



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD AT CHOYD ON TUESDAY 23rd april 2024 AT 6:30 pm

PRESENT: D McCleary (Town Mayor), G Head (Deputy Town Mayor), P Cronin, A Ingram, T Cowley, S Cowley

IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Jacobs (Town Clerk), Martyn Collinson (Yarmouth Town Trust), Sylvia Mence (CHOYD and Yarmouth Society), IW Cllr P Spink, Michael Craig (FYT), Anne Pas-Kyle (Yarmouth Carnival Committee and Sylvia Mence (CHOYD)

1. WELCOME BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor welcomed all present to the Yarmouth and Thorley Town Meeting

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON MAY 9TH 2023

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 9th 2023 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings

3. MATTERS ARISING

None were raised

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL FROM THE DEPUTY Mayor

The Mayor, Cllr Gill Head, presented a report based on the written document (Appendix 1 attached).

The Deputy Mayor thanked all Councillors for their efforts over the past year and to volunteers who had given their time in the best interests of Yarmouth and Thorley.

5. TO RECEIVE THE LOCAL MEMBER'S REPORT ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL BY IW CLLR P SPINK

Isle of Wight Councillor Peter Spink delivered his report, which appears as Appendix 2.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

YTT Chairman delivered a report which appears as Appendix 3

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE YARMOUTH SOCIETY

Yarmouth Society Chairman delivered a report which appears as Appendix 4

8. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY HALL FOR YARMOUTH AND DISTRICT (CHOYD)

CHOYD Vice Chairman delivered a report which appears as Appendix 5

9. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE YARMOUTH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

The Clerk read out a report from the Carnival Committee which appears as Appendix 6

10. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE FYT

The FYT Chairman delivered a report which appears as Appendix 7

11. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE IWC ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

The IWC Environment Officer delivered a report which appears as Appendix 8

12. TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN. RESOLUTIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE TOWN CLERK NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TOWN MEETING

There were no resolutions

Signed..... Date.....

D McCleary, MAYOR

Appendix 1

Deputy Mayors annual report 2024 ATM

Change in Councillors – Rod Corbett retired, and Patrick Farrell and Peter Spink took office. Rod has had health problems recently, and the Council wished him a speedy recovery.

Yarmouth School – selected bidder is Yarmouth Community Foundation made up of the Herapath Shenton Trust and the Maritime Archaeology Trust, and will hopefully include building eight affordable houses, a new scout & guide hall and possibly the Shipwreck Centre, currently at Arreton Barns. Under the bid, the school site will be sold to the Foundation which has offered £435,000 for the site, £400,000 of which will reimburse IWC for the refurbishment costs for the Freshwater and Yarmouth School building, and the remainder will be given to the Department for Education. Before the council can sell the site, it will need the agreement of the government to dispose of the school.

Rec has been re-seeded following renewal of the land drains the previous year and a youth football team is about to start practices. This is likely to have a knock-on effect for the replacement pavilion as additional facilities will be required, and it's hoped grants will be available from the Football Foundation to help cover this.

A Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Yarmouth was completed and tendered to IWC and awaits formal publication by them. Many thanks to Cllr Thomas Cowley for heading up this project.

Following on from that, YTC has decided to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan which will, when accepted, give YTC and the community much more control over local development. A Working Party has been formed and has already had 2 meetings.

D-Day 80 commemorations will take place on 6th June and will consist of a march-through of the town by Medina Marching Band followed by lighting of the beacon at 9:15pm as part of a countrywide initiative.

Cllr Thomas Cowley has organised the regeneration and refurbishment of Mill Copse with the aid of 24 volunteers from the Wight Nature Fund.

As a result of pressure from YTC, Island Roads has carried out improvements to the 2 bus stops at the bottom of Hill Place Lane which has made them much more accessible.

Cllr Patrick Farrell has been organising an extension of the Historic Plaques trail though Yarmouth and Thorley in conjunction with Kevn Shaw, and it's hoped to erect new plaques at several locations including the George, Yarmouth/Thorley Mill and Thorley Old Church.

Appendix 2: Report of IoW Cllr for Freshwater North and Yarmouth for 2024 Annual Meeting of Yarmouth Town

2023-24 has felt like a very long and at times frustrating year at the Isle of Wight Council.

