

## Queenborough Town Council

Minutes of the Queenborough Town Council held on **Monday 15<sup>TH</sup> August 2022**

at the Queenborough Guildhall at 19:15 Queenborough Guildhall

Present: Councillors Ashley Shiel (Mayor), Paula Telford, Cameron Beart, Sandra Fowle, Zoe Swarbrick, Jackie Constable, Peter Marchington, Zoe Clulow, Janet Flew

The Clerk to Queenborough Town Council, Lisa Gransden.

**1. Emergency Evacuation and Covid-19 secure procedures** – the mayor explained the Council procedure.

**2. Apologies and grounds for absence** – Cllr Simpson (holiday) and Cllr Darby (family turned up)

**3. Declarations of Interest** – None

**4. Public questions** – None

**5. Policing Matters** – Cllrs listened to the August report from the PCSO. There were no further matters considered from the report.

**6. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

The minutes were reviewed and adopted as a true copy, signed as a true copy by the Mayor, Cllr Ashley Shiel.

**7. Review of Matters arising from previous meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Cllr Clulow questioned if she was at the meeting, with the Clerk and other Councillors confirming she was not present that evening.

**8. Mayors remarks**

The Mayor thanked everyone for coming on such a hot evening.

**9. Community Governance Review 2nd stage consultation - Lucas Close, Queenborough - Sheerness Town Council area**

As reported at the May Full Council meeting, the Council have welcomed and included the residents of Lucas Close, in its' community since residency was taken. Including the Close, in all community events including freighter day. If Lucas Close falls under Sheerness Town Council the area will have to be excluded from Queenborough Town Council.

Lucas Close falls within the Sheerness boundary with a Queenborough postcode, the residents should stay in our community and the boundary for Queenborough moved. Access to the Close is only via Queenborough. It was once again unanimously agreed to support Swale Borough Council Governance Review for this Close to bring it under Queenborough Town Council. **Action the Clerk**

## **10. Queenborough & District Naval Ensign Association report from the Mayor of Queenborough**

The Mayor reported on his discussion with Cllr Janet Flew as Secretary of the Ensign that due to an ageing congregation and death, other members were not able to continue with the Charity. The closure of the Association will be voted on at their next AGM which will follow the September Parade.

The Mayor reported on a letter of support received from Linda Vine of the Guildhall Museum in support of the Town Council taking over.

A financial report was discussed with confirmation from Cllr Flew that donations are received in the sum of £600 from the Town Council and Swale Borough Council members donate the rest.

Approximately forty letters require sending annually to which Cllr Flew holds the contact details, with minute meetings held monthly on the fourth Wednesday.

Could this be a QTC working party with ex members of the Ensign on board. This would be extra work and another committee under the remit of the Town Clerk, with little knowledge on the Naval background of the Association.

There are currently twenty-three members with only five members turning up to meetings.

To further discussions with Sea Cadets, Steve Loach and Paul Kite the vicar about the continuation of the association.

Cllr Flew is on holiday from tomorrow until 6<sup>th</sup> September, just before the wildfire parade.

## **11. Financial Reports –**

**i) The cashbook and bank reconciliation** were noted for June 2022, as approved by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, the Council approved the items with no matters arising.

### **ii) Review of payments in June 2022**

Payment reports were approved for April and May 2022, as approved by the Finance & General Purposes Committee. There were no matters arising.

**iii) Authorisation of proposed payments due and paid between meetings of the F&GP and Full Council** – all payments were approved.

**A donation will be made to the Guildhall Museum in the sum of £150**

## **12. Committees and Working Party Reports**

### **(i) Environment Committee**

Cllr Fowle reported on her first meeting as Chair.

**The Council noting the draft minutes, approved the actions of the Environment Committee**

**(ii) Environment Committee working parties:**

**a) In Bloom**

Cllr Paula Telford thanked all Councillors and the Clerk who took part in the local judging. SSEIB results will be released in September.

**b) Allotments**

Cllr Telford reported on an allotment holders meeting planned for September.

**Action the Clerk**

No Fires on the Allotment sites had been placed by the Clerk due to recent dry fire incidents in Sheerness and allotment holders holding fires near to trees and bushes at Coronation East.

**c) Christmas Lights** – Cllr Shiel reported there was none.

**d) Community Crisis Plan** – Cllr Shiel reported himself and the Clerk had met last week, and a live plan will be issued soon for review.

