

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7.00pm at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood.

PRESENT: Cllr Gareth Deboos, Town Mayor
Cllr Rae Frederick, Deputy Mayor
Cllr Andy Briers
Cllr Hilary Edge
Cllr Jeremy Heron
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr Darren Loose
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine
Cllr Derek Scott
Cllr Glenys Turner

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk

ABSENT: Cllr Philip Day
Cllr John Haywood
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly
Cllr Tony Ring

**C/6948
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Five representatives from Ringwood Town FC and AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust were present to report on their use and experience of the new artificial turf pitch.

**C/6949
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Day, Haywood, O'Reilly and Ring, and from Inspector Darren Ord.

**C/6950
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none declared at this time.

**C/6951
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT LONG LANE**

The Community Senior Manager from AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust reported that the new artificial turf pitch has been in use since mid-February and has facilitated the expansion of their provision of girls and ladies football, disabled football and walking football. In response to questions

- he confirmed that they would be advertising the new playing opportunities and promoting them in every other way they can think of; and
- he anticipated that the new pavilion will be finished in or about next February.

The goalkeeper from the Bournemouth Academy Under-10 Girls team explained how much her team enjoyed playing on the new surface.

The Chairman of Ringwood Town FC reported that all 28 of their teams now have regular use of the new facility averaging about 1 hour 20 minutes each a week – 35 hours a week in total.

The striker from their Under-18s team (who also coaches their Under-10s team) said the new surface is so much better than the grass pitches for all year-round practice and play.

All of the representatives thanked the Council for their part in providing this wonderful new facility. The Mayor thanked them for their attendance and comments.

Cllr Loose (the Council's representative on the project steering group) reported that

- we believe we now have an agreed specification and price for the pavilion and are waiting for Knights Brown to produce the contract paperwork for us to sign;
- the Town Clerk and representatives from the Trust had a joint meeting with lawyers yesterday to thrash out the remaining details for the new site lease; and
- we await the draft lease for Ten Acre Field.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update be noted.

C/6952

POLICE REPORT

Inspector Darren Ord had tendered apologies that, owing to staff sickness and other commitments, his team is unable to attend the meeting but a summary report on quarterly crime statistics and police operations in the parish had been received and circulated to members (*Annex A*). He has invited members to submit questions via the Clerk.

Noting the numbers of reported crime in the report (showing only a small drop since the previous 90 days), Cllr Heron wanted to know if the recently-reported recruitment of additional officers had fed through to and had any quantifiable practical impact on the Police presence in Ringwood.

Cllr Edge wanted to know if the small reduction in crime numbers was serving as a pretext for not increasing Police activity in Ringwood.

Cllr DeBoos presented an analysis of data from a speed data recorder installed on Southampton Road (by the Scout Hut) in one week in March. This had recorded 29,644 movements in a southerly direction of which 48% were observing the 30mph speed limit with 4% exceeding 40mph (and 4 of these exceeding 60mph). It recorded 24,796 movements in a northerly direction with 54% observing the limit and 2% exceeding 40mph (with 1 of these exceeding 65mph).

Cllr Turner wanted to know if Community SpeedWatch could be expanded to additional parts of the town.

C/6953

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 29th March 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/6954

RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That cancellation of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting on 5th April 2023 be noted.

C/6955

PLANNING, TOWN AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Frederick presented the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee held on 31st March 2023.

Cllr DeBoos added that he will represent the Council at the next meeting of New Forest District Council's Planning Committee to explain the Council's reasons for recommending refusals of application numbers 23/10003 and 23/10040.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee meeting held on 31st March 2023 be received.

C/6956

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr Heron presented the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 19th April 2023.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 19th April 2023 be received.

C/6957

HUMAN SUNDIAL – TIME CAPSULE REPAIR

Members considered a recommendation from Planning, Town and Environment Committee on 31st March 2023 that the surface of the time capsule cover stone be honed and re-lettered at a cost of £580, and this be funded from CIL receipts (*P/6140 refers*)

RESOLVED: That the surface of the time capsule cover stone be honed and re-lettered at a cost of £580, and this be funded from CIL receipts.

ACTION Jo Hurd

C/6958

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

The Town Mayor:

- Reported that he has arranged a meeting with the Chief Executive of New Forest District Council to discuss concerns about the handling of planning applications and comments from this Council;
- Thanked councillors and staff for supporting him as a councillor and as Town Mayor.

C/6959

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Heron reported that two planning applications would be considered by Planning Committee on 3rd May – 23/10003 (installation of ultra-rapid electric vehicle charging hubs and associated infrastructure – NFDC Car Park, The Furlong) and 23/10040 (totem sign– Hopclover Way, off Crow Lane).

C/6960

REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr DeBoos read a note from Cllr O'Reilly thanking councillors and staff for supporting her during her time on the Council.