Breaches of IoW Council's Constitution

A considerable amount of my time has been spent on issues of process and adherence by councillors and members of staff to the Council's Constitution. The constitution is intended to ensure proper and fair democratic process but it is unfortunately often broken and disregarded. The effect of which is to prevent full discussion and examination of policies. Complaints made about this by myself and other councillors' are invariably dismissed by senior council staff or simply not investigated. This has contributed to ill feeling, a lack of trust and an often toxic atmosphere at meetings.

It is hoped that changing the council's system of governance from a cabinet model to a committee system will improve the situation by involving more councillors in the decision making process and discouraging party politics and point scoring. The decision whether to implement this new system is to be taken by an Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council on the 1st of May.

Draft Island Planning Strategy Affects Us All.

Also to be decided by Full Council on the 1st of May is whether the Draft Island Planning Strategy should continue to its 2nd public consultation and thence for examination by a government inspector. I recognise that we need a new planning strategy and that we also need housing across the Island including Yarmouth; but it needs to be affordable by Islanders, particularly those of working age. In my view our farmland and woods should not be squandered on housing that developers want and Islander's cannot afford.

I have, therefore been pressing for a small but important number of changes to the Draft Strategy. In view of significant public opposition to the proposal to build 70 houses alongside the 26 or so that were built a few years ago in Burt Close Shalfleet, I have put forward an amendment to reduce development in the countryside to smaller, more appropriate sites of 10 or 20 houses in accordance with national policy. The cabinet, and surprisingly the local ward councillor for that part of Shalfleet, are opposing my amendment.

The Draft Strategy also proposes to extend Freshwater's settlement boundary to enable development on high quality agricultural land at Camp Road. This is in breach of government policy to retain such land for food production. I have tried to prevent this by a further amendment but again the cabinet and the same ward councillor do not support this amendment.

The Draft Strategy aims for 453 houses to be built on the Island every year for the next 15 years. It is hard to see why we need that number of houses when census figures show that in the 10 years between 2011 and 2021 the Island's population increased by only 2,000 (approximately) a significant proportion of which were over 60s moving here from the mainland. Further, we have already granted permission for approximately 2,000 houses which have yet to be built.

I hope that the above explains why I cannot support the Draft Strategy in its current form.

IoW Council Committees

Over the past year I have continued in my role as Vice-Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, Chair of the Planning Protocol Group, member of the Health and Social Care Committee, The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Group, Full Council, and until recently Planning Committee. I am not a member of cabinet but nevertheless attend the majority of meetings.

Ward Duties

I have assisted residents of my Ward with a number of issues ranging from planning, planning enforcement, unlawful tree-felling, flooding, roads, speed limits, the future use of the Yarmouth School site, permanent over stayers at Fort Victoria Campsite, empty properties, and more.

Appendix 3: Yarmouth Town Trust Annual Town Meeting – Report on the year ended 31 March 2024

The Town Trust's main priorities over the past year have continued to be: -

The Town Hall

Mill Road cottages

Recreation Ground / Children's Play Area

Archives / Website

The Common including the benches and monitoring the condition of the Seawall.

Graveyard Copse – maintained at Trust's expense, then-reimbursed by DLMT

1 – Financial Matters

The 2022/3 annual accounts of the Town Trust will be considered by the Trustees at their next meeting on the 16th May. There are not expected to be any unpleasant surprises. Once the accounts have been approved by the Trustees, they will be sent as usual to the Charity Commission and eventually appear on the Charity Commission's website. There have been no items of a significant nature.

The draft budget for 2024/5 was approved by the Trustees at their meeting on the 14th March.

2 – The Town Hall

Wight Stonemasonry and Southern Lights completed the work to renovate two of the Town Hall windows in November

Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners kindly used their drone to take images of the Town Hall roof and chimney. The lead work looks to be in good condition and there didn't appear to be any missing tiles.

The staircase is due for redecoration in the summer.

3 – Mill Road Cottages

The Chairman accompanied Spence Willard on their inspection on the 10th May. Several issues were reported and the list of items needing attention were attended to during the summer.

In late September all remaining chimneys were removed from numbers for safety reasons and because they had been unused for some time.



