



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Yarmouth Town Hall on Tuesday September 10th 2019 at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors P Cronin, J Allen (Deputy Mayor and acting Chair), J Jackson, G Head, R Corbett, S Devine

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Harbour Commission Representative, and 2 members of the public

85/2019 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mayor Cowley

86/2019 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

July Boat numbers: Overnight visits amounted 3,922 nights in July. This figure is one of the highest recorded, second to July 2013 and shows an increase on 2018 of 13% or 439 boat nights. Lunchtime visits show an increase of 192 visits or 18% at 1,250. This figure is the highest on record for the month. LTV numbers show an increase of 97 or 5% at 2103 nights. This figure is the highest on record.

Sailing school: Numbers increased by 42% at 182 visits. This figure is the highest on record.

August Boat Numbers: Overnight visits show a 1% increase throughout the month of August with 3,853 total visits. This is encouraging when factoring in the poor weather conditions during the first half of August. Shorts stays show an increase of 13%. The total visits amounted to 1023 boats. The new (temporary) dock along the quay wall has provided the harbour with more capacity for lunchtime visitors and is proving to be popular amongst the RIB owners which is a benefit to both YHC and local businesses. Long term visitor figures grew by 3% compared to the previous year amounting to a total for the month of 2108 nights.

Boat numbers to date, up to and including 31 August:

- Overnights (Jan — Aug) show an increase of 2% or 331 boats at 14,693.
- Short Stays (Jan — Aug) show an increase of 19% or 790 boats at 5,056. This figure is highest on record.
- LTVs (Jan — Aug) show an increase of 14% or 2,067 boat nights at 16,356. This figure is the highest on record.
- **Sailing Schools (Jan- Aug)** show an increase of 10% or 86 visits at 927. This figure is the highest on record.

Yar Bridge: Works to repaint the bridge are underway. Island roads have erected scaffolding on the East and West side of the fixed spans of the bridge which is suspended under the bridge and wrapped with plastic sheeting in order to prevent pollution whilst shot blasting and painting. An exclusion zone has been designated, restricting marine traffic in the area of the works. A notice to mariners has been issued. Confirmation of timings of the works to the section of the bridge that swings have yet to be confirmed. The works will essentially disable the swing bridge closing the bridge to marine traffic, restricting vessels from transiting both from the north and south for approximately 6 weeks. At time of writing there are no plans to close the bridge to road traffic.

Cllr Allen asked if offers for local businesses by YHC are monitored, or feedback obtained. The YHC response was that he was unsure, but probably not.

Cllr Corbett asked if YHC issued tickets for the overflow car park along the Common and was told they did. Cllr explained that, now trader's parking concession had been withdrawn by IWC, alternative parking spaces were being sought. The YHC representative pointed out that YHC must consider their customers as a priority and so were unable to make free parking spaces available, as capacity was limited. The under-utilisation of the IWC car park was referred to, and the fact that a lowering of charges would result in a greater take-up of parking spaces, and hence more income for the IWC. The problem is not necessarily a shortage of local parking but the cost of it.

ii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Hutchinson is away at present and tendered the following report by email:

Not much to report anyway as August is a quieter month. I have kept Steve up to date on the School issue, where as I write we are awaiting information from the Governors. They want to consult with the diocese which they are doing over the next couple of days, before making any final decision or recommendation. The only other issue is the main road parking and this will be ongoing for some months yet, all dependent on priorities for highway changes and the funding available to do them.

iii) THORLEY ISSUES

Cllr Devine reported that some work had been carried out on the white poplars along Thorley Street.

The waterlogged state of the footpath which crosses the field behind the Rectory was discussed. It seems likely that it relates to the field being a soakaway from the Rectory, and the Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Island Roads and Rights of Way.

iv) YARMOUTH ISSUES

There was some discussion about a busker who often occupies a pitch on the south side of Yarmouth Town Hall. It was felt that the music performed was excessively loud, and the Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the Environmental Officer to secure a reduction in the volume.

Cllr Corbett drew attention to the state of the south end of South Street, between Ommanney Road and Tennyson Road. The Clerk was asked to report this, again, to Island Roads.

