



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd JANUARY 2023

PRESENT:

Town Mayor: Cllr. J. Barrett; Cllrs: K. Batley, J. Brooks, Mrs. S. Daniells (until Min. 153), J. Erskine (during Min. 129), Miss. C. Needs, S. Reynolds (until Min. 153), M. Stanley, Mrs. J. Warr and P. Woodall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. G. Frost (Town Clerk)
Mrs. J. Davis (Assistant Clerk)
Mrs. R. Vervecken (Civic & Office Manager)
Cllr. F. Oppler (WSCC Councillor and ADC Councillor) (part of meeting)
Cllr. K. Greenway (WSCC Councillor for Bersted) (part of meeting)
Ms. R. White (Bognor Regis Regeneration Board) (part of meeting)
Ms. H. Allen (Bognor Regis Business Improvement District) (part of meeting)

The Meeting opened at 6.30pm

123. WELCOME BY TOWN MAYOR AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Town Mayor welcomed all those present. The Council's opening statement was read, and particular attention was drawn to the evacuation procedure in the event of the fire alarm sounding and the Council's Standing Orders relating to public question time.

The Town Clerk gave apologies for Cllr. A. Cunard, due to another commitment, Cllr. S. Goodheart who had informed officers he would likely not be able to attend, although did not give a reason, Cllr. W. Smith, due to illness, and Cllr. B. Waterhouse owing to family commitments. Apologies had also been received from the Mayor's Chaplain and Mayor's Cadet, both of whom were on annual leave.

No apologies had been received from Cllr. H. Jones or Cllr. Mrs. S. Staniforth.

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this agenda and are reminded that they should redeclare their Interest before consideration of the item or as soon as the Interest becomes apparent and if not previously included on their Register of Interests to notify the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

Members and Officers should make their declaration by stating:

- a) the item they have the Interest in
- b) whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interest
- c) the nature of the Interest
- d) if it is an Ordinary Interest whether they intend to leave the meeting for the discussion and vote
- e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Registrable Interest, and therefore must leave the room for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time.

They then need to re-declare their Interest and the nature of the Interest at the commencement of the item or when the Interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

As per the Agenda, it is each Member's own responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interests notifiable under the Council's Code of Conduct, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

The Chairman reminded Members to declare their Interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

Cllr. Mrs. Daniells declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 27 as an employee of the Picturedrome Cinema

Cllr. Reynolds declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 27 as an employee of the Picturedrome Cinema

125. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AND WELCOME A REPRESENTATIVE FROM SUSSEX POLICE TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON LOCAL POLICING (IF AVAILABLE)

The Town Clerk confirmed that no representative was able to be present, having received apologies from Inspector Neil Durkan. Following Members request at the Council Meeting on 7th November 2022, the Town Clerk had expressed Members discontent that Sussex Police were not sending an attendee to these meetings. Inspector Durkan advised the Town Clerk that monthly updates on local policing were given at the 'Arun Parish Meeting', hosted by Inspector Durkan, which local Clerks were encouraged to attend, and use to enable a report back to their Councillors. Unfortunately, due to heavy workloads, the latest meeting could not be attended by the Town Clerk nor Assistant Clerk, but it is hoped that one of them will be present at the next meeting, to enable an update to be given to Members.

Cllr. Stanley thanked the Town Clerk for the update but argued it would be a different forum should a representative from Sussex Police attend a Town or

Parish Council meeting, facing questions from elected Councillors and potentially members of the public, rather than a closed meeting, hosted by Sussex Police themselves. Cllr. Stanley questioned whether, as no policing presence was promised for the immediate future, the standing agenda item for a policing update should be removed from Council agendas going forward.

Members present **AGREED** to discuss whether to remove the agenda item, from the Council agenda, at the next Council Meeting to be held on 6th March 2023.

126. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th NOVEMBER AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF 12th DECEMBER 2022

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7th November and the Extraordinary Meeting of 12th December 2022 were **APPROVED** by the Council as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

127. REPORTS FROM WSCC COUNTY AND ADC DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (IF AVAILABLE)

The written report from Cllr. Patel (WSCC Councillor for Bognor Regis West and Aldwick), was read by the Town Clerk and was **NOTED**.

