



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Thorley Church on Tuesday November 12th 2019 at 6:30pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Harbour Commission Representative

119/2019 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Devine and McCleary and IW Cllr Hutchinson

120/2019 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

October Boat Numbers: Overnight visits were down on the same month last year by around 22%. This is not surprising when factoring in the poor weather conditions throughout the month. Shorts Stays show a decrease of 36% largely due to a long span of inclement weather during October. Long Term Visitors remain unaffected by weather and show an increase of 11% at 2,432 nights. Sailing school figures grew by 7% compared to the previous year amounting to a total for the month of 161 nights.

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

- Overnights (Jan — Oct) show an increase of 0.3% at 17,336 overnight stays
- Short Stays (Jan — Oct) show an increase of 13% at 6,019 visits. This figure is highest on record for the period.
- LTVs (Jan — Oct) show an increase of 12% at 20,635 boat nights. This figure is the highest on record and has already exceeded the total number of visits for all previous years.
- Sailing Schools numbers (Jan- Oct) totalled 1233 visits. This figure is the highest on record and has already exceeded the total number of visits for all previous years.

Yar Bridge: Phase 3 of the works to the swing bridge have been confirmed and will commence on the 18th Nov. The bridge will be closed to marine traffic throughout the duration of the works which is scheduled to last 5 weeks, this includes scaffold erection

and removal. Within this time period the bridge will be partially opened to paint the parts they can't get to. This is scheduled for the 16th December and the bridge will then be closed to both marine and road traffic for one week. Island roads plan to use a cherry picker, grinders and netting to prepare these surfaces and paint by hand.

Linkspan Refurbishment: On the 11 November the linkspan refurbishment commenced. Once complete the works should keep the linkspan in good working order for the next 25 years with no major expenditure expected. 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.

Shower block refurbishment: On the 18th November Acorn Interiors will begin refurbishment works on the male shower blocks. The work forms part of the Harbours reinvestment strategy for Harbour infrastructure and facilities. The majority of the work is corrective following a poorly executed refurbishment by a previous contractor around 10 years ago leading to rising damp on internal walls and inadequate drainage of grey water. Works to refurbish the female shower block is scheduled for November 2020. The design of the shower facilities will be modern but timeless and executed to a high standard.

ii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of IW Cllr Hutchinson, the Clerk read out the following report from him: Once again it clashes with IWC Scrutiny meeting, so my apologies. I have to be at Scrutiny as there are several papers going to it which I will be asked to report on.

The most difficult will be the budget savings review where for the first time in the several years of budgets I have been responsible for, we are not hitting target. At the moment we have a forecast £1M overspend, largely caused by the intense financial pressures on Adult Social care and looked-after children. If we cannot recover the position in the last 5 months of this financial year that will mean our target for savings/ income generation will be £5.5M next year. Not do-able without draconian measures. I see both Boris and Jeremy are chucking promises around about increased spending, but no sign of any help for Local Government !

Locally, I'm pleased to say that my argument that we should restrict waiting on Tennyson Road was accepted on the grounds that the nose to tail parking was causing an obstruction so severe that the arterial route to and from the ferry was effectively single carriageway and that the police had elected not to prosecute for obstruction so the Council must act. That meant giving it a higher priority than the usual safety considerations would merit. I agreed the decision to restrict waiting right up to St Swithin's Crescent on 8th October and the lines were painted on 25th October. This was the most expensive solution but the best and proper one. The reason we were able to do it so quickly was that it's being treated as an experimental order so by-passes the usual process. After 6 months if its proven to work, as it will, then the order becomes permanent. I had 40 residents write in support of waiting restrictions and just one against, so it was encouraging to have that strength of local feeling in support, even though arriving after the decision.

Secondly, I asked for gritting routes to be reviewed, especially because one of the routes to be removed from the network was that used by the No. 7 bus through Yarmouth, Thorley, Wellow and Newbridge. That gritting route will be retained. Similar comments were made by other Councillors and so the gritting routes here and elsewhere have been preserved for another winter.