Cllr Corbett also reported that a conversation with the owner of the cottage on the east side of Loveshore Lane indicated that the section of damaged wall is unlikely to be repaired in the near future, and there was little point in delaying Yarmouth Town Council's proposal to re-gravel the Lane. Cllr Jackson reported that cars had been parking along the Lane. It was suggested that West Wight Men in Sheds could be approached to assist with tidying up the Lane and spreading the gravel, and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting in the Spring.

A question was asked about the future of Yarmouth Carnival Committee, now that Chairman Chris Waddington had tendered his resignation. Cllr Allen reported that the appointment of a replacement is in hand, and gave assurances that the organisation will continue its activities as before.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public brought Councillors' attention to the lack of clarity regarding parking charges on the signs in Pier Square. It was pointed out that IWC administer this area on behalf of Yarmouth Harbour Commission, and the Clerk was asked to contact YHC to request an improvement in the signage in this area.

The same member of the public also reported that 3 cars had recently suffered extensive damage as a result of the parking along Bouldnor Road. Maggie Young of TRAP (Tennyson Road Accident Prevention Group) added that some cars parked along this stretch of road for several nights in a row, often facing the oncoming traffic. It was also suggested that, as well as the environmental impact of this situation, hauliers were probably suffering an economic impact resulting from delays in getting through. Maggie presented a revised copy of a letter to local residents, which YTC had agreed to print, urging them to support parking restrictions in this area.

It was suggested that IWC could be asked to send representatives along to a YTC meeting to discuss this issue.

Cllr Corbett raised the problem of residents parking on Coastguard's Green, and the Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of IWC again.

There being no further questions, the Public Forum concluded at 19:15

87/2019 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
R Corbett	Yarmouth Town Trust	
J Allen		Multi-Service Marine River Yar Boatyard
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB Shalfleet Parish Council	National Trust
S Devine	RSPB	

88/2019 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the monthly Town Council held 2/7/19.

89/2019 FINANCE

89/2019.1 Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: To approve the following payment of accounts for September 2019:

DC	Microsoft	Office 365 subscription	£2.76
DC	GIFFGAFF	Office phone	£6.00
DC	Amazon	Office equipment	£23.99
DC	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary June & July & accumulated overtime	£539.00
DC	Business Stream	Water services public toilets	£92.28
DD	Southern Electric	Electric services public toilets	£36.02
DD	Southern Electric	Electric services public toilets	£20.20
DC	Cartridge People	Print cartridges	£169.58
DC	Care in the Garden	Planters	£50.60
DC	Forest View Nursery	Planters	£24.00
DC	Harwoods	Tape measure	£4.90
DC	Clintons	Postage stamps	£26.16
DC	GIFFGAFF	Office phone	£6.00
DC	Harwoods	Measure tape	£6.99
DC	Land Registry	Search	£3.00
DC	Microsoft	Office 365 subscription	£2.76
DC	Business Stream	Water charges public toilets	£2,084.74
2225	Island Roads	Waste bin, Recreation	£53.90
2226	WWTPCA	Clerk's salary contribution	£76.00
2227	Island Signs (IW) Ltd	Sign & graphics phone box	£81.60
2228	CHOYD	Broadband	£17.40
2229	Bighstone Landscaping	Swings installation	£2,952.00
2229	Bighstone Landscaping	Cemetery maintenance	£380.88
2229	Bighstone Landscaping	Grounds maintenance	£491.00
2230	All Round Cleaners	Public toilets cleaning, Sea Shanty Festival	£140.66
2231	All Round Cleaners	Public toilets cleaning	£1,616.64
2232	Brightstone Landscaping	Completion swing works	£1,836.00
2233	DARES	Unblocking High St toilets	£120.00
2234	IWC	Environmental Officer	£260.00
2235	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary August	£683.56
2236	CHOYD	Broadband services	£17.40
2237	M Renwick	Grounds maintenance	£545.00
2225	PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£360.00

89/2019.2 Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: To approve the financial statement for August 2019

89/2019.3 External Audit

It was noted that the 2018/19 certificate of audit has been received, and there were 2 minor issues the auditor commented on, which had no effect on the integrity of the accounts.

