



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Thorley Church on Tuesday October 8th 2019 at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors s Cowley (Mayor), P Cronin, J Jackson, G Head, R Corbett, S Devine

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Harbour Commission Representative, and 9 members of the public

101/2019 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Allen and McCleary and IWC Cllr Stuart Hutchinson

102/2019 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

September Boat Numbers: Overnight visits were down on the same month last year by around 6%. This is not surprising when factoring in the poor weather conditions throughout the month. Shorts Stays show an increase of 9%. The total lunchtime visits amounted to 704 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 IFFIC and local businesses.

Sailing school figures grew by 10% compared to the previous year amounting to a total for the month of 145 nights.

Boat numbers to date, up to and including 30 September:

- Overnights (Jan — Sept) show an increase of 2% at 16,629 overnight stays.
- Short Stays (Jan-Sept) show an increase of 17% at 5,762 visits. This figure is highest on record for the period.
- LTIs (Jan-Sept) show an increase of 12% at 18,201 boat nights. This figure is the highest on record.
- Sailing Schools (Jan-Sept) show an increase of 10% at 1027 visits. This figure is the highest on record.

Yar Bridge: Confirmation of timings of the works to the section of the bridge that swings have yet to be confirmed. Following various discussions both with Island Roads and stakeholders YHC have recommended to Island Roads that an acceptable time, albeit not ideal time, to close the swing section of the bridge to marine traffic and commence

works would be the week beginning the 18 November. YHC are waiting for confirmation that this recommendation has been accepted.

Linkspan Refurbishment: On the 11 November the linkspan is schedule to undergo a full refurbishment as recommended by our structural engineer following an extensive survey of the plant. Once complete the works should keep the linkspan in good working order for the next 25 years with no major expenditure expected, providing the planned preventative maintenance schedule is continued. The ferry will use the emergency slipway and barge during this period whilst the linkspan is out of action. The works are expected to last approximately 4 weeks.

ii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Cllr Hutchinson, the Clerk read out the following report received from him:

I'm sorry that yet again I have to give apologies for next week's meeting. It clashes with the Councils Corporate Scrutiny Meeting, and as I'm in charge of corporate resources much of the questioning is directed at me or the Leader. I also have a report to that Committee on the set up of a new IWC trading company (our finances are so dire I have to look at all possible mean of raising income!) on which Im sure to be questioned.

The only local issues of concern that I'm aware of are the continued parking on the main road. There's a meeting of west wight councils on 17th at CHOYD as I'm sure you know and I have been asked by Sally Woods to provide an update for that, which I have done. Essentially any expenditure, whether on a limited clearway proposal, or better, a full double yellow line scheme, will now take it's place in the queue for the very limited funding we have for highways changes. Sites where accidents have occurred take priority, with the most number and severity having top priority. So an accident like the recent one at Whitehouse Road increases the priority for work there and others drop down the list. The Bouldnor Road parking has the potential for accident, and I know there has been vehicle damage, but the limited funding goes first to actual accident sites. I will continue to ensure it is kept under review.

The other issue is of course the West Wight schools reorganisation and a report is going to Cabinet next week. I understand that Governors have reviewed their position and no longer oppose the proposals for change. Cabinet last time voted in favour of the proposed changes, and I was the only one in opposition with one abstention. With the governors now having a different view it makes it extremely difficult to oppose, especially as the thrust of my opposition last time was that the governors of the schools should be listened to. I will not be supporting the proposals but will find it difficult to disagree with governors so, at present unless the position changes again in the next few days I shall abstain.

iii) THORLEY ISSUES

Cllr Devine reported that she had distributed letters for the Thorley Road Action Group.

It was reported that IW Best Kept Village had made the 'Pride' award to Andrew Johnson of Thorley Church for the considerable amount of work he has carried out on Church and Village records.

The Clerk confirmed that he had received no further information from Island Roads about the flooded footpath to the rear of the Old Vicarage.

The Clerk was also asked to bring to the attention of Island Roads yet again the parlous state of the white poplars along Thorley Road near the junction with Willmingham Lane

iv) YARMOUTH ISSUES

Concern was expressed about the recent resurfacing of River Road car park; it was feared that the thickness of the tarmac might cause damage to subterranean drains. Cllr Corbett had been informed that the material used was proscribed for use on public roads and might have been used as an expedient. There was also concern that the trees had disappeared, though it was acknowledged they had been bagged and it was hoped that they would be replanted.

Cllr Corbett reported that, while some potholes had been repaired in the top half of South Street, the rest of the road in that area still remained in an unsatisfactory condition, and was likely to be a victim of the recent pronouncement by Island Roads that it would be unable to honour its contractual commitment to re-surface all Island Roads.

Jill Cowley asked for ideas to celebrate VE Day.

Members of the public voiced several complaints about the parking along Bouldnor Road. *[3 days later, Island Roads confirmed their intention to install yellow lines in this area, and the stretch of road in question has been coned off]*

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no further questions, and the Public Forum concluded at 18:15

103/2019 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
S Cowley	Yarmouth Town Trust CHOYD Shalfleet PC	Lee Farm
R Corbett	Yarmouth Town Trust	
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB Shalfleet Parish Council	National Trust
S Devine	RSPB	

104/2019 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the monthly Town Council held 10/9/19.

