

**QUEENBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Queenborough Town Council **Environment Committee** held on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023** in the Guildhall, High Street, Queenborough at 19.20.

**Present:** Councillors Shiel, Telford, Marchington, Darby, Fowle, Flew, J Constable.  
The Clerk to Queenborough Town Council, Lisa Gransden

**1. Apologies received:** Councillor Swarbrick (other business)

**2. Declaration of Interests:** None.

**3. Appoint new Environment Chairperson for 2023/2024**

Due to the resignation of Cllr Stockbridge the chairperson vacancy had arisen, by resolution Cllr Fowle was elected as Chairperson, to which she accepted.

**4. Chairs Remarks**

Cllr Fowle thanked everyone for electing her as the new chairperson.

**5. Public Questions:** None

**6. Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

The minutes were reviewed and adopted as a true copy and signed as a true copy by the Chairperson tonight.

**7. Matters arising from previous meeting:**

Cllr Shiel updated on the leak fix at Rushenden Road, this had been escalated for repair.

**8. Queenborough & Rushenden Waterways**

The Clerk reported the next meeting was on 29<sup>th</sup> November to which she also had a Clerk's group meeting at the same time, the Committee agreed she should attend the Clerk's meeting on this occasion.

**9. Anti-social behaviour in the community**

There were no reported incidents to the Clerk or Councillors since the last meeting.

**10. Queenborough & Rushenden Map, Brochure and boards** – Once again, despite chasing this with the company there was still no reply or update from Handy Prints.

It was agreed for a letter to be sent to Handy Prints.

**11. Train Station Murals**

Committee members and the Clerk will meet with the Camera Club on 12<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm. Suggestions also were for Henry Slack and Steve Harding use of local photos.

### **12. Pantomime at Queenborough School and Nursery**

By resolution it was agreed to donate £1,600 held in the budget for the pantomime to the School and Nursery.

### **13. Guildhall Illumination**

Cllr Shiel reported on the idea to light up the Guildhall, photos were noted of Downing Street and Faversham Guildhall lit up with coloured illumination. The Clerk contact with SBC responding that QTC would need to apply to SBC for landlord's consent subject to obtaining relevant planning permissions first. Potentially listed building consent would also be required and if allowed to proceed QTC would be required to remove the lights prior to vacating the premises and any damage reinstated to SBC satisfaction. No further action will be taken by QTC at this time due to the actions required in placing illumination at the Guildhall.

### **14. CCTV in the community**

It was agreed to arrange a visit by SBC control Centre manager to the area to look at possible locations for the placement of CCTV in Queenborough and Rushenden on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### **15. 80 D-Day Event 2024**

This will fall under Christmas Lights annual event on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June and include the lighting of the Beacon. Fish and Chips supper to be donated to the lunch club at the Community Centre. Hot dogs/vegetarian and vegan rolls to be given out in Queenborough Park alongside the lighting of the Beacon. Book Annie Love, Yacht Club will be open. To use hats held in storage from VE Day cancelled event. Invite Army trucks to attend, use the Council games hook a duck, 4 in a row etc. Start at p.m. with beacon lighting at 9.15pm.

### **16. Seasonal Afternoon Teas**

Responding to the Clerk idea of Seasonal afternoon teas in the Guildhall, it was agreed to plan for Easter where the community can purchase a ticket and maybe a museum talk with afternoon tea served in the Guildhall.

### **17. Available Land/Premises in the Community**

The Clerk updated on correspondence with KCC and SBC regarding the Ladybird Centre in Rushenden and Land behind the Guildhall.

SBC owned land behind the Guildhall is currently sitting with one of their consultants, there is *still interest in using this land by third parties but this parcel of land and the site where the rowing club currently are, are connected and need to be reviewed together.*

SBC's consultant is reviewing both sites along with the wider asset review for Swale Borough Council.

KCC owned Ladybird Centre in Rushenden, the possibility of leasing the above property. KCC is currently reviewing their network of community buildings, following the consultation earlier this year. No decisions have been taken so far, and a decision by KCC Members is expected later in 2023/ early 2024. Until a decision has been made, they cannot enter any discussions about alternative uses as it could predetermine the outcome of the decision.

#### **18. SBC Action Grants**

There was not enough time to reply to the grant.

#### **19. Age UK Sheppey**

The Clerk reported on the visit by the AGE UK representative and showed the Committee all the activities that are taking place, it was reported that the Rushenden Community House is very much open.

#### **20. Environment Budget 2024/2025**

By resolution of the Committee.

Christmas Lights £14,000

QTC Annual Event £2000

Allotments £3000

In Bloom £4000

Advertising Website £800

Pantomimes £1600

Freighter Day - no budget

Environmental Improvements £3500

Defibrillator Maintenance £600

CCTV £2500 Total Budget required £32,000 to forward to F&GP

It was agreed Environmental improvements reserves can also be used on CCTV.

#### **21. Reports from Working Parties**

**a) Christmas Lights** – None there was meeting earlier this evening.

**b) In Bloom** - None

**c) Allotments** – *None there was meeting earlier this evening*

**d) Community Emergency Plan** – None

**e) Emergency Food Bank** – Cllr Constable reported on seven extra added last week.

**22. Correspondence** – None

**23. Late inclusions** – None

**24. Any Other Business** – None

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.41.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

APPROVED