90/2019 PLANNING ISSUES

90/2019.1 Planning Applications:

No objections were made to the following application:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
19/00710/HOU	Stockbridge Cottage Newport Road Freshwater Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Proposed single storey side and rear extensions, dormer window and roof terrace	Mon 16 Sep 2019

90/2019.2 Other Planning issues: None

The following were noted:

Permission Granted:

Application No	Location	Proposal
19/00428/HOU	Brettargh Cottage Station Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0QT	Proposed alterations and two storey and single storey rear extension including roof terrace

The following were noted:

Permission Refused: None

Temporary Event Notices: None

TPOs:

Location: The Towers, High Street, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, PO41 0PN

Consent for the following: To lift the crown of the holm oak situated as detailed in the application by 1.5m and reduce the crown back 1m from the garden wall. All reduction points are to be strong growth points at least one third the diameter of the adjacent pruning cut.

91/2019 PUBLIC TOILETS

Replacement/refurbishment: The formal quote from Danfo was considered and Councillors were in agreement over proceeding with it, subject to an abatement on the cost of demolition of the Common toilets, which was felt to be excessive. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should:

- Seek a reduction in demolition costs for the Common toilets
- Seek details of funding options available from Danfo
- Begin the process to secure a loan from the PWLB

Willow tree by the Common toilets: It was noted that there had been a further invasion of roots into the waste pipes, necessitating a visit from Dares at a cost of £120. However, the tree has now been dealt with, and Cllr Allen reported that there appeared to be no root damage to the drains emanating from it.

Business Stream bills: It was noted that continual water leaks resulting from the work at Bridge Road toilets carried out at the end of 2018 have cost the Council around £1500

extra water charges, and another leak has been dealt with recently. A further water bill for £1500 for March-July has been presented, though verification of the estimated reading has been hampered by the inaccessibility of the water meter. *[A successful meter reading was taken two days later by Cllr Cronin which suggested that the latest bill had been overstated by £800, and the Clerk had emailed this to Business Stream]* The Clerk undertook to obtain quotes from other water suppliers because of dissatisfaction with Business Stream.

92/2019 PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT AND RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk read out the 5/9/19 minutes, detailing Yarmouth Town Trust's plans for clearing the area around the pavilion, demolishing it and replacing it with an open-side structure, for which YTT was seeking YTS support. While it was agreed that demolition of the pavilion was desirable, there was a difference of opinions as to the replacement structure. Cllr Corbett supported the plan, but Cllr Cronin felt that an open structure would be too attractive to undesirables to carry out illegal activities, and suggested that an enclosed building, which could be secured at night, would be better.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should communicate Councillors' concerns to YTT, express thanks for the work carried out so far, and recommend extraction of the stumps surrounding the existing pavilion.

The Clerk disclosed the results of the recent survey on possible uses for the Rec, and these were discussed. Football and tennis were the most popular choices, but it was pointed out that an indoor tennis structure would not be compatible with the campaign carried out a few years ago to achieve village green status for the Rec.

93/2019 SCHOOLS CLOSURE

A legal challenge had been mounted against the IWC proposal to close Yarmouth School, which ruled that the name 'Yarmouth School' could only be used if the school remained in Yarmouth. As a result, the IWC withdrew the proposal, and indicated it would not contest the injunction.

Cllr Corbett expressed concern about any attempt to force All Saints School into the existing Yarmouth/Shalfleet federation.

94/2019 CLERK'S REPORT

94/2019.1 ANNUAL GRANTS

Ceri Irish Dancers have applied for a grant of £600, and West Wight Men in Sheds have applied for £700.

It was proposed by Cllr Devine, seconded by Cllr Corbett and carried unanimously to grant Ceri Irish Dancers £50

It was proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Cronin and carried unanimously to grant WWMiS £200

94/2019.2 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

No Councillors wished to participate in the three training sessions IWALC has arranged to cover the full range of Councillor skills.

94/2019.3 SYCAMORES ON COASTGUARD'S GREEN

It was RESOLVED to proceed with the estimate as presented for work on the above.

94/2019.4 REMEMBRANCE WREATHS

This year's ceremony will take place in Freshwater, and YTC require 2 wreaths.

94/2019.5 IWALC HOUSING WORKSHOP

The Housing Workshop is confirmed as Friday 4th October, 1.30pm at the Riverside Centre. Cllr Head hoped to attend, but will confirm that to the Clerk.

95/2019 CORRESPONDENCE

To receive details of correspondence received during July and August were noted.

96/2019 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Public toilets

Roadside verges

WW Schools reorganisation

97/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the next meeting will be at Thorley Church at 6:30pm 8/10/19

98/2019 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..... (Deputy Town Mayor)

Date.....