Members thanked the Town Clerk for the report but expressed disappointment that Cllr. Patel didn't attend meetings to address Members in person, and hoped that he would do so in the near future.

Cllr. Oppler advised Members that a petition organised by upset residents regarding the reduction of face-to-face services, offered by Arun District Council, at Bognor Regis Town Hall, would hopefully be debated by District Councillors at their Full Council Meeting to be held 18th January. Cllr. Oppler confirmed his support for the petition, citing that any reduction in services now, may lead to claims by the District Council in the coming years, that the Town Hall is underused, which could ultimately lead to the building being sold.

Cllr. Oppler had received many complaints from residents local to London Road, in relation to the ice rink, which was situated in the lorry park for the 2022 Christmas season. The most common complaint was of the noise the generators made, with the first generator needing to be replaced due to this. There were also safety concerns raised at various points, with Cllr. Oppler stating each incident proved the lorry park was an unsuitable location for this attraction, which also did nothing to support the Town Centre businesses over the Christmas period.

Members expressed the same concerns, all hoping that the ice rink would be moved to its original location, near the seafront, for Christmas 2023. Anger was conveyed once again, that despite promises from Officers at Arun that

Place St Maur would be suitable for the purposes of the ice rink, and as a general outdoor event space, with the required footings, this did not appear to be the case. Cllr. Oppler will continue to ask questions at ADC as to who 'signed off' on the completion of the project at Place St Maur, when clearly much of the original design brief had not been met.

A dual-hatted Councillor confirmed to Members that for regeneration projects going forward, such as the Sunken Gardens and Alexandra Theatre, monthly updates were now provided by ADC Officers, which hopefully would allow more transparency and ensure any concerns are dealt with in a timely manner.

Cllr. Greenway (WSSC Councillor for Bersted) spoke of the heavy rainfall in recent weeks, with many complaints received from worried residents regarding floodplains. Cllr. Greenway held a meeting with the Environment Agency, to address these concerns, particularly regarding how drainage was managed at the Aldingbourne Rife. The Agency confirmed the price to have the Rife 'dredged' was too high, but that in their view, the rainwater was being held in the 'correct' places, with the Tesco Shripney car park being confirmed as one of the flood storage areas for the Rife, which had seen significant flooding issues in recent weeks.

Regarding roads and highways in West Sussex, Cllr. Greenway advised that speed limit and criteria changes had been undertaken at County level during December 2022, as had the implementation of the Lane Rental Scheme, which issues a charge to those working on public highways, in the hopes this will act as motivation for works to be completed in a shorter time frame.

128. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no written questions from Councillors.

129. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 6.54pm and granted Ms. R. White (Bognor Regis Regeneration Board), with the agreement of Members, the opportunity to give her presentation, at this point of the Meeting

Rebecca White advised Members of the recent change in leadership at the Bognor Regis Regeneration Board (BRRB), with Cllr. David Edwards stepping down as ADC's representative to the Board. Cllr. Jackie Pendleton has since taken his place, on behalf of the District Council. In the run up to local elections, and to assert the organisations political independence, Dr Dave Cooper had been asked and had accepted the offer to act as Chairman of the Regeneration Board, in place of a Councillor. Leadership positions will be reconsidered following the elections in May, at the AGM in July.

Members were invited to the Board's next meeting on 1st February 2023, and the Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to Members, previously.

BRRB's new website will launch later this week and Rebecca White welcomed any comments and feedback on the new site which, as well as acting as a platform for the Board, will also aim to highlight partnership websites, such as those of Bognor Regis BID, Love Bognor Regis and the Town and District Councils.

Cllr. Erskine arrived at the Meeting

Councillors were updated on other recent work, including the outline planning application regarding the West Bersted strategic site application. Comments on transport concerns and issues raised by Bersted Parish Council about provision of healthcare within the site itself, were echoed by the Regeneration Board, with Rebecca confirming that this was reflected in the response to the application submitted by the Bognor Regis Regeneration Board, which could be circulated to Members, for their information.

Work in recent months had centred around the Town Centre Forum, which as well as visioning work, also included the Wayfinding Strategy for the Town, with the main aim of this being to improve connectivity and make Bognor Regis more accessible. Members were pleased to hear that the Wayfinding Strategy was now ready to present to Councillors, with the consultant confirming the date of 7th February 2023 to make this presentation. The Board will also be presenting the Strategy to District Councillors at an upcoming meeting of ADC.

