

The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Yarmouth Town Hall on Tuesday July 4th 2017 at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors S Cowley (Mayor), P Cronin, R Corbett, J Jackson, D McCleary

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Brian Mitchell (Yarmouth Harbour Commission Representative), Isle of Wight County Press, Clare Griffin (West Wight Sports & Community Centre), and 3 members of the public.

53/2017 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Allen and A Ingram and Cnty Cllr S Hutchinson

54/2017 PUBLIC FORUM:

Clare Griffin of West Wight Sports Centre gave a presentation about their activities, and thanked Yarmouth Town Council for its support. She indicated that funding is still a problem following withdrawal of support by the Isle of Wight Council. WWSC is currently working with My Life is a Full Life, and had received much assistance from the newly-elected Isle of Wight MP, Bob Seeley. Crowd funding had helped, and other sources of funds were being developed.

Mayor Cowley thanked Clare for her commitment and hard work in helping to maintain the Centre in such difficult times.

Brian Mitchell, the Yarmouth Harbour Commission Representative, said that YHC had set aside £18K for funding local projects in the current financial year, and invited WWSC to make an application.

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

Visiting boat numbers (To date up to and including the 30th June): Overnight visits to the harbour show an increase of 480 boat night's or 7%. Short stays or lunchtime visits show an increase of 107 or 1%. Long Term Visitors (LTVs) have increased 50% on last year or 3,065 vessel nights.

Total visits to the harbour amounted to 18,371 an increase of 3,642 boats or 25%.

The Pier Restoration Project: Reclaimed timber purchased by YHC from Portsmouth Harbour is beginning to arrive. So far 15 Tonnes of Greenheart lumber has been shipped and stored in the dinghy park area in preparation for the Pier works that are due to commence in the spring 2018. Further stocks are expected to arrive during July and August to complete the order for next year's project and for the 2033 restoration works.

Yarmouth Promotional Video: To date the video produced by YHC which promotes Yarmouth and the west Wight has reached around 11,000 people on social media and has been viewed over 5,000 times via various media outlets including YHCs website.

ii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Cnty Hutchinson, the Clerk read out a report which had been received by email:

I'm sorry, I must once again send apologies for the next meeting. I shall be in Birmingham from this evening until Thursday, at the Local Government Association Conference with the CX.

We shall, with other Leaders of Councils in a similar position, be pressing Ministers for proper recognition of the financial difficulties faced by Council's such as ours with very high percentages of the very elderly. It is the cost of that provision which, together with the financial reductions we face (another 7.5M from our RSG next FY) which makes it so difficult to set a legal and balanced budget. There are also pressures now arising from the likelihood of a lifting of the cap on public sector pay. I have a deal of sympathy for the union position on this, because after a 2 year pay freeze, subsequent increases have been just 1%. We have budgeted next year for a further 1% but if we have to find 2% that's equivalent to an additional penny on the rates, or a cut of a further £750k.

iii) THORLEY ISSUES

A growth of brambles by the telephone kiosk and bus shelter was again reported, but the Clerk said that the appropriate authorities had been notified.

iv) YARMOUTH ISSUES

Cllr Corbett reported that 2 sacks of household waste had been dumped on Hithergate Green. Food waste had also been dumped at the waste bin in Pier Square, consisting of numerous loaves of stale bread.

Cllr Jackson reported that a barrier had been erected at the top of the Friars Lane sea lane, and a gate had been erected half way down. Concern was expressed that this could lead to a loss of rights of way in this area and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should bring this to the attention of the Local Access Forum.

Cllr Cronin reported that a flowering cherry, growing at the triangle of ground on the corner of South Street and Tennyson Road, required some maintenance. As this land

is maintained by Yarmouth Town Council, it is likely that YTC will be obliged to attend to this matter.

It was reported that the bench on Naval Shore is missing, and the YHC representative agreed to check this is their record of benches.