4 – New Town Trust Clerk

Our Town Trust Clerk left us for more full-time work in November and was replaced by Anne Dines. The Trustees thanked Sue for her work over the previous two years and presented her with an engraved glass.



5 – Website

Archive scanning continues and our thanks must go to Colin Wilcox, Rodney Corbett and Bernie Tucker for the considerable time they are giving to this project. We now have the enormous task of selecting the items of interest and loading them up to our website.

6 – The Common

The Trust still has difficulties with cyclists ignoring signs not to ride their bikes along the front. It is not possible to prevent this on a 24 x 7 basis and we can only stress the Health & Safety aspects and will be erecting a further sign this summer.

7 – Graveyard Copse

The water tap, which is not the property of the Trust has been secured with a new wooden post.

Two of the benches are being repaired with the wood from another bench that was previously on the Common.

8 - Yarmouth School Site

The Trust understands that the proposal submitted by the Maritime Archaeological Trust (MAT) and the Herapath Shenton Trust (HST) has been approved by the Isle of Wight Council. The Trust hopes that going forward they will work in cooperation with the YTC & YTT in the best interests of the Yarmouth community.

9 – Donation from Making a Difference (MADL)

The Trust received a donation of £613 from MADL at the end of the summer. It was Harvey's Store who kindly proposed us and were duly thanked.

10 – Looking forward

- We will be planting more Scots Pines on the Common.
- We hope to be having the under 11s playing football on the Recreation Ground – working with the Town Council
- We are hoping to get some better display facilities at the Town Hall so more of the public can view our artifacts.
- We intend to load up onto our website the key photos and documents that have now all been scanned.
- We hope to contribute whatever we realistically can to the new owners of the school site

So, all in all an interesting year ahead.

11 – Trustees

The Trustees at the end of March 2024 are: John Caulcutt, Rodney Corbett, Steve Cowley, Mike Dorey, Denise Cronin, Richard Leonard, John May, Bernie Tucker and the undersigned.

Trust meetings continue to take place every other month, generally on Thursday evenings at 18.30 hours in the Town Hall. The Trustees has applied to the Charity Commission for permission to allow remote attendance to Trust meetings via electronic means. While this is not desirable on a regular basis it is, on occasions, in the best interests of the Trust to have all Trustees involved where possible.

A special thank you must go to Sue Clark as our Town Trust Clerk whose knowledge and dedication has helped operations go smoothly over the last 12 months.

The 2024 the remaining meeting dates are scheduled for May 16th, July 11th, September 12th and November 14th.

Appendix 4: Report of the Yarmouth Society For the 2023-24 Season

From its AGM in September 2023 the Yarmouth Society has met every month through to the end of its annual season in April 2024.

All the Society's meetings have been held as usual in the comfort of the Community Hall ('CHOYD') on the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 6.30 pm. As before, thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, refreshments are always available from the kitchen, and the CHOYD bar is also open.

At each of these meetings (other than at the special Christmas social event, at which the Yarmouth Mummers again offered excellent entertainment), specialist speakers have given talks or presentations on a wide of range of topics: some local; some island; and some with a wider brief. These have ranged from Geoff Harwood's 1995 film '*Yarmouth: A Moving History*' and Tony Stables' humorous recollections of his distinguished RAF career, to '*Invasion Wight*' by Mark Earp and '*Climate Change on the Coast - A Global overview*' by island local, Professor Robin McInnes.

The quality of these talks and those delivering them have consistently attracted impressive attendance numbers. The majority of those present at each meeting are part of the steadily increasing membership (which costs just £7.50 p.a.), but visitors are always warmly welcome and frequently attend.

Beyond such meetings, the Yarmouth Society also aims to 'Support and Safeguard Interest in Yarmouth's Past, Present and Future'. Apart from our ongoing concern about the effects of excessive second or holiday home ownership, we continue to promote our popular published guide 'Yarmouth on Foot'. Beyond this, we (the Committee) broadly welcome the locally beneficial plans for the former School site to go to the new Yarmouth Community Foundation, uniting the resources and expertise of the Herapath-Shenton Trust with the Maritime Archaeology Trust.