Following an expression of interest from the Task Force, the Regeneration Board have submitted a bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for stages 2 and 3 of the Wayfinding design stage, to ensure collaborative work with community groups and stakeholders. A bid has also been submitted for funding towards stage 3, so key routes such as that between Bognor Regis Railway Station and Butlin's can be considered. The Regeneration Board have also applied for funding towards 'Belly Bins', a BID supported initiative, with the aims of providing bins that will help combat anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre. The bins are designed to be more environmentally friendly, as well as anti-arson and anti-graffiti. A funding proposal for the Town Centre Perception Campaign has also been made. If the Board are successful in gaining money for this, Rebecca confirmed they would take a collaborative approach, to improve what people think about our Town.

Rebecca updated Members on conversations with the Bognor Regis BID regarding potential uses for the top level of the Fitzleet multi-storey car park. Through the Town Centre Forum, funding has been applied for to allow a deeper look at viable options to make better use of this asset to the Town.

To enable the Board to begin looking at possible direction for the near future, the Regeneration Board have approached the local political groups to get a head start on what current ideas may or may not be supported going forward, to ensure collaborative working will continue smoothly, following local elections.

There was discussion on requirements of membership of the Board, with Rebecca explaining the two levels available which she hoped accommodated the smaller more local businesses and international businesses, present within the Town alike, enabling a large cross-section of businesses to be represented within the work of the Board.

The Chairman thanked Ms. White for her presentation.

The Chairman reconvened the Meeting at 7.13pm

130. TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN DISPENSATION REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

There were no written dispensation requests received from Town Councillors.

131. PRESENTATION FROM THE BR BID CO-ORDINATOR, HEATHER ALLEN ON THE BR BID SECOND TERM PROPOSALS

Heather Allen thanked Members for the invitation to attend the meeting and reminded those present of the upcoming end of the BID's first term on 31st March 2023. Starting from next week, the BID will begin campaigning for the second term, work for which has started through consultations with businesses and looking at the progress and pitfalls of the last five years. The final version of the new business plan will be presented to BID businesses next week. Heather clarified that the decision on whether the BID serves for another term is solely down to the votes of the businesses they serve.

She continued to emphasise the unprecedented times local businesses have experienced over the past few years, through Covid and now with the cost-of-living crisis, noting that the Bognor Regis BID would certainly not be taking a positive vote for the continuation of their presence in the Town, for granted. The aim, if voted in, is to continue to build on the successes experienced so far, including promotion of the Town, services offered to businesses, campaigns and infrastructure as well as the continuation of working with partners, including the Town Council, who Heather thanked for their support as a key stakeholder. It was acknowledged that whilst the Town Council's duties cannot be replaced or replicated, the BID can, if given the opportunity, continue to enhance Town Council services, as they did with the festoon lighting for 2022, and by adding extra events within Bognor Regis, such as 'TASTE!', which proved extremely popular last summer.

Heather admitted that the Town still faces challenges on perception, which cannot be rectified by one agency alone. The results of the second term vote will be known on 15th February 2023.

She confirmed that the CCTV cameras are still installed within the Town Centre and accessible on request for any possible crimes and continued to express how well Bognor Regis had weathered the storms of late, in comparison to other Town's over recent years, with current footfall only 10% down from this time in 2019. Figures on footfall within the Town over the Christmas period are still being formed and will be publicised on the BID's website and Facebook page, when available.

The Chairman thanked Heather Allen for addressing Members.

132. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS, MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES (OTHER THAN ANY SPECIFIC ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA)

133. Policy and Resources Committee Extraordinary Meeting of 31st October 2022 and the Meeting of 21st November 2022

In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee Cllr. Waterhouse, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Erskine reported.

133.1 Min. 80 - 31st October 2022 - Recommendation that any unspent monies from the Grant Aid 2023 Budget is returned to General Reserves at the end of the financial year - £455.70

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** that any unspent monies from the Grant Aid 2023 Budget is returned to General Reserves at the end of the financial year.

133.2 Min. 87 - 21st November 2022 - Recommendation to adopt the Dignity at Work Policy

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** formal adoption of the Dignity at Work Policy.