Cllr Corbett brought the Council’s attention to cyclists not dismounting along the footpath by Yarmouth Mill. The YUC representative said that there was a sign in place advising the cycling was prohibited in this area, and there was another one at the junction of Mill Street with the cycleway. He informed that YHC will be reviewing their signage, and make any necessary replacements. He also agreed to meet YTC representatives on 6/7/17 to review ownership of the public benches in this area.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public brought the Council’s attention to the dangerous state of the netting structure at the west end of the Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that he was aware of this, and that an email was due to be sent to Yarmouth & Calbourne Football Club, who are responsible for maintaining this structure.

55/2017 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
S Cowley	Yarmouth Town Trust CHOYD	Lee Farm
P Cronin	Shareholdings in BT	
R Corbett	Yarmouth Town Trust	
J Jackson	Yarmouth Town Trust	
D McCleary	CHOYD Any issue involving Yarmouth CEP School, or Saltys	

56/2017 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the Monthly Town Council held 6/6/17

57/2017 FINANCE**57/2017.1 Payment of Accounts.**

RESOLVED: The following payments are approved for July 2017:

DC	Microsoft	Office 365	£1.56
DC	Post Office Ltd	Postage	£3.90
DC	Office Outlet	Stationery Holmes Bounty	£25.39
DC	Amazon	Print cartridges	£47.94
1984	Victim Support	Grant	£100.00
1985	Yarmouth Town Trust	Recreation Ground Rental	£175.00
1986	Vision ICT	Website hosting	£132.00
1987	IEH	Sanitary bins public toilets	£28.80
1988	DARES	Drain unblocking, public toilets	£120.00
1988	DARES	Drain unblocking, public toilets	£60.00
1989	Brian Jacobs	Clerk June salary	£647.01
1990	The Post Office	PAYE Clerk June salary	£179.26
1991	Brian Jacobs	Clerk expenses	£27.00
1992	Business Stream	Water services public toilets	£349.67

57/2017.2 Bank Reconciliation.

RESOLVED: To approve the financial statement for June 2017

58/2017 PLANNING ISSUES**58/2017.1 Planning Applications:**

RESOLVED: No objections were made to the following application:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Comments due
TCP/32031/A - P/00376/17	Saxonbury St. James Street Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO410NU	Householder Application Demolition of porch proposed replacement porch	Comments Due By: 30/06/2017

The following were noted:

58/2017.2 Other Planning issues

To note the following:

Permission Granted:

Application No	Location	Proposal
TCP/33073 - P/00547/17	The Gamble Station Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO410QX	Householder Application Proposed cladding of front and part side elevations in Fortex weatherboarding

Permission refused: None

Appeal allowed: None

Temporary Event Notices: None

TPOs: None

59/2017 ORGANIC RUBBISH TIPPING IN PUBLIC BINS

A resident has complained about organic rubbish being fly-tipped in the public waste bin at the corner of St James Street and Tennyson Road. Councillors acknowledged this has a frequent problem within the town, exacerbated by visitors, but Cllr McCleary pointed out that IWC actions also contribute to this situation by sometimes removing waste receptacles from local properties, e.g. at Eastmore Court, where recycle bins have been removed. It was also felt that IWC guidelines for recyclable refuse were not sufficiently clear, e.g. what constitutes 'clean' waste.

The Clerk has already informed the local Environmental Officer about the problem of household rubbish dumped in public waste bins, and Councillors agreed to monitor this situation, while acknowledging that it is very difficult to police.

60/2017 CLOSURE OF SANDOWN HIGH SCHOOL AND ANNEXION TO RYDE HIGH

All local Councils and Councillors have been asked by Sandown Town Council to respond to the proposal by AET to close Sandown Bay Academy and amalgamate it with Ryde Academy. RESOLVED: The Clerk to send a message of support to Sandown Town Council.

61/2017 DECOMMISSIONING OF OLD TELEPHONE BOX YARMOUTH

YTC is able to buy this kiosk for £1 (though it must remain in situ), and a resident has suggested various alternatives. RESOLVED: The Clerk will circulate information to Councillors about the terms and conditions appertaining to the adoption of a kiosk.

62/2017 TRANSPARENCY CODE

It was noted that, following clarification of the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities, the YTC website now contains all required details of Council expenditure, governance and audit.

63/2017 CHOYD

Because of his trusteeship in CHOYD, Mayor Cowley withdrew from the following item, and the Chair was taken by Cllr Corbett.

