



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK, Joanne Davis, The Town Hall, Clarence Road,
Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1LD
Telephone: 01243 867744
E-mail: clerk@bognorregis.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th OCTOBER 2025

PRESENT:

Cllr: K. Batley (Chair); Cllrs: D. Dawes, R. Nash,
P. Ralph, Mrs. J. Warr, P. Wells and M. White

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. McLaughlin (Committee Clerk)
Mr. B. Handley (Event Duty Officer)

The Meeting opened at 6.31pm

51. WELCOME BY CHAIR

The Chair welcomed everyone present and read the Council's opening statement with particular attention drawn to the evacuation procedure in the event of the fire alarm sounding and the Council's Standing Orders relating to public question time.

52. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND THEIR APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO MEETING THE AGREED CRITERIA

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Miss. C. Needs and P. Woodall, with the Clerk recommending that the reasons given were acceptable. These absences were therefore **APPROVED** by Members.

No prior apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. Stanley and this absence could not, therefore, be approved.

53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair addressed those Members present to ask if they wished to confirm any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda.

As noted on the Agenda, 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 temporarily leave the meeting for the discussion and vote

- e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Registrable Interest, and therefore must temporarily leave the meeting 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 Chair reminded Members to declare their Interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

Cllr. Batley declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 5 owing to his family connection

Cllr. Wells declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 5 due to a previous work association

54. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND STATEMENTS

There were no members of the public seated in the gallery. Thus, the meeting was not adjourned.

55. CONSIDERATION OF YOUTH & YOUNG PERSONS BUDGET 2025/2026 APPLICATIONS – MIN. 28.2 REFERS

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

Members considered the applications received, and respective funding requests from the Youth & Young Persons Budget of £36,635, available for 2025/2026.

In deliberation of the significant oversubscription of funding requests, the Chair suggested, and it was **AGREED**, to consider the applications starting with the highest amount of funding requested.

55.1 Bognor Regis Football Club - funds requested - £20,000

Members, in debate, acknowledged the application was a one-off, and in accepting the impact on the community, and longevity of the project, **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award £10,000 to Bognor Regis Football Club.

55.2 Making Theatre Gaining Skills - funds requested - £7,000

Whilst comments were made on the appropriateness of funding this project, with the need to create self-funding and self-awareness discussed, Members did acknowledge the use of multiple venues and events in the Town that the project would bring. Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award £3,500 to Making Theatre Gaining Skills.

55.3 39 Youth Club - funds requested - £7,000

In discussing the need for transportation of equipment, storage between usage, and alternative use of private cars, as previous, Members on considering the merits of the detached/outreach youth work, including Park Days, **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award £4,000 to 39 Youth Club.

55.4 Young People's Shop - funds requested - £4, 377.75

On questioning the value of unrestricted reserves, Members tasked the Clerk to ascertain the level and use of these reserves with the organisation.

Pending, and subject to such clarification, Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE IN PRINCIPLE** to award £3,000 to the Young People's Shop. A final decision was **DEFERRED** until clarification had been received, and a report brought back to a future meeting.

55.5 West Sussex Music - funds requested - £4,200

In considering the application, Members felt the significant level of unrestricted reserves, and the relatively low number of potential service users from the Bognor Regis Wards, as required, was outside the criteria of the Youth and Young Persons Budget.

Members, therefore, **DISAGREED** to the funding application request received from West Sussex Music on this occasion.

55.6 Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre - funds requested - £4,000

All, in principle, supported the concept of the "Home Shed", and equally recognised the perceived benefits to young people deemed as NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training), disabled and Neurodiverse.

Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award the full amount of £4,000, as applied for, to the Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre.

55.7 West Sussex Fire & Rescue - funds requested - £3,000

Reservations were expressed in potentially awarding funding to a wider statutory organisation, and further, the low number of Cadets directly benefiting, should funding be awarded. The overall merits of the structured training programme, and opportunity to give the Cadets a "future" was generally accepted.

Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE IN PRINCIPLE** to award £3,000 to West Sussex Fire & Rescue, subject to, our wider terms of reference, permitting

the Town Council to fund another Council. A final decision was **DEFERRED** until clarification had been received, and a report brought back to a future meeting.

55.8 Bognorphenia - funds requested - £2,500

Cllr. Wells redeclared his Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and left the Meeting

Following a brief discussion about the virtues of Bognorphenia and, specifically, their annual event 'Our Generation Young People Day', Members in support of the wider aims to facilitate music through a recording studio, **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award the full amount applied for of £2,500 to Bognorphenia.

Cllr. Wells returned to the Meeting

55.9 Life Centre - funds requested - £2,464

With it noted that funding had been applied for from multiple authorities and owing to the significant level of unrestricted reserves available, Members **DISAGREED** to the funding application request received from Life Centre on this occasion.

55.10 Saltwater Creations - funds requested - £1,200

In consideration of their wider remit, low overhead costs, support of marine life and ecology through animation projects and working with local schools, Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to award, in full, as applied, £1,200 to Saltwater Creations.

55.11 Resourceful Community Scrap Store - funds requested - £ 1,072.50

Whilst concerns were raised, notably, their policy on DBS checks, and comprehensiveness of the safeguarding document, Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE IN PRINCIPAL** to award £1,072.50, subject to, and pending, confirmation of applied DBS checks. A final decision was **DEFERRED** until clarification had been received, and a report brought back to a future meeting.

Cllrs. Dawes and White voted **AGAINST** the awarding of funding to Resourceful Community Scrap Store and asked that these be recorded in the Minutes.

55.12 With an underspend of £4,362.50, Members will be invited at the next Environmental and Leisure Committee Meeting to consider earmarking these funds, and carry them forward to the Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/2027, or whether the balance should be returned to General Reserves.

The Meeting closed at 7.52pm