105/2019 FINANCE

105/2019.1 Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: To approve payment of the following accounts for October:

Microsoft	Office 365 subscription	£2.76
GIFFGAFF	Office phone	£6.00
HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary September	£189.43
SignMax	Own Risk' sign Play Area	£45.38
Southern Electic	Electric services public toilets	£173.14
Southern Electic	Electric services public toilets	£37.20
Cartridge People	Print cartridges	£204.80
Post Office	Postage	£4.24
Yarmouth Pharmacy	Replacement spectacles	£4.99
Ceri Irish Dancers	Grant	£50.00
West Wight Men in Sheds	Grant	£200.00
Yarmouth Town Trust	Recreation Ground rental	£180.00
Brighstone Landscaping	Grounds Maintenance	£783.15
All Round Cleaners	Cleaning services public toilets	£872.52
CHOYD	Broadband facilities	£17.40
DARES Ltd	Public toilets maintenance	£120.00
Brian Jacobs	Clerks salary September	£683.76
Brian Jacobs	Clerk's expenses	£63.00

105/2019.2 Bank Reconciliation

RESOLEVED: To agree the financial statement for September 2019

106/2019 PLANNING ISSUES

106/2019.1 Planning Applications:

The following applications were considered:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
19/01026/FUL	Yarmouth Spice Quay Street Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0PG	Replacement of existing balustrade with new frameless glass; new pergola	25/10/19
19/01027/ADV	Yarmouth Spice Quay Street Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0PG	Illuminated signage on gable end of building	25/10/19
19/01038/FUL	Tapnell Farm Newport Road Freshwater Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Retention of 5 glamping domes; proposed 2 glamping domes; proposed en-suites for each dome	25/10/19

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should make the following comments on behalf of YTC:

19/01026/FUL - No comment

19/01027/ADV – This application represents a visual intrusion in a conservation area and could lead to further such intrusions.

Mayor Cowley declared a personal interest in the following application:

19/01038/FUL – This development represents an inappropriate visual intrusion in an area adjacent to an AONB and should be screened as with previous developments on this site.

107/2019.2 Other Planning issues: None

To note the following:

Permission Granted: None

Permission Refused: None

Temporary Event Notices: None

TPOs: None

108/2019 PUBLIC TOILETS

To discuss any issues relating to the 2 public toilet blocks:

- It was RESOLVED to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of up to £160,00 over the borrowing term of 25 years for the refurbish/rebuilding of the two public toilet blocks in Yarmouth. The annual loan repayments will come to around £9,000, and no increase in annual precept is envisaged, the loan payments being met from lower maintenance costs and income from the proposed coin-operated cubicles.
- It was noted that the latest bill from Business Stream has been reduced by £500. The Clerk will present a report to the next meeting recommending a change in supplier due to difficulties in dealing with Business Stream.

109/2019 PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT AND RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk read out the main points of the 7/10/19 Recreation Ground Committee and then presented the points which Martyn Collinson wished to clarify with regard to the Lease. It was then RESOLVED:

- That the Town Council agrees with the Town Trust that the demolition of the current Pavilion and its replacement with a structure (yet to be decided) is as contemplated by Clause 5.3 of the lease relating to the recreation ground between our two parties and accordingly the Town Trust gives the appropriate notice under Clause 5.3(a)
- That the 6 months notice referred to in 5.3 (b) be waived due to the time pressures of said demolition.
- That Eldridges be asked to draw up the relevant notice under clause 5.3 and advise whether any other steps are required in order to end the lease as regards the portion of the recreation ground to which it relates.

- In view of the above that the Town Council rather than the Town Trust accepts Brighstone Landscape's quotation for clearing the area around the Pavilion and that the Town Trust grants to the Town Council the £300 that it has already allocated for this purpose.

110/2019 SCHOOLS CLOSURE

There was much discussion about the decision by the recent Yarmouth School Governors to recommend the closure of Yarmouth School, a *volte face* of their original stance, and despite the fact that an overwhelming majority of Yarmouth residents were opposed to the IWC proposals; it was felt that no account had been taken of this majority viewpoint, particularly by the Chair of Governors. The Governors' impartiality was questioned, and their recommendations were likely to lead to loss of choice and jobs, disruption of children's education needs and convenient access to a school.

It was proposed by Mayor Cowley, seconded by Cllr Corbett and RESOLVED that:

- Yarmouth Town Council deplores the decision by the Governors of Shalfleet and Yarmouth Schools to agree to move Yarmouth School to Freshwater against the wishes of 92% of those who responded to the earlier consultation.
- The Chairman and Governors to be invited to attend an EGM along with IW Cllr Paul Brading to discuss the reasons for their support in moving Yarmouth School to Freshwater

111/2019 ROADSIDE VERGES

Conservation issues associated with roadside verges in the YTC area were discussed, but it was recognised there was likely to be little progress because of the under-provision of suitable plant on the Isle of Wight.

112/2019 CLERK'S REPORT

112/2019.1 DOG FOULING AT RECREATION GROUND

A local resident has complained about the amount of dog fouling by the Victoria Road entrance to the Rec. The Clerk was asked to arrange erection of a short post and attach to it a laminated version of the dog fouling poster currently on the Council noticeboard.

112/2019.2 LOCAL EVENTS

Cllr Allen has suggested a regular agenda item to note/discuss/advertise local events. There is a page on the YTC website which provides details, but, in his absence, it was decided to defer this proposal until the next meeting.

113/2019 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received during September was noted

114/2019 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Events agenda item

Yarmouth School
Public toilets
Annual budget

115/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note the date, time and venue of the and next monthly meeting at Yarmouth Town Hall at 6:30pm 12/11/19

116/2019 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..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....