Thanks again go to all the hard work (mostly behind the scenes) of the seven-strong Committee who organise and expedite everything – not least our Secretary, Fay Keen, Speakers' Secretary, Mal Butler, and Treasurer, Janet Pitman.

Kevin Shaw, Chairman

Appendix 5: REPORT FOR 2023 OF THE COMMUNITY HALL OF YARMOUTH AND DISTRICT to YARMOUTH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 23rd April 2024

I am pleased to present this report of the Community Hall on behalf of the Trustees relating to the year 2023, our 8th year.

Firstly, we thank all our colleagues who gave their time and skills to manage the charity, bar and premises, to raise income, and to serve the community by providing a venue for a wide variety and number of activities.

We had a challenging start to 2023 when an unusually hard night frost in late January caused piping in the flat roof area of the building to freeze and burst. Water flowed from the Bar ceiling lights, covering floor areas. Quick action was taken to avoid costly and lengthy ceiling demolition by providing a new and more easily accessible piping system, so that we re-opened just four weeks later and retained all regular users. Our insurance claim covered all costs, including loss of earnings.

The Community Hall's main Constitutional purpose is to provide residents with a local venue for meetings, classes, family events and other leisure-time activities. Hiring fees therefore provide our highest income item and we had not raised our hourly hiring fee since 2017. However, the high rise in costs in 2023, especially in energy, forced us reluctantly to raise the hourly rate in January 2024. Regular bookings have continued of Fitness Classes, including movement in Bellydancing, family parties, art workshops, the Yarmouth Society, Committee Meetings of local groups who lack their own premises, a weekly Bridge Club, a musical and literary Gig, Staff Training, Book and Magazine launches, Bird watching and drawing. We are also one of the venues for Yarmouth Town Council meetings and we much appreciate the support and encouragement of Councillors.

Tuesday Coffee Mornings continue to be outstanding with a team of ladies providing a welcoming atmosphere to locals and, quite often, to a few Coach Trip visitors from the mainland. A small Ukulele group practise in the Front Hall and there are often informal chats with visiting specialists in social / health welfare. The Christmas Coffee Morning was a splendid chance to welcome back young Primary School children from their new Freshwater school and their singing round the Christmas Tree was a delight. Other fund raisers were monthly Quizzes, the annual raffle with over 50 prizes generously donated by local businesses, and twice weekly Snooker evenings.

On 6th May the town celebrated the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III very successfully, thanks to the Carnival Committee, supported by the Town Council. We were pleased to support this community event with bunting and by making takeaways available for the picnic lunch in The Squares and then teas. We now look forward to playing a part in the town's D Day Landings Commemoration this coming 6th June.

Regular annual checks and maintenance to security and equipment are carried out by professionals. The Trustees follow the guidance of the Charity Commission and submit the required Annual Return documents. Annual Accounts have continued to be approved by an external auditor. Our 8th AGM will be held on 25th June.

We are a charity run by volunteers, paying only for cleaning and the annual audit. CHOYD's sustainability is dependent on volunteers and we value highly our many wonderful helpers. However, we do need more volunteers to spread the load, particularly for administration and finance. The time given can be flexible and responsibility shared. Teamwork is essential.

Finally, the Trustees would like to thank the Town Council and all those local groups and residents who encourage our volunteers by their practical and financial support.

Kevin Shaw, Vice Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

Appendix 6: Yarmouth Carnival Committee 2023-24 report

Coronation Lunch – This event was a ‘one off’ for YCC so plans had to start from scratch but with some great ideas from inside and outside the committee and a huge amount of support from local businesses I think we pulled off a successful and very well received event. It was great to see the community come together and enjoy the glorious weather, food and music.

Carnival week '23 – With some weather challenges the 2023 Yarmouth Carnival week was a well-attended success. With events ranging from window spotting to sandcastles to pet shows and River sports there really is something for everyone and all ages. The parade on the final day was well supported and has given us the confidence to continue with the parade in the future, something which had been at risk for some time due to dwindling participation.

Fireworks – Fireworks 2023 were one of the best attended displays of recent years, helped by the fact that most other displays had been cancelled due to bad weather, we stuck it out and were rewarded with clear and dry skies on the day. This is by far the most expensive event YCC holds. The cost of the fireworks and insurance has risen to over £10,000 whereas our income from donations and sales on the day was a shade over £2,000, clearly this isn't a viable model to continue with! We have made the decision that we will continue to hold the event for free for the public, one of the few free fireworks events in the UK and to do so for 2024 we are seeking a headline sponsor to put down a minimum of half of the event cost.