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Cllr Frederick also thanked members and staff for their support and said how much she had enjoyed being a councillor.

Cllr Scott reported that Ringwood Twinning Association has arrangements well in hand for the upcoming Civic Reception and has engaged local suppliers wherever practicable.

Cllr Turner expressed the same sentiments as Cllr Frederick.

**C/6961
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Planning, Town and Environment	10.00am	Friday 28 th April 2023
Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 3 rd May 2023
Annual Council meeting	7.00pm	Wednesday 17 th May 2023
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 24 th May 2023
Annual Town Assembly	7.00pm	Wednesday 31 st May 2023

There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

APPROVED
17th May 2023

TOWN MAYOR



Ringwood Quarterly Report



Ringwood

	Current 90 days	Previous 90 days	Difference
1b Violence with Injury	11	14	-3
1c Violence without Injury	46	49	-3
2a Rape	0	1	-1
2b Other Sexual Offences	2	1	1
3a Robbery of Business Property	0	1	-1
3b Robbery of Personal Property	1	0	1
4a1 Burglary Residential (including outbuildings)	4	3	1
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	3	6	-3
4b Vehicle Offences	16	11	5
4c Theft from the Person	0	1	-1
4d Bicycle Theft	0	2	-2
4e Shoplifting	12	7	5
4f All Other Theft Offences	15	9	6
5a Criminal Damage	16	16	0
5b Arson	0	0	0
6a Trafficking of Drugs	0	0	0
6b Possession of Drugs	1	3	-2
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	3	1	2
8 Public Order Offences	15	20	-5
TOTAL	145	145	0





Ringwood Quarterly Report



Ringwood North (Poulner)

	Current 90 days	Previous 90 days	Difference
1b Violence with Injury	6	7	-1
1c Violence without Injury	19	22	-3
2a Rape	2	0	2
2b Other Sexual Offences	4	0	4
3a Robbery of Business Property	0	1	-1
4a1 Burglary Residential	1	5	-4
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	0	0	0
4b Vehicle Offences	4	3	1
4c Theft from the Person	0	1	-1
4d Bicycle Theft	0	0	0
4e Shoplifting	4	0	4
4f All Other Theft Offences	7	6	1
5a Criminal Damage	7	10	-3
5b Arson	0	0	0
6a Trafficking of Drugs	0	0	0
6b Possession of Drugs	0	3	-3
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	0	0	0
8 Public Order Offences	5	4	1
TOTAL	59	62	-3





Ringwood Quarterly Report



Current Operations/Areas of Focus

Op STOOL is a local operation looking at the recent increase in thefts from sheds and garages. We have had some fantastic results with a series of arrests which have meant suspects are remanded and the number of offences have dropped dramatically. We have conducted a series of joint operations as part of this operation we are able to utilise additional resources (such as specially trained Roads Policing officers and dog units) in order to respond to live incidents. Locally, as a neighbourhood team, we endeavour to attend all reported incidents of non-dwelling burglaries in order to carry out a CCTV scope of the area and house-to-house if appropriate to do so.

OP HARDHOME is an operation which is preventative in its endeavours to mark property using a 'Dot Peen' Machine. This indelibly marks property (garden machinery, tools, bikes etc.) You will have seen some successful events where we have marked tack and horse riding equipment (some high value items) and we will be rolling out a summer campaign where we attend New Forest Show, Ellingham etc. with the machine to support crime prevention.

Cat Thefts – There has been an increase in catalytic converter thefts across the New Forest and there have been vehicles targeted in Ringwood South. Vehicles most at risk are Honda Jazz, Toyota Prius and Yaris. Offences are occurring during the night and predominantly on a Sunday. We are working with crime prevention officers and manufacturers to support owners of targeted vehicles, as well as increasing patrols at relevant times and places. Numbers increase in January (8 in New Forest) reducing to only 1 in March. However we have seen a recent rise over the weekend of 12th/13th.

Successes/Outcomes

Ringwood Police have had a busy few months across the board as a team. Some of our successes as well as the arrests above have included:

- Regular Community SpeedWatch sessions have been attended to support volunteers in the Poulner and Hightown areas, which have been well supported, and have a lasting impact by providing a very visible deterrent in the local area, and education towards speeders.



www.hampshire.police.uk

Deaf? Non-emergency text

07781 480999

For crime and community information

www.hampshirealert.co.uk





Ringwood Quarterly Report



Changes in the Neighbourhood Team

Ringwood Town: PCSO 17944 Jas Sparshott & PC 20752 Dawn Pritchard
Poulner: PCSO 16158 Louise Griffiths-Grozier & PC 28252 Rob Soutar
Sergeant: PS 1266 Rob Ford
Inspector: Insp 1904 Darren Ord



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