



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at CHOYD Tuesday 5th September at 6:30pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Jason Budd (IWC Environment Officer) and 1 member of the public

74/2023 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Spink

75/2023 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

No Harbour Commissioner was present and no report had been sent. Councillors expressed concern and disappointment that no communication had been received from Yarmouth Harbour Commissioner since April. The Clerk was asked to email YHC and ask if YHC wished to discontinue its association with YTC.

Mayor McCleary was unable to offer any explanation for the closure of the toilets by Yarmouth Pier, though Cllr S Cowley reported that YHC were not prepared to fund the maintenance of the facility.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

The YTT Chairman was not present but had submitted the following report by email:

1) Town Hall

£3,500 bookings income received Jan-Aug '23 with a further £805 anticipated for the year. The YTT noticeboard has been given some much-needed TLC and is back in position. Wight Stonemasonry are scheduled to replace the windows 24-29 September. Southern Lights glaziers have been asked to quote on the removal and reinstatement of the glass, and application will be made to Island Roads for a pavement closure upon confirmation of dates.

2) Memorial Benches

Bench no.7 still requires attention, we are looking for someone to do it.

The picnic bench has been completely refurbished by the Allen family.

3) Mill Terrace Cottage

No 11 's tenancy ends on 18th September. We have identified a list of items requiring attention before the cottage is let out to a new tenant, who YTT hopes will be of a younger age group as the cottages are unsuitable for elderly people. The cottage chimneys are due to be removed 25-29th September, weather permitting. Arrangements have been made for clearing the overgrown ivy and buddleia from against the end wall of No.13, and IWC have agreed to arrange access through the old school site.

4) Financials

Filing of last year's accounts has been delayed due to recent changes made in accessing online services. YTT has registered for the new "My Charity Commission" portal and requested invitation links be issued to all Trustees via email. Once registered, Trustees will be able to check and update their personal details held by the Charity Commission.

5) Donation from Making a Difference Locally (MADL)

We were contacted by MADL to say that our local Nisa store, Harvey's, had nominated YTT as their charity and we will shortly be receiving a donation of £613.

6) Recreation Ground

The electricity supplier will be fitting a smart meter at the Recreation Ground on 18th September. The old padlock had seized up and has been replaced in readiness for the switch.

7) Presentation to Colin Wilcox

The Trustees presented an engraved glass to Colin as a thank you for all his time and work in scanning and recording the archives held by the Town Trust.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr P Spink was unable to attend this meeting and no report was submitted.

iv) LOCAL ISSUES

Mayor McCleary introduced the newly-appointed IWC Environment Officer, Jason Budd, who expounded upon his role, explaining that he has an hour a week allocated to Yarmouth and covers issues such as dog fouling, litter, fly tipping and public toilets. Councillors discussed with him such problems in Yarmouth like dog fouling near Off the Rails and household refuse left out for collection days in advance of the timetable.

Access problems to the Cycleway by Off the Rails caused by parking were discussed and the Clerk was asked to request Island Roads to put down double yellow lines in this area to rectify this. He was also asked to remind Island Roads about the collapsed parking sign at the eastern boundary of Thorley.

Mayor McCleary raised the issue of parking on Coastguard's Green, which YTC maintains on behalf of IWC. The Clerk was asked to contact the parking control company involved.

The Mayor commented that the flower bed by the roundabout was looking much better since Brighstone Landscaping carried out maintenance work on it. She also raised the issue of advertising A-boards outside shops in the High Street which represented a hazard to pedestrians. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Island Roads and the Environment Officer.

Cllr S Cowley reported the acceptance by IWC Planning of the Barnfield Solar Farm application, pointing out that YTC's recommendation for some form of community benefit had been ignored – there is no legal obligation to do so, and planning policy nationwide supports renewable energy.

Cllr Ingram reported that the culverts along Hill Place Lane have now been sorted out.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Jill Cowley remarked that the public toilet block by the Common is being well looked after.