Carols – Carols in the Square was again well attended and was lead this year by Lord Lieutenant Susie Sheldon and Kevin Shaw. Carols in the square has traditionally raised money for charity and the collection for that evening was in aid of the Mountbatten Hospice and the Salvation Army and we were able to pass £380 to each charity

Pancakes – Pancake races is the first event of the year and 2024's was unfortunately a rather damp one, but the majority of the rain held off until just after the last race of the day. Shrove Tuesday fell during half term this year so the school couldn't accompany the children down as they normally do, but despite that, nearly all the school children convinced their parents to bring them down and participation in all races was high.

Ducks – March 30th saw the 1500 mischievous little ducks race down the river to a great crowd on the Bridge and river bank. The Sailing club provided their usual generous hospitality allowing YCC to use the clubhouse as a base and their launch “Nanny Mcphee” as the duck release boat, and the club's members provided teas and cakes to the crowds. The local businesses decorated ducks attended in good numbers, and the race was won for the second year in a row by Wightwood Pizzas.

Yearbook – 2023 saw the first edition of the Yarmouth Carnival Yearbook. The yearbook titled “Your Yarmouth Year” has taken the place of the old carnival week booklet and provides information on all the YCC events as well as interesting articles and stories from the likes of Kevin Shaw, Peter Issacs and Dawn Haig-Thomas. The 2024 edition is available at many outlets in the town now.

And a final note to anyone who wishes to support YCC and the work we do, please consider becoming a friend of the carnival every monthly or yearly donation makes a huge difference to what we can do as a group. Details are in the yearbook.

Appendix 7: Report from the FYT Chairman

Background: FYTbus is a registered charity and not-for-profit company. Our purpose is to improve access to local health, social, retail and leisure amenities for the residents of and visitors to West Wight. In so doing, we also support the businesses based here- shops, hotels, guest houses and our health and leisure centres.

FYTbus was founded with the full support of our parish/town councils to fill a gap in local transport left by the withdrawal of some Southern Vectis local services in the west of the Isle of Wight in 2008/9. Since then we have run 3 routes around the west wight.

We are run by volunteers and our drivers are trained to National MiDAS standards. On our scheduled routes and excursions, we run with a passenger assistant who is there to help passengers if they need it.

Since our inception, we have steadily refined and increased our services in line with the needs of our residents and visitors. We currently have a fleet of four minibuses, most recently an electric one, which is popular with our passengers and drivers. These are used for regular routes and for school services and excursions. We also have a people carrier for medical trips.

Financials: Our overall revenue in 2023 was £136,711 generated from fares, donations and a substantial contribution from our Charity Shop with contributions from IoW Council and other grants, including one from Freshwater PC. However we spent £148,620 providing the services, resulting in a loss of £11,909 for the year, funded by reserves from previous years.

Our Net assets stand at £160,832

We have a capital spend programme for replacement busses and for our electricity generating project. We bid for capital funding from various charitable institutions, Department for Transport and local governmental initiatives to replace/renew our minibus fleet and for capital projects.

Regular Routes: Our regular routes A and B cover most of the West Wight serving Bouldner, Yarmouth, Freshwater and Totland. These are traditional routes with bus stops and a planned timetable. Route E is a new route. It is a pilot bookable flexible service using an app, and supported by Hampshire Future Transport Zone and the Government. Currently running weekday afternoons, journeys can be booked to and from home to multiple locations in West Wight. **During the Covid epidemic and its aftermath, passenger numbers dropped significantly but have since recovered.** In 2023 we provided 6171 journeys, an increase of 26% over 2022. This equates to an average of 25 journeys every working day.

Shopping Trips: Twice a month we take the FYTbus from Freshwater, Yarmouth or Totland to shops further afield. To supermarkets in Newport and east Cowes or to the Riverway area (Currys, Dunelm etc). Or can go to any shop in Newport where we can park safely. This service is especially popular at Christmas, when we had to increase the number of dates to cope with demand.

