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The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at CHOYD on Tuesday January 7th 2019 at 6:30pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Harbour Commission Representative, 1 member of the public

153/2019 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from IW Cllr S Hutchinson

154/2019 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

December Boat Numbers 2019: Overnight visits increased significantly compared to the same month last year by around 30%. 227 boats visited the Harbour during December many were here for Christmas and New Years eve celebrations. This figure is the highest on record. Shorts Stays show a decrease of 25% with a total of 117 visits compared to the previous year of 157. Long Term Visitors increased by 5% at 2,357 nights. This figure is the highest on record.

Sailing school figures show a small increase. A total of 27 boats visited the Harbour compared to 25 in the same month last year.

Total visitor numbers for 2019:

- Overnights show an increase of 1% or 151 nights a total of 17,859 overnight stays.
- Short Stays show an increase of 13% at 6,299 visits. This is an increase of 727 boats and is the highest figure on record.
- LTVs show an increase of 11% at 25,352 boat nights. This is an increase of 2,484 boat nights and is the highest figure on record.
- Sailing Schools numbers increased by 9% a total of 1326 school boats visited the Harbour during 2019. This is the highest figure on record.

Summary:

- The bridge works are complete which I'm sure is a relief to many. Island roads closed the bridge to pedestrians for a number of days leading up to Christmas. The Harbour ran a free taxi service during this period in order to assist the local community and minimise disruption. The service transported over 450 passengers to and from the town.
- The linkspan works completed on time and on budget.
- Phase 1 of the shower block refurbishment is well underway and is due for completion in March.

It was a good year for the Harbour despite some long periods of inclement weather. The Harbour broke numerous records both in terms of visitor traffic and subsequent visitor income, which will be reported in detail at the AGM in due course.

ii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Cllr Hutchinson, the Clerk read out the following report submitted by email:

I continue to oppose the relocation of Yarmouth School, though I will be supporting the closure of All Saints in Freshwater, at the Cabinet Meeting this coming Thursday. I firmly believe the best solution would be for a federation with St Saviours which is the nearest school and serving the same community. I understand that because of outdated legislation that would require the consent of the RC diocese which so far they have not been prepared to give. I believe that ultimately it will prove to be a short sighted decision and likely lead to the eventual closure of St Saviours as it will have insufficient pupil numbers.

The Yar Bridge structural steelwork repaint was successfully completed and the bridge re-opened two days early.

We are now in the final throes of IWC budget preparation, the most challenging this year of any of the four annual budgets that I have been responsible for.

We still await formal confirmation of the tax capping level but understand that it will be 2% basic, which with inflation is effectively a standstill and a further 2% to be spent wholly on Adult Social care. The escalation of the cost of care for the elderly is so great that we shall have to raise the additional money, so the overall tax rise will be recommended to full Council in February as 4% in total. The Council has also to find £4.5M in savings to cover the loss off Revenue Support Grant (or compensatory increase in income) so there will have to be a mixture of changes in service provision and increases in charges. We shall be finalising detail over the next month for a report to Council in late February.

iii) THORLEY ISSUES

There were no Thorley issues.

iv) YARMOUTH ISSUES

Cllr Corbett reported that the footway by the flags on the Common was hazardous and the Clerk was asked to report this to Island Roads.

The Clerk was also asked to get an update from IWC Rights of Way regarding the YTC application to make Friar's Lane a public right of way.

Clr Head raised the question as to the effect on Yarmouth/Lymington ferry traffic of the recent declaration of a clean air zone in Portsmouth

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public and the Public Forum concluded at 18:45.

155/2019 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	
J Allen		Multi-Service Marine River Yar Boatyard
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB Shalfleet Parish Council	National Trust
S Devine	RSPB	

156/2019 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the monthly Town Council held 3/12/19. The request by Yarmouth School Governors to amend the reference to the 'closure' of Yarmouth School to the 'move' of Yarmouth School was declined.

157/2019 FINANCE

157/2019.1 Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: To approve the following payments for January 2020:

2261	Yarmouth Carnival Committee	Christmas tree	210.00
2262	CHOYD	Office rental & broadband	1417.40
2263	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary December 2019	683.56
2264	DARES	Unblocck drains Bridge Rd	72.00
2265	Hillbans	Mole control	690.00
DC	Microsoft	Office 365 subscription	2.76
DC	GIFFGAFF	Office phone	6.00
DC	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary December	189.43
DC	Business Stream	Water services public toilets	420.73

157/2019.2 Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: To approve the financial statement for December 2019 as presented

157/2019.3 2021/21 Budget

RESOLVED: To approve a 4% increase in the 2020/21 Precept to £65,789 subject to any variation in LCTS.

