



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Thorley Church Tuesday 6th June at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D McCleary (Mayor), G Head (Deputy Mayor), S Cowley, A Ingram, P Spink, T Cowley.

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk) and 4 members of the public

The Mayor welcomed new YTC Councillor, Peter Spink, who has replaced Jamie Allen. She also delivered a short eulogy for local resident Shirly Reece who has recently passed away.

36/2023 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Cronin

37/2023 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

There was no Harbour Commissioner representative present and no report had been received.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

The YTT Chairman was not present and no report had been received.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Spink referred to a complaint from a local resident that the Post Office wrongly classifies Bouldnor Road as 'Main Road'.

In response to a complaint from a local resident about disabled access from the top of the High Street by the flagpoles to Bouldnor Road, Cllr Spink had contacted IWC and Island Roads requesting dropped kerbs, and this was dealt with more fully under item 48/2023.

Delays were still being experienced in 'calling in' certain planning submissions, and he referred to delays in the planning process generally, eg submissions of support or objection relating to applications were sometimes not tendered for several months. He reported that the Island Plan was still in abeyance.

Cllr Spink agreed to a request from Cllr S Cowley to speak on behalf of YTC at the Planning hearing in respect of 22/01931/FUL (Tapnell Farm pods) due to be held 13/6/23. Cllr S Cowley was concerned that few comments had yet been submitted in respect of this application, that the level of occupancy requested by the applicants could result in the pods achieving full residential status and that the site was becoming over-developed. Cllr T Cowley was concerned that Tapnell was now a medium-sized business which could endow them with significant influence in planning considerations. Cllr Spink commented that IWC officers frequently had to accept developers' assurances that planning requirements had been complied with. He felt that the appointment of a new Planning Committee Chairman might improve the Planning process.

iv) LOCAL ISSUES

Deputy Mayor Head reported that verges at the junction of Thorley Street and Willingham Lane were overgrown and impeding visibility for traffic.

Cllr Ingram asked if any update had been received about Bridge outside Thorley Lodge, but the Clerk reported that there had been none.

There was no update on the proposed Solar Farm.

Cllr S Cowley raised the ongoing issue of the barriers by the landslip along Bouldnor Road. Cllr Spink undertook to investigate this and asked the Clerk to send him relevant emails.

Mayor McCleary referred to dysfunctional youths from Freshwater recently extending their targets to Yarmouth with anti-social behaviour including lighting fires in Mill Copse. Cllr Spink undertook to bring this to the attention of the Community Policing Team. He reported that West Wight Sports Centre was putting on extra courses to engage young people, but there had been a problem with funding.

There were reports of footway obstructions in Yarmouth High Street caused by local businesses and the Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the IWC Environment Officer.

The ongoing problem of the lack of a footway along Thorley Street between the western end and Wellow was discussed, and it was agreed that this should be referred to in the Neighbourhood Plan.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Jill Cowley successfully sought Councillors' support for a book she's compiling about memories of Yarmouth School. She plans to publish this by the end of the summer term and will present cost details to the next meeting.

38/2023 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB	National Trust Bowcombe Estate
A Ingram	Shalfleet PC	
D McCleary		The Piano Bar
S Cowley	Yarmouth Town Trust Shalfleet PC Wight Nature Fund	Lee Farm
T Cowley	Shalfleet PC Wight Nature Fund	Camp Wight Accounts for payment (item 40/2023.2)
P Spink	Campaign for Protection of Rural England	IWC (councillor expenses)

39/2023 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the Annual Council meeting and the May monthly meeting held 2/5/23

40/2023 FINANCE**40/2023.1 Payment of Accounts**

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Head seconded by Cllr Ingram and unanimously RESOLVED to approve payment of the following accounts for June:

BACS234020	Yarmouth Town Trust	Rec Ground lease/Town Hall grant	£530.00
BACS234023	West Wight Sports Centre Trust		£8,500.00
BACS234024	West Wight Timebank		£300.00
BACS234025	CHOYD	Hall hire/Broadband	£327.60
BACS234026	Gareth Hughes	Internal audit	£200.00
BACS234028	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary May	£901.77
BACS234029	Gallagher	Insurance	£1,351.98
BACS234030	Wight Digital	Printer parts	£19.80
BACS234031	Brighstone Landscaping	Cemetery maintenance	£435.91
BACS234032	Paravectis	Public toilets repairs	£75.00
BACS234033	RoSPA	Play area inspection	£106.80
BACS234034	Thomas Cowley	Grounds maintenance Rec	£800.00
BACS234022	Thompsons	Christmas Tree	£275.00
BACS234027	Barker Mills Conservation	Conservation area character appraisal	£4,118.00
DEB	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary May	£276.34
DEB	Giffgaff	Office Phone	£6.00
DEB	Microsoft	Office 365	£2.76
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£9.60

40/2023.2 Bank Reconciliation

The financial statement for 31/5/23 was agreed.