134. Community Engagement and Environment Committee Meeting of 5th December 2022

In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee Cllr. Smith, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Brooks reported. There were no recommendations to Council.

135. Planning and Licensing Committee Meetings of 22nd November and 6th and 20th December 2022

The Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Mrs. Warr reported. There were no recommendations to Council.

Cllr. Brooks took this opportunity to thank the Committee for supporting residents, through their objection to the recent planning application in Wood

Street, Bognor Regis, in relation to the installation of a parking bay for electric vehicle charging.

136. Events, Promotion and Leisure Committee Meeting of 14th November 2022

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Woodall, who had chaired the meeting, reported. There were no recommendations to Council.

137. TO RESOLVE TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS TO CONSIDER REVISITING PREVIOUS DECISION (S.O. 7A) REGARDING DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2023/2024 (MIN. 108 REFERS)

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

137.1 Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders (S.O. 7a) to enable them to revisit and consider agreeing to rescind their previous decision, that the Grant Aid budget be reduced to £24,000 and that the Flexible Community Fund budget of £4,000 be removed to allow for funds of £26,000 to be reallocated.

Members **RESOLVED** to further consider their previous decision and Standing Orders were therefore reinstated.

137.2 Members unanimously **AGREED** to **RESCIND** their previous decision, made under Min. 108, that the Grant Aid budget be reduced to £24,000, and that the Flexible Community Fund budget of £4,000 to be removed to allow funds of £26,000 to be reallocated.

Cllr. Batley left the Meeting

138. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 15th DECEMBER 2022 - TO CONSIDER THE BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET FOR 2023/24

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Waterhouse, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Erskine presented the Minutes.

Cllr. Batley re-joined the Meeting

Cllr. Stanley explained his proposal to remove the Flexible Community Fund budget, citing that he didn't feel that the initiative worked as a viable funding source, with most bids declined as they failed to meet the criterion. His proposal at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting of 15th December 2022, was to reallocate the Flexible Community Fund budget of £4,000 to the budget for Youth Provision, thereby increasing this budget from £10,000 to £14,000. This proposal had been seconded by Cllr. Mrs.

Daniells. The reallocation of this money, as proposed by Cllr. Stanley, was **RESOLVED**.

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** formal adoption of the Income and Expenditure Budget for 2023/24, with the amendments to the Flexible Community Fund budget and Youth Provision budget as detailed above.

139. TO DECIDE THE AMOUNT FOR THE PRECEPT TO BE ISSUED FOR 2023/24

The Town Clerk's report, including the appendix, was **NOTED**.

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Precept amount for 2023/24 of £1,009,819.

140. TO FORMALLY RECEIVE THE MINUTES, REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEES, AND REFER ANY SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS DECIDED UPON DURING THE MEETING BACK TO THE RELEVANT COMMITTEE, AND RATIFY ANY COMMITTEE ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to 'formally receive the reports, Minutes and recommendations of the Committee, and refer any suggested amendments decided upon at this meeting back to the relevant Committee'.

141. TO NOTE THE LIST OF PAYMENTS AND TRANSFERS MADE IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2022 AND TO NOTE THE BALANCES, BANK RECONCILIATIONS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS (DECEMBER NOT YET AVAILABLE) AND OUTTURN AND APPROVAL OF THE CONTENTS AND THEIR PUBLICATION

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** 'to note the payments and transfers made in October and November 2022 and to note the balances, bank reconciliations and financial reports (December not yet available) and outturn and approval of the contents and their publication'.

142. NOTICE OF MOTION (S.O. 9.0) PROPOSED BY CLLR. J. BROOKS

"That this Council:-

- 1. Adopts the revised chairs' pre-meeting announcement.*
- 2. Dispenses with the word 'Town' before 'Town Mayor' in written correspondence, or when he/she is verbally announced or addressed."*

The Town Clerk's report, and related appendix, was **NOTED**.

Cllr. Brooks spoke on the first part of his Motion, which was seconded by Cllr. Stanley. In Cllr. Brooks' opinion, the current Chairman's announcement was longwinded, with much of what is referred to now not needed post-covid. Whilst referring to his revised proposed announcement, Cllr. Brooks informed Members that he would like to make some further amendments, which he will forward to the Town Clerk for circulating to Members.

