

Queenborough Town Council

Minutes of the Queenborough Town Council held on **Monday 24th April 2023**

at the Queenborough Guildhall at 19:00 Queenborough Guildhall

ALL MINUTES ARE WATERMARKED 'DRAFT' AND REMAIN A DRAFT COPY UNTIL THEY ARE AGREED AT THE NEXT RELEVANT COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE MEETING.

Present: Councillors Ashley Shiel (Mayor), Jackie Constable, Peter Marchington, Janet Flew, Paula Telford, Sue Simpson, Richard Darby, Zoe Swarbrick, Zoe Stockbridge, Sandra Fowle.

1. Emergency Evacuation – The Mayor made all aware of the Council procedures in an emergency on exiting the building and the meeting point across the Road.

2. Apologies and grounds for absence – None

3. Declarations of Interest – None

4. Public questions - None

5. Policing Matters – None

6. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 13th March 2023

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

7. Review of Matters arising from previous meeting held on Monday 13th March 2023

Cllr Constable reported that the Riverbed at the bottom of Stanley had been sold by the Queenborough Fishery Trust to a local resident.

8. Mayors remarks

The Mayor thanked everyone for his time in office.

9. Donation to Swale Citizens Advice

As proposed by the Finance Committee it was agreed by resolution, to donate the remaining Discretionary Grant funds for the 2022/2023 year to Swale Citizens Advice in the sum of £1,550.

10. Financial reports

i) Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation

The Cashbook and Bank Reconciliations for February 2023 as approved by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, was approved by Full Council with no matters arising.

ii) Review of payments made between the Finance and Full Council meetings and authorisation of proposed payments due

Payment reports were approved for payments made between the meetings.

Authorisation of payments due were approved for KALC & NALC Subscription, Payroll inc. extra hours worked by the Clerk and British Telecom.

11. Committees and Working Party Reports

(i) Environment Committee

Draft minutes of the previous Environment Committee meeting had been circulated to all councillors by the Clerk, prior to the meeting.

Cllr Sandra Fowle reported on the meeting subjects of the Southern Water visit and continued support shown and further discussion on the Queenborough map and brochure.

The Council approved the actions of the Environment Committee

(ii) Environment Committee working parties:

a) In Bloom

Cllr Paula Telford reported on the new seafront planters being installed and planted up with thanks to Cllr Fowle and Cllr Constable for all their help in the pouring rain. In Bloom meeting is required to arrange a weeding day of planters and pots. The Act Team have started painting the bollards along North Road and behind the Guildhall.

b) Allotments

Cllr Paula Telford reported meeting with a group of fifty-six children from year 5 of Queenborough School at the allotment site, Cllr Zoe Stockbridge joined her. They both answered lots of questions from the children and three allotment holders also joined in.

The Clerk was organising a new padlock to replace the broken one at Coronation East allotment site, after reports from allotment holders and will install and distribute new keys to plot holders, once they arrive.

c) Christmas Lights - No updates, to report.

d) Community Crisis Plan – None.

e) Emergency Food Bank - Cllr Darby reported numbers were up, currently food bank users are 20 to 30 per week.

The Council approved the actions of the working parties.

(ii) Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Draft minutes for the previous F&GP Committee meeting had been circulated to all Councillors by the Clerk, prior to the meeting.

Cllr Marchington reported everything was good.

The Council approved the actions of the F&GP Committee.

(iii) Planning Committee:

Draft minutes for the previous Planning Committee meeting had been circulated to all Councillors by the Clerk, prior to the meeting. There were no further matters discussed.

The Council approved the actions of the Planning Committee.

12. Local Community bodies

- a) **Queenborough Town Community Centre** – The Mayor reported on the recent meeting at the Centre, Cllr Fowle has also been in attendance. The Centre were informed of all the work of the Town Council including Committees, reminding the Community Centre that the Town Council is bound by regulations. A conversation at the next board meeting will centre on youth activities.
- b) **Queenborough Fishery Trust** – Cllr Simpson reported the next meeting is in May.
- c) **Queenborough Harbour Trust** – Cllr Fowle reported on the Harbour Market struggling with stall holder attendance, for example fourteen stall holders may say they are coming with only six turning up because of the weather. They are trying out a vintage market.
- d) **Queenborough School and Nursery** – Cllr Stockbridge reported on the school and their school values update to BEAT being their new moto. Reporting on the year 5 allotment visit today. And the school will make crowns on sticks for the Coronation at the Castle Site. Brogdale have free fruit trees for Schools and Nurseries too.
- e) **Rushenden Community Hall Association** – Cllr Marchington reported that there had been an increase in prices due to the utility costs increasing. There is a youth group called VIBE community charity from Brogdale CIC group, using the Club on Mondays with three supervisors.
- f) **Rushenden Community House** – No updates to report.

Swale Area Bodies

- g) **KALC Swale Area Committee** – No update to report, requires a new council representative.
- h) **Local council's Liaison forum of SBC** – The recent meeting minutes had been distributed to Councillors.
- i) **SBC Swale Area Committee** – No update to report.
- j) **Swale Joint Transport Board** – No update to report, requires a new council representative.
- k) **Swale Rail** – No update to report, correspondence had been distributed to Councillors.
- l) **VEL Surgery PPG** – Cllr Telford reported there are now two trainee doctors working towards GP status and they are looking at a minor injuries department.

13. Correspondence

a) The Clerk reported on sad news on the death of Queenborian Mavis O'callahan. The Mayor reported he would attend the funeral and it was agreed by Full Council to donate fifty pounds in her memory, the Clerk to find out further donation details.

b) Sea Cadets had offered to help with any litter picks etc., in the future, there maybe somethings that the In Bloom can get them involved in.

c) Mayors Sea Cadet, it was agreed that it is a lovely idea for QTC and to forward to the new Mayor after May for consideration.

d) Rushenden dog park ideas were considered but firstly permission from SBC to use the land, it was not in QTC remit but the local authority responsible for owning the land would be required. QTC consider it an innovative idea but not in a play park, it should be a separate area. Dog owners would need to keep the area clean. The Mayor reported that potential future funding could be applied for from SAC.

e) Leobay, rubbish from the recent litter pick still required clearing, to report to SBC. Vehicles parked along the road is a matter for the Police. A fence along the sea wall is a matter for the Environment Agency and SBC, Land Registry is the first port of call.

14. Late inclusions previously notified to the mayor –

KCC Cost of living support could be applied for the Food Bank especially for gluten free families the cost of food is expensive. The closing date for applications is 28th April 2023 so time would be extremely limited in applying.

15. Any other Business

The Mayor reported on the Queenborough Society and the Society members' offer of help on local planning applications.

Anyone can now become a member of the Society and they will meet twice a year. To forward to the new council once it is formed and ask the Society if a representative of the Town Council can sit on the Queenborough Society.

To forward to the new council once it is formed and ask the Independence Day Committee if they would like a council representative at their meetings.

GBA had again reported the abandon trailers, Councillor Telford will look and report back to the Clerk.

The Mayor reported that Bennetts Transport Company had legally taken over the illegally blocked off area at Cullett Drive.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 20.20.

Date of next meeting – Annual Meeting 24th May 2023