**e) Emergency Food Bank**

Cllr Constable reported on five new extra homes added on Friday and another one today, Sharrock Insurance had donated £300

**(ii) Finance and General Purposes Committee** – Cllr Marchington reported on a good meeting. The Clerk reported on the Southern Water item in the minutes with further correspondence from Cllr Beart that QTC were being reimbursed the cost of their water supplied to the community and an officer from the organisation will contact the Clerk, the Clerk will not send the letter and re-invoice for the water until more is known on the situation or she has heard from the officer.

**The Council noting the draft minutes, approved the actions of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.**

**(iii) Planning Committee** – None.

**The Council noting the draft minutes, approved the actions of the Planning Committee.**

**13. Reports from QTC representatives serving on other bodies**

**Local Community bodies**

**a) Queenborough Town Community Centre** – Cllr Shiel reported on the lovely new fire doors.

**b) Queenborough Fishery Trust** – Cllr Constable reported on a business meeting being held in four weeks' time.

- c) **Queenborough Harbour Trust** – Cllr Fowle reported on recent illness, mooring numbers were up but people are now leaving because of the current problems in the area. They are struggling to keep things going. The Harbour Market is also meeting some challenges.
- d) **Queenborough School and Nursery** – Cllr Clulow reported on Cllr Fowle, Lisa and herself visiting the year 6 leaver assembly and presenting the retiring Headmistress of Queenborough School and Nursery with a gift on behalf of the town Council, which turned out to be an emotional morning.
- e) **Rushenden Community Hall Association** – Cllr Marchington reported on waiting for permission for the change of fencing and landscaping at the club.
- f) **Rushenden Community House** – Cllr Fowle had her first meeting with Wendy at the House and reported on how lovely it was, with computers for people to use etc.

#### **Swale Area Bodies**

- g) **KALC Swale Area Committee** – Cllr Beart reported he had given apologies for the last meeting, but in his absence had been elected by members to continue serving as KCRP representative with no one else coming forward and no one filling positions.
- h) **Local council's Liaison forum of SBC** – None
- i) **SBC Swale Area Committee**– the next meeting will be for funding awards.
- j) **Swale Joint Transport Board** – None.
- k) **Swale Rail** – None
- l) **VEL Surgery PPG** – Cllr Telford attended the first meeting last month, reporting on the new practice positions filled. The next meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**14. Correspondence** – None

**15. Late inclusions previously notified to the Mayor** – None

**16. Any other Business** –

Cllr Telford asked if the bird bin would be installed soon, further correspondence is required with SBC due to the location request being moved in King Georges Park.

Cllr Telford reported on Unit Engineering having an accident with the QTC NHS Bench whilst storing it prior to installation. It was agreed to install by the Rushenden boat on entry to Rushenden. Cllr Telford agreed to arrange.

Cllr Telford reported on Unit Engineering reporting fly tipping in their business area surround, Cllr Shiel will report back after looking

Cllr Telford reported on a resident complaint to her of the food bank, food is put on the bench outside the office near the community bin and flies have been seen flying between food and bin, there is also dog pooh put into that bin. Councillors to monitor.

Cllr Flew reported that Ted Davis, President of the Ensign had passed away and his funeral will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August at 4pm the Mayor said he was attending wearing the Chain.

Cllr Constable welcomed Cllr Flew back to the Council meetings.

Cllr Shiel reported on meeting with local children along with Jan St Knight and giving them chips at castle connections, parents had also been invited on Wednesday.

Cllr Beart reported on the land behind the Guildhall with the fence taken down and cars parking on the land.

Cllr Beart asked for a Thank You letter to be sent to the Queen Phillipa on their recent hospitality shown to the volunteers of the Operation emergency Water.

The Clerk reported on the SAC funding request for lighting at Neats Court footpath, with the funding officer asking, if QTCV were awarded funding for this project that Queenborough Town Council would remain responsible for the maintenance and management of the lighting and there would be no ongoing revenue commitment from Swale Borough Council and no expectation of SBC officer resource?

The Clerk reporting that without further budgeting and further insight to the costs involved in maintaining and managing the lighting the Town Council are not able to request funding at this time, without the support of SBC. The funding request will therefore be cancelled.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 20.48

**Date of next meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**