Regarding the second part of the Motion, which was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Daniells, Cllr. Brooks clarified that whilst he does not wish to investigate changing the Town Council's Standing Orders or regulations, he would like the word 'Town' to be dropped from 'Town Mayor', in written and spoken address. He stated that he believes it undermines the title and office of 'Mayor', and is unnecessary, particularly given there are no other towns of the same name in the country and neighbouring towns do not afford the word 'Town' in front of the position of Mayor.

As the Mayor did not deem the issue as urgent, Members **RESOLVED** to instruct that the issue be placed on the Agenda for the next Policy and Resources Committee Meeting, in accordance with S.O. 9a. Following a request from Cllr. Brooks, Members unanimously **AGREED** that, if the Policy and Resources Committee subsequently recommend the Motion to Council, the matter be included on the Agenda for the Extraordinary Council Meeting on 7th February 2023, to expedite this.

143. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CHAIRMAN FOR THE EVENTS, PROMOTION AND LEISURE COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS MUNICIPAL TERM FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF CLLR. BATLEY FROM THIS POSITION AT THE LAST MEETING - MIN. 46 REFERS

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

Nominations for Cllr. Woodall and Cllr. Brooks were proposed and seconded.

Following a vote, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr. Brooks as Chairman of the Events, Promotion and Leisure Committee, for the remainder of the municipal year. Cllr. Woodall will remain as Vice-Chairman.

Members thanked Cllr. Batley for his service as Chairman to the Committee.

144. TO CONSIDER A CALL FROM SLCC TO PASS A RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNCIL TO WRITE TO THE LOCAL MP ASKING THAT THEY BACK AN EARLY DAY MOTION TO SUPPORT CIVILITY & RESPECT

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

Members unanimously **AGREED** a letter should be written to Nick Gibb MP, asking him for help in addressing concerns about the bullying, harassment and intimidation of local Town and Parish Councillors and their staff, and requesting that he adds his signature to the Early Day Motion.

145. CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISION OF A HEARING LOOP FOR THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT BOGNOR REGIS TOWN HALL

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

Following a query from a Member, the Assistant Clerk confirmed that the hearing loop product as detailed in the report, costing in the region of £155, was of a 'standard' model, thus being compatible with most hearing aids.

Members therefore unanimously **RESOLVED** to purchase a portable hearing loop for the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, up to a maximum budget of £200 (plus VAT).

146. TO CONSIDER CHANGING DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2023: MAY 2023 OWING TO THE ELECTIONS; P&R BUDGET TO MONDAY 11th DECEMBER TO ALLOW FOR TAX BASE NOTIFICATION FROM ADC

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

Members unanimously **AGREED** to change the dates of meetings scheduled to take place in May 2023, as previously agreed, to the new dates recommended by Officers in the report in order to accommodate the Elections.

Members also unanimously **AGREED** to change the date of the Policy and Resources Committee (Budget) Meeting, scheduled to take place on Monday 27th November 2023, to the new date proposed of Monday 11th December 2023, subject to the Town Council's Accountant being available to attend, to allow time for the tax base to be published by ADC.

147. DELEGATED DECISIONS INCLUDING: PLANNING AND LICENSING

The Town Clerk's report and relating appendix was **NOTED**.

148. REGENERATION INCLUDING: TO NOTE THE PUBLICATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOGNOR REGIS REGENERATION BOARD MEETING HELD ON 19th OCTOBER 2022; UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BOGNOR REGIS REGENERATION BOARD (IF AVAILABLE); TO NOTE DATE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION IN RELATION TO THE WAYFINDING STRATEGY (IF AVAILABLE)

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

148.1 Members **NOTED** the Minutes of the Bognor Regis Regeneration Board meeting held on 19th October 2022, previously circulated.

148.2 Members **NOTED** that the Executive Director of Bognor Regis Regeneration Board, Ms. R. White, had been invited to give her update earlier in the meeting during public question time.

148.3 As advised earlier in the Meeting, Members **NOTED** that the Extraordinary Council Meeting will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 7th February 2023, to enable Members to receive a presentation by consultant, Richard Wolfströme, on the Wayfinding Strategy.

149. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT AND DUTIES UNDERTAKEN

The report on the Mayor's activities was **NOTED**.

150. TOWN CRIER'S REPORT AND DUTIES UNDERTAKEN

The report on the Town Crier's activities was **NOTED**.

