr Brading proposed bring forward this item to enable confidential session and members unanimously resolved. A resident highlighted need for yellow lines on Churchill Close, and members noted this would be considered by IW Council as part of Network Integrity Register review with Island Roads, by IW Council. Residents also

highlighted possibility of Lake setting up a Green Towns Volunteers Project, and members would support initiative.

#### **52/23-24 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Members resolved to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972. Cllr Goodall left meeting.

#### **53/23-24 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Members noted that Clerk had contacted 3 appropriately qualified contractors for quotes for work on revetment toilets, with only 1 replying. Members noted the need to progress commissioning of replacement part as soon as possible, as it is purpose made and will be imported from America. Members also agreed to commission contractor to install replacement part once received and then provide overall servicing. This process is likely to run into the New Year, with members wishing to conclude by Easter 2024 if possible. Members unanimously resolved procurement of the replacement part, and then commissioning installation and servicing.

Members also unanimously resolved to approve Clerk/RFO taking forward VAT reclamation, and future claim, to help enable unbudgeted projects to go forward due to urgency of issues, with proposed budget briefing to consider the immediate financial pressures and longer term budget priorities.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 9 October 2023, 19.15 at Lake Methodist Church, Sandown Road.

Meeting closed 21.15