Lastly, the final, formal consultation on the reorganisation of west wight schools has now commenced. Additional views and comments will be considered, especially the views of the Head teachers and Governors at the schools affected. The outcome of this consultation and a recommended decision is expected to be put before Cabinet in January. I shall continue to support the retention of a school in Yarmouth, but unfortunately since the changed decision by the governors I have little support in Council.

Mayor Cowley expressed his personal thanks and on behalf of Yarmouth Town Council for the efforts made by Cllr Hutchinson in securing the Bouldnor Road parking restrictions

iii) THORLEY ISSUES

Cllr Head reported that no action had been taken by Island Roads regarding the white poplars along Thorley Street. *[In a telephone conversation with the Island Roads steward the following day, the Clerk raised this issue, and compared it to the notice received from Island Roads to cut back overhanging branches at the Mount. The steward responded that some work had been carried out on the poplars, and the remaining ones weren't considered to be a hazard]*

iv) YARMOUTH ISSUES

Cllr Corbett reported that Island Roads had treated the bench opposite CHOYD. He also reported that Island Roads had agreed to repair the historic bench outside St James Church.

He drew attention to the hazardous state of the pavement in South Street and Quay Street; the Clerk was asked to request Island Roads to carry out repairs.

Cllr Jackson reported that a number of the picture mounts in the restored telephone kiosk had shattered, probably due to sun damage. It was agreed that they needed to be replaced with a more robust alternative, and the photographs themselves reprinted in a more durable format.

Cllr Allen informed that the trees in Riverway car park had still not been replaced, and the Clerk was asked to raise this issue with Island Roads.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no further questions and the Public Forum concluded at 18:55.

121/2019 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

S Cowley	Yarmouth Town Trust CHOYD	Lee Farm
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	Shalfleet PC	
R Corbett	Yarmouth Town Trust	
J Allen		Multi-Service Marine River Yar Boatyard
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB Shalfleet Parish Council	National Trust

122/2019 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the monthly Town Council held 8/10/19.

123/2019 FINANCE

123/2019.1 Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: To approve the payment of accounts for November 2019:

DC	Microsoft	Office 365 subscription	£2.76
DC	GIFFGAFF	Office phone	£6.00
DC	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary October	£189.43
DC	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary May	£189.43
DC	Post Office	Postage	£4.24
DC	Post Office	Postage	£10.96
DC	Argos	Replacement monitor Office	£79.99
DC	B M Retail	Office equipment	£3.09
DC	Cartridge People	Print cartridges	£199.50
DC	Business Stream	Water Supply Bridge Road toilets	£988.19
DC	Business Stream	Water Supply Bridge Road toilets	£154.85
2254	Royal British Legion	Remebrance Day wreaths	£75.00
2248	CHOYD	Broadband & hire	£197.40
2249	Thorley Church	Church Hire Oct 2019	£25.20
2250	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary October	£683.76
2251	AllRound Cleaners	Cleaning services public toilets	£904.58
2252	Arbor Vitae	Tree surgery Common toilets	£495.00
2253	Brighstone Landscaping	Grounds maintenance	£812.88

123/2019.2 Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: To approve the financial statement for October 2019

123/2019.3 2021/21 Budget

Councillors considered the first draft of the annual budget presented. The Clerk reported that allowance had been made for additional grounds maintenance at the Recreation Ground, and for the initial loan payment for refurbishment of the public toilet blocks.

124/2019 PLANNING ISSUES

124/2019.1 Planning Applications:

No objections were raised to the following application:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
19/01321/FUL	Off The Rails Station Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO40 0NU	Proposed single storey extension on south east elevation with canopy	15/11/19

The following were noted:

124/2019.2 Other Planning issues:

To note the following:

Permission Granted: None

Permission Refused: None

Temporary Event Notices: None

TPOs: None

Street Furniture Application:

Highways Act 1980 Section 115E

The following application has been accepted by the licensing authority:

Application for a Street Furniture Permit for Bank House Antiques Emporium, The Square, Yarmouth

The consultation period will end on the 15th November 2019

125/2019 PUBLIC TOILETS

- Progress on the refurbishment plan:
The Clerk had prepared the submission to the DCLG for permission to borrow, and this was signed by him and the Mayor in the presence of, and with the approval of, the rest of the Council
- Resolved: To change the Council's water supplier to Everflow Water.