CHOYD have requested a grant of £500 towards the cost of alterations, which include a YTC office, at the Hall, and Councillors are also asked to make a formal resolution to request CHOYD to establish the office in the Hall.

Cllr Corbett asked about the provision of storage facilities at CHOYD which could be used by YTC, and standing orders were suspended to allow Sylvia Mence of CHOYD to advise that it was the Trustees' intention to replace the existing wooden shed before the end of 2017. Cllr Corbett suggested that YTC should make a contribution to this project.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Corbett, seconded by Cllr McCleary, and carried unanimously, that the Clerk will notify the Chairman of CHOYD that Yarmouth Town Council requests permission to establish an office within the Hall, and will contribute £500 towards the cost thereof. It was agreed that the use of storage facilities should be incorporated in the lease. The Clerk will liaise with CHOYD to agree a suitable lease, and circulate details to Councillors when available.

When agreement has been reached on a lease, it will be presented to a solicitor for legal advice before finalisation.

Mayor Cowley resumed the Chair.

64/2017 STREET FURNITURE

A working party of Councillors and the Clerk carried out an inspection of street furniture 21/6/17, and the results and recommendations of that survey is attached. There is budget provision of £1,000 this year.

RESOLVED:

- Replace the bench adjacent to Off the Rails as soon as possible. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Allen to agree a suitable unit
- Proceed with the quotation received from O Dewar for the repair of the 3 concrete/wood benches outside CHOYD, and the 'Stein' bench at the Recreation Ground
- Consult with Cllr Allen about replacing the rear wooden slat on the bench at Pier Shore

Mayor Cowley will consult a Thorley contractor about the bench in Thorley Street

The Clerk will inspect the bus shelter at Tatells Lane, Thorley

The Clerk will review the benches at the Green with YHC, and locate and inspect those along the Cycleway

65/2017 CLERK'S REPORT JULY 2017

65/2017.1 REGENERATION CONFERENCE

Councillors are invited to attend the above on 20/7/17, but none are available due to holiday commitments.

65/2017.2 FRESHWATER LIBRARY

Freshwater Library is planning to develop their facilities, and have requested financial assistance. RESOLVED: The Clerk to inform Freshwater Parish Council that YTC will make a financial contribution if and when the Heritage Lottery Grant is made.

65/2017.3 FLOWER BEDS

A quote has been received from Brighstone Landscaping for £900 (budget £300) to weed, spay and plant the 3 flower beds, and to remove the shrubs from outside the Common toilets and replant with annuals, £250.

RESOLVED: Mayor Cowley and Cllr Corbett will seek estimates from other local contractors for replanting the flower beds. The Clerk to arrange for Brighstone Landscaping to remove the shrubs from the front of the Common toilets and replant with annual flowers.

65/2017.4 PUBLIC TOILETS

Wallgate have advised that the unit in the ladies, Bridge Road, is now obsolete, and parts to maintain it are in short supply. Replacement is quoted at £2.7K (excluding VAT). Running costs should be less (new units being more energy efficient), and maintenance costs are forecast as the same as at present.

RESOLVED: Consideration of this to be deferred until the 2018 service contract is reviewed, but provision to be considered in the 2018/19 Budget.

65/2017.5 PLAY AREA

Plaques: Cllr Cronin reported that an order had been place with A J Wells for the Donors' Plaque, and to arrange for the same company to produce an adhesive plaque for the 'Orbiter' unit.

Levelling : Brighstone Landscaping have now completed and re-seeded the area. Consideration was given to fencing off the seeded areas, but it was felt that this would be unnecessary at present, and it was agreed to monitor grass growth between now and Spring 2018.

65/2017.6 ISLAND ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT MEETING

It was noted that Councillors are invited to Island Roads' Annual Asset Management Meeting.

66/2017 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED: To accept the correspondence list for June as presented

67/2017 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Yarmouth Town Trust representatives
Transforming Communities seminar
Street furniture: replacement benches
CHOYD office lease

68/2017 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note the date, time and venue of the next monthly meeting at Yarmouth Town Hall, 6:30pm 5/9/17

69/2017 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

Signed..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....