Medical trips: Booked transport to St Mary's hospital and other medical appointments can be accessed via our website or phoning the office. We use a wheelchair capable people carrier for this purpose. We carry an average of 5 patients to their appointments per week. These services also showed an increased demand over the year and 7% over the last quarter.

School bus service: We also currently provide a school bus service for the new Freshwater school taking pupils from Yarmouth to the new school.

Electric bus and Generating our own Electricity: In December '22, we acquired our first electric minibus – the first such on the Island. With a grant from IWC we are now able to acquire our second electric minibus. This is an important step since it allows us to operate both our main scheduled services with electric minibuses – something our passengers will appreciate. We are working on generating our own electricity with a PV/battery installation at our depot in Thorley which we hope to have operational during this summer to provide electricity to the busses and the depot area thereby minimising running costs.

FTYbus shop: We have our own charity shop on The Broadway Totland which is very well supported. Donations of clothes, books and other items are always welcome. As well as being an important resource for the local residents, the shop provides vital funds back into the bus business.

Volunteers: We could not do anything without the support of our mostly volunteer workforce. We are constantly looking to reinforce and refresh our workforce so if you know of anyone who would be able to offer their services as drivers, PAs or volunteer in our office or shop. Please let us know.

Appendix 8: Annual report from the IWC Environment Officer

I took on the role of environment officer with the Isle of Wight Council in July of 2023 and in August 2023 was assigned to Yarmouth Town council. Through my role for the town council I have been carrying out regular statutory inspections of beach/revetment areas, engaging with members of the public and resolving or signposting any complaints on their behalf. I have begun building up good relations with those I encounter whilst patrolling in Yarmouth. I have also conducted regular statutory inspections of play areas, public toilets and as with the beach facilities, signposting all defects to the relevant agencies/department that I am unable to resolve on site.

I have had limited engagement with residents to date which is partly due to the Autumn/Winter season, although have already been informed of some areas of concern for dog fouling and something that I am able to act on with residents' support. I do stress to those I speak with that without the support of the community, we are limited in our efficiency to target areas when offences are likely to occur, so I always urge that residents support us in our approach to combatting environmental concerns.

With the summer approaching these patrols are something I plan to target again from May in accordance with enforcement. This will be for education as well as targeted enforcement when considering fly tipping, littering and both local and national laws regarding dogs being on a lead when roadside and dog fouling/littering. I know as well as being a criminal offence, it's also something the public want to ensure there are 'safe zones' on the revetment and common and other communal areas' for those who have either a fear or dislike of dogs. I do feel there is adequate signage in this area, although I expressed my thoughts about the signage late last year and the clarity of some of the signage.

I have engaged in a partnership working patrol with coastal and beaches to understand planned projects with other agencies concerning the revetment and there are no outstanding issues that I am aware of. This has also helped me to manage my inspections and understand areas of accountability and reporting structure.

I have over time identified areas of concern for commercial waste from B&B's and holiday lets around the town. I have discussed with the waste team the need for commercial ventures to have a waste transfer note, these are a statutory requirement of all business. As I have stated my patrols to date have been through the Autumn/Winter months and I've yet to identify those business' that are leaving both black bag waste and green bag recycling waste roadside and outside of the stipulated waste collection time. I understand that waste is collected on a Monday, alternating between waste and recycling being every two weeks. Any information that the town council have regarding business's leaving waste roadside for extended periods would be most welcomed. I have approached the waste team, they are awaiting my findings and will act accordingly, monitoring for compliance. Also, those properties that may be second homes. Although the waste left roadside is not considered as commercial waste, it may well be being left outside of the stated collection times and can be addressed by our waste team. Any information that the town council and Yarmouth residents can give me would be most welcome in tackling this issue.

Another issue that I wish to focus upon is business using the pavement to advertise, this being a particular issue on High Street where the pavement may well be restricted to pedestrians and those using walking aids. Business need to have a licence to advertise in this way. Once I have identified those business that are restricting the pavement I can then identify if they have the required licence and that they are complying with the licence. Should the Town council or its residents have areas of concern that they feel I may be able to intervene in, advise upon or signpost to another department/agency then I welcome these being brought to my attention through Brian the Town Clerk.