40/2023.3 FINAL ACCOUNTS 2022/23. EXTERNAL AUDIT AND CERTIFICATE OF GOVERNANCE

The actual spend for 2022/23 was noted. It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Head seconded by Cllr S Cowley and unanimously RESOLVED to approve the AGAR 3 submission and the Mayor to sign the Certificate of Governance.

41/2023 PLANNING ISSUES

The following application was considered and no objections were raised:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
23/00754/FUL	Goldings Main Road Thorley Yarmouth	Installation of 14 panel photovoltaic array	Mon 12 Jun 2023

42/2023 RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk read out the minutes of the last Recreation Ground Committee meeting 31/5 and they were noted.

43/2023 CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISAL

Cllr T Cowley reported that the Conservation Area Character Appraisal had been submitted to IWC officer Lee Byrne for review, and confirmation of acceptance was expected in September.

44/2023 YARMOUTH SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET

Cllr S Cowley presented a report about the recent meetings of the School Site Steering Group of which the salient points were:

- The Group was moving ahead rapidly with proposals for the future use of the site which included social housing, biosphere enhancement, economic recovery and securing the site for future generations.
- Marketing of the site had begun which has triggered the moratorium periods under the AVC. The site will be marketed in 2 lots, buildings, together with associated land, and playing fields.
- An application had been made to the Government Community Ownership Fund, and YTC was fully compliant for an appropriate grant.
- The selling agent had been contacted and an information pack requested.
- The Land Registry has indicated that the transfer of ownership to IWC could take several months.

- IW Community Action Housing Officer John Prickett has arranged a meeting with IWC Property Services and, using the experience with Shalfleet PC, CA is funding planning and architectural services.
- The suggested application of a maritime museum could help promotion of Wightlink services and ensure their ongoing maintenance and improvement.
- If a Community Land Trust is set up it would elect trustees and secure 'promise to pay' donations. Cllr T Cowley will set up a pledge website with links from the YTC website, and will also establish a 'Save Yarmouth School' Facebook page.
- Cllr S Cowley called for an EGM in the near future at which progress and plans could be displayed.

Mayor McCleary thanked the Steering Group and all supporters for their hard work.

45/2023 COUNCILLOR TRAINING COURSE

Cllr S Cowley will ask Steve Cooper, now Ventnor Mayor, to arrange a councillors training course in Yarmouth.

46/2023 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Documents have been submitted to IWC, and Cllr S Cowley has a list of names for the Steering Committee.

47/2023 BUS STATION PLANTERS

West Wight Men in Sheds have carried out replanting the planters at the bus station to a very good standard. It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Head and seconded by Mayor McCleary to make a grant of £150 for this work.

48/2023 DROPPED KERBS BY COMMON

Councillors agreed to support a recommendation by a resident to install dropped kerbs near the flagpoles which are impeding wheelchair access. Cllr T Cowley will contact Island Roads and the Clerk will contact Isle Access.

49/2023 RISK ANALYSIS

It was proposed by Cllr S Cowley, seconded by Deputy Mayor Head and unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Council's risk analysis for 2023 as circulated by email.

50/2023 ANNUAL TENDERS

It was noted that the response to the 2023 Invitations to Tender has been zero, so there is no option other than to continue with the existing contractors.

52/2022 CLERK'S REPORT

52/2023.1 RECORDING OF MEETINGS

It was proposed by Mayor McCleary, seconded by Cllr T Cowley and unanimously RESOLVED to purchase the Owl Labs Meeting Owl 3-360-Degree Video Conference recorder.

52/2023.2 WEST WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

It was agreed that Cllr S Cowley will attend the next meeting on 19/6, and Mayor McCleary will also attend if possible

52/2023.3 GRANTS

It was proposed by Cllr Ingram, seconded by Cllr T Cowley and unanimously RESOLVED to make the following grants:

Age UK £125

IW Prostrate Cancer Group £125

Yarmouth Town Trust (Town Hall maintenance) £350

The Clerk was asked to seek clarification of Yarmouth Carnival Committee's application for a further award of £1200 to cover the Coronation costs.

52/2023.4 PLANNING APPLICATION 22/01931/FUL TAPNELL FARM

This was discussed in the Public Forum

53/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

54/2022 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Litter picking in Thorley

Dropped kerbs at the Mount

Yarmouth Bus Association

Neighbourhood Plan

Yarmouth School

55/2022 MEETING VENUES

The venue for the next meeting was confirmed – CHOYD 4/7/23