

PRESS RELEASE – BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL

6 FEB 2018

This statement relates to matters which have taken place since December 2017.

It is hoped that the press and public appreciate the fact that, as well as making the day to day decisions for the town, the Town Council also acts in the capacity of employer. Employment matters must be dealt with in accordance with the various laws which govern the employee/employer relationship, including the data protection act. The duty to keep certain employment matters confidential is incumbent both on acting Councillors and Officials and those that have left their posts.

In December 2017 a potential employment issue was brought to the Council's attention. A special meeting was called for 19 December to discuss the matter but no specific details were provided until 8 January 2018, when the Council commenced a full investigation.

The investigation has been thorough and is being conducted with the aid of external Human Resources and Health & Safety consultants. It has included a detailed audit of current H&S arrangements, and thorough investigation of allegations of supposed 'grave dangers' posed to both Council staff and the public. The investigation is not yet complete; however, priority has been given to the most serious allegations and these have been proved to be unfounded. To date no aspect of the Council's working practices have been found unsafe or dangerous. As soon as the Council receives the detailed report from the H&S consultants any recommendations will be acted on immediately.

The Council continues to work with external HR and H&S consultants to continually monitor any changes in regulations or safe working practices and commits itself to the highest possible standards.

The Council regrets that this matter could not have been dealt with more expeditiously. It is unfortunate that the policies and procedures, which must be followed by those in public service, had not been followed from the outset. The Council would like to reassure the townspeople that the matter is now being dealt with in accordance with the proper legal processes.