158/2019 PLANNING ISSUES

158/2019.1 Planning Applications:

The following applications were considered:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
19/01467/FUL	Yarmouth Recreation Ground Tennyson Close Yarmouth Isle Of Wight	Demolition of pavilion; proposed pavilion	29 Dec 2019
19/01323/HOU	Love Shore House, High St, PO41 OPN	Proposed replacement garden room and wall, including gate on western boundary; alterations to rear elevation and internal layout - Application Withdrawn	

158/2019.2 Other Planning issues:

The following were noted:

Permission Granted:

Application No	Location	Proposal
19/01157/HOU	Tanners High Street Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 OPN	Demolition of outbuilding; alterations; proposed rear single storey extension (revised scheme)
19/01282/FUL	9 To 11 West View Victoria Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0QW	Proposed store for mobility scooter
19/00766/FUL	Land Adjacent Larkfield Cottages Newport Road Freshwater Isle Of Wight	Retention of lodges for workers accommodation; proposed replacement cladding and roofing; proposed landscaping
19/01360/HOU	Rose Villa Ommanney Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0QA	Proposed alterations and extension at first floor level; single storey side lean-to extension

19/01342/LBC	The Cottage St James Street Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0NU	Listed Building Consent for re- reinstatement of internal dividing wall within 1st floor bedroom with re-opened doorway and associated works
19/01332/HOU	12 Holbrookes Cottages Hill Place Lane Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0XJ	Replacement rear conservatory

Permission Refused: None

Temporary Event Notices: None

TPOs: None

159/2019 PUBLIC TOILETS

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

- The Clerk reported that permission to borrow up to £160K has now been granted by DCLG, and was asked to investigate the possibility of Danfo handling the planning application. It was also RESOLVED to arrange for a video camera inspection of the drains of each toilet block to see if any remedial work was necessary.
- It was noted that the change to Everflow has concluded.

160/2019 PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT AND RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk read out the 19/12/19 minutes of the Recreation Ground Committee.

RESOLVED: that the Lease remains unchanged pending a change of conditions regarding the Pavilion, the rental remains unchanged, and Yarmouth Town Council will continue its present programme of grounds maintenance, including the area around the Pavilion

It was noted that the police have apprehended 3 youths entering the Pavilion, who admitted to causing some of the damage. It was RESOLVED to request the police to take no further action beyond reprimanding the youths concerned and requesting that they submit a letter of apology to YTC.

161/2019 SCHOOLS CLOSURE

Mayor Cowley invited other Councillors to join him in attending the IWC Cabinet meeting on 9/1/20, when the closure of Yarmouth School is to be discussed. He expressed concern that the IWC was putting unfair pressure on Yarmouth School Governors to confirm the IWC recommendation to close Yarmouth School and re-site it in Freshwater, in spite of opposition by Yarmouth Community and businesses.

Cllr Corbett expressed disappointment that so few Yarmouth Governors attended the public meeting held by Yarmouth Town Council on 26/11/19.

162/2019 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED: To agree the 2020/21 calendar of meetings as presented.

163/2019 CLERK'S REPORT

163/2019.1 TOWN CRIER

RESOLVED: To confirm the recent email 'poll' for the appointment of Steve King as a Town Crier for Yarmouth until 30/6/20.

163/2019.2 GRANTS

RESOLVED: To defer discussion of West Wight Timebank's request for a grant of £300 towards its insurance costs until the next meeting

163/2019.3 BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY MAY 12TH 2020

The above was noted.

163/2019.4 ISLE OF WIGHT SOCIETY CONSERVATION PROJECT

Councillors could not nominate a local conservation project for this award.

164/2019 CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received during December was noted

165/2019 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Yarmouth School contribution to legal costs

West Wight Timebank grant

166/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note the date, time and venue of the and next monthly meeting at CHOYD at 6:30pm 4/2/20

167/2019 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.

168/2019 TOWN CLERK'S TIMESHEET

The Clerk's timesheet for the last quarter was noted.

169/2019 WEB HOSTING

RESOLVED: Isle of Wight Geek is to be appointed to rebuild and maintain the YTC website

Signed..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....