126/2019 PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT AND RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Cronin, Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee presented the minutes for 7/10/19 and 31/10/19, reporting that fencing had now been deployed to secure the pavilion, which was in a dangerous condition. Quotations for demolition of the structure were awaited, as was an official amendment to the Lease, currently being drawn up by Eldrdes solicitors, which clarifies the responsibility for the pavilion.

127/2019 SCHOOLS CLOSURE

The recent consultation issued by the Governors of Yarmouth School was discussed, along with the Church's stance on this issue. It was RESOLVED to arrange a public meeting at CHOYD for 18:30 on 26/11/19, and the Clerk was tasked to organise a leaflet

drop advertising this event, and to issue invitations to the Governors, the Bishop and other relevant people and organisations.

128/2019 IWC PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS CONSULTATION

This consultation was noted, but not considered to have any relevance to YTC.

129/2019 CLERK'S REPORT

129/2019.1 CHOYD TREES

The Clerk reported that he has applied for permission under a TPO for work to raise the crowns of the sycamores to the rear of CHOYD, and a decision is expected by 5/12/19.

129/2019.2 LOCAL EVENTS

Cllr Allen had suggested a regular agenda item to note/discuss/advertise local events. This was agreed to by Councillors, and an agenda item will be added for future meetings.

129/2019.3 RECREATION GROUND DRAINAGE

A letter was considered from a local resident who has complained that water is draining from the south side of the Recreation Ground into her property. It was felt that there was no evidence to support this, and the Clerk had replied accordingly to the complainant.

129/2019.4 TOWN CRIER

It was RESOLVED to request Mr Steve King to provide his services as Town Crier for Yarmouth, and it was suggested that his first duties could be to 'Cry' for the Carols in the Square on 7/12/19.

129/2019.5 YARMOUTH SIGN

A complaint has been received about a motor cyclist who has permanently tied his lock band round the Yarmouth sign outside the Church. The Clerk was instructed to attach a formal notice to the band giving the owner a week to remove it before action was taken to do so arbitrarily.

129/2019.6 PARKING ON GRASS AT REAR OF CHOYD

The Clerk reported that one or two cars have been left on the grass area outside the rear of CHOYD. It was proposed by Cllr Corbett, seconded by Cllr Cronin and carried by a majority that the Clerk should arrange for a No Parking sign to be erected in this area.

129/2019.7 GROUNDS MAINTANANCE

It was RESOLVED to instruct Brighstone Landscaping to proceed with the following work:

1. Cut down and clear all vegetation encroaching onto the playing fields eastern and western boundaries and clear the wall of the house on the northern boundary.

Remove the dead elm tree from the play area and Pampas grass from beside the main gate. All arisings removed from site - £480.00 plus VAT.

2. Cut a path from the meadow to the cycle path (old railway line) approx. 85 metres long - £320.00 plus VAT.

This is very overgrown and difficult to see any rate towards the railway line. It would be best to leave quoting for any kind of board walks to be installed until after the clearance has been made.

3. To clear ditch running north-south behind Wellington Square of all overgrown vegetation, including elm suckers, remove any debris found. All arisings removed from site - £600.00 plus VAT.

129/2019.8 WEBSITE UPDATE

The Clerk reported that YTC has until 23/9/20 to make its website compliant with the 2018 Accessibility Regulations, the aim of which is to ensure that everybody can access the content of a website regardless of any impairments the user may have, and current web hosts Vision ICT have quoted £970 + VAT to update the Council website. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would obtain alternative quotes for carrying out this work.

130/2019 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received during October was noted.

131/2019 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Public toilets

West Wight schools reorganisation

Local events

Recreation Ground Pavilion

132/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date, time and venue of the and next monthly meeting at Yarmouth Town Hall at 6:30pm 3/12/19

133/2019 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.

134/2019 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 8/10/19 (Part 2)

135/2019 MAYOR'S AWARD 2019

The forthcoming Mayor's award was discussed.

Signed..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....