Cllr. Woodall informed Members of a mistake on the earlier version of this report, relating to the Town Crier's opening of the Christmas Fair on 26th November 2022, which had stated that the Fair was organised by the 'Craft Cabin', instead of 'Four Seasons', as it should have shown. This change was brought to the attention of Officers prior to the meeting, with relevant changes made with immediate effect. This was **NOTED**.

151. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS

151.1 Cllr. Woodall – BRTC/ADC Liaison Mtgs; Bognor Shopmobility; Rox Music and Arts; Sussex Police Focus Group

Verbal Reports:

151.2 Cllr. Mrs. Daniells - Arun District Association of Local Councils (ADALC); Bognor Regis Heritage & Arts Partnership Board; Bognor Regis Twinning Association; Chamber of Commerce; Southdowns Music Festival; Jubilee Street Party on the Prom; West Sussex ALC Ltd.

Cllr. Mrs. Daniells advised that the Twinning Association had been querying updates on the interpretation boards for the Place St Maur. Following investigations on the moving of the Weil am Rhein bench, the Association have identified the Boules Piste area at Hotham Park as the preferred location for this. Bognor Regis Twinning Association have expressed an interest to Cllr. Mrs. Daniells, of giving a presentation to Councillors, on the work of the Association and the important links they provide. Members were very favourable to this idea and after discussion, it was suggested this could be arranged after the elections, to allow for any new Councillors to be involved.

Further to the reduction in Grant Aid afforded to the Southdowns Folk Festival for 2023, and ongoing problems with using the Place St Maur as an outdoor event space due to the potential works at the Alexandra Theatre, Cllr. Mrs. Daniells informed Members that this year's Festival will likely be on a smaller, more local pub-based scale. Organisers are looking into the 'Festival for a Fiver' campaign to help raise further funds for putting on the event.

151.3 Cllr. Brooks - Bognor Regis Heritage & Arts Partnership Board; BRTC/ADC Liaison Meetings; Chamber of Commerce.

Whilst Cllr. Brooks gave no verbal report, he stated that he was experiencing problems with saving the electronic form used for reports from representatives to other organisations, but that this seemed to be exclusive to him.

151.4 Cllr. Batley - Bognor & Bersted United Charities; Bognor Regis Seafront Lights; BRTC/ADC Liaison Meetings.

Cllr. Batley had received no recent correspondence from the Bognor Regis Seafront Lights. However, he had been kept up to date with activities of the Bognor & Bersted United Charities, particularly via email, although noted that most of this information is confidential and cannot be shared through this public forum.

151.5 A Member asked whether substitute representatives could be implemented for some of the organisations, particularly those who were in receipt of grant funding and only had a single representative. It was **AGREED** by Members that this proposal would be put on the next agenda for discussion by the relevant Committee.

152. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee **NOTED** receipt of correspondence as detailed in the list.

The Town Clerk drew Members' attention to the first item on the correspondence list, relating to a survey of Parish Councils in the Arun District. Members discussed the call to include the matter on a future agenda for discussion but felt that it was not relevant to the Town Council since there are no Co-Opted Members. Discussion then moved on to the forthcoming elections and the hope that people from a broad section of society would consider standing to represent Bognor Regis from May 2023. It was **AGREED** that links to NALC's 'Make a Change' Campaign would be shared and promoted, encouraging people to consider becoming a Town Councillor.

153. PICTUREDROME SITE UPDATE INCLUDING: DIRECTOR'S REPORT, ANY URGENT ACTIONS TAKEN FOR RATIFICATION; TO NOTE RECEIPT OF £9,000 MANAGEMENT FEE FROM THE BOGNOR PIER COMPANY LTD (FOURTH QUARTER PAYMENT 2022)

Cllrs. Mrs. Daniells and Reynolds redeclared their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and left the Meeting

153.1 Director's report, any urgent actions taken for ratification

The previously circulated Director's report was **NOTED**, with the actions taken, and expenditure **RATIFIED**.

153.2 To note receipt of £9,000 Management fee from The Bognor Pier Company Ltd (fourth quarter payment 2022)

Receipt of the £9,000 Management fee from The Bognor Pier Company Ltd. (fourth quarter payment for 2022) was **NOTED.**

The Meeting closed at 8.28pm