76/2023 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 CHOYD	Lee Farm
T Cowley	Shalfleet PC Wight Nature Fund	Camp Wight Item 88/2023.2

77/2023 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the July monthly meeting held 4/7/23 (subject to a minor amendment in item 57/2023 (iv) and the public section of the EGM held 15/8/23.

78/2023 FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr T Cowley, seconded by Cllr S Cowley and unanimously

RESOLVED:

78/2023.1 Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: To approve payment of the following accounts for August/September:

BACS234037	Mrs C A Blundell	Refund toilet access	£0.40
BACS234038	12CP Barristers	Legal advice Yarmouth School	£1,530.00
BACS234039	Island Roads	Play Area wastebin	£84.48
BACS234040	All Round Cleaners	Public toilets cleaning	£1,196.16
BACS234041	Danfo	Door latch public toilets	£286.28
BACS234042	Brian Jacobs	Clerk's salary July	£901.77
BACS234043	IWC	Election costs	£36.00
BACS234044	Paravectis	Public toilets maintenance	£90.00
BACS234045	Brighstone Landscaping	Grounds maintenance	£1,013.26
BACS234051	YTT	Recreation Ground lease	£180.00
DD	Everflow Water	Water services	£48.93
DD	PWLB	Loan charges	£3,872.17

DEB	HMRC	PAYE Clerk's salary June	£276.51
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£10.00
DEB	Amazon	Print cartridges CHOYD	£30.67
DEB	Giffgaff	Office phone	£6.00
DEB	Microsoft	Office 365	£2.76
DEB	Cash	Holmes Bounty	£140.00
DEB	Pay by phone	Parking fees	£7.15
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£1.90
BACS234046	YTT	Recreation Ground lease	£180.00
BACS234047	Island Cleaning Solutions	Cleaning service public toilets	£1,348.33
BACS234048	Isle Access	Dropped kerbs audit	£50.00
BACS234049	Community Land Trust	Membership	£53.00
BACS234050	GCP IOW Ltd	Marketing report Yarmouth School	£120.00
BACS234051	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary August	£901.77
BACS234052	Brighstone Landscaping	Cemetery maintenance	£435.91
BACS234053	CHOYD	Broadband & hall hire	£159.60
DD	Everflow	Water public toilets	£117.70
DD	Southern Electric	Electricity public toilets	£311.23
DEB	Halfords	Car parts (to be refunded)	£17.29
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£22.35
DEB	Amazon	Prime - to be refunded	£8.99
DEB	Pay by Phone	Car park charges	£6.85
DEB	Microsoft	Office 365	£2.76
DEB	Amazon	Home office chair mat	£44.98
DEB	RVN Building Supplies	Exyension reel	£29.92
DEB	Yarmouth Deli	Refreshments	£3.50
DEB	GiffGaff	Office phone	£6.00

78/2023.2 Bank Reconciliation

It was proposed by Cllr Farrell, seconded by Cllr Head and unanimously RESOLVED to agree the financial statement for 31/8/23. The Clerk was asked to research the use of CAF Bank.

79/2023 PLANNING ISSUES

No objection was raised to the following applications:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
23/01354/FUL	Big Cattle Shed East Thorley Manor Farm Thorley Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0SJ	Proposed replacement roof to barn and proposed roof mounted solar panels	11 Sep 2023

23/01354/LBC	Big Cattle Shed East Thorley Manor Farm Thorley Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0SJ	Listed Building Consent for replacement of roof to barn and proposed roof mounted solar panels	11 Sep 2023
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The following were noted:

Applications granted:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comments
23/00957/HOU	The Old Barn Tapnell Farm Newport Road Freshwater Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Proposed log/tool store	No objection

Applications refused:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comments
23/01064/FUL	Land Adjacent South Lynn Tennyson Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0PX	Proposed detached dwelling	Yarmouth Town Council is concerned about the proliferation of rooflights in this application as it's adjacent to a Conservation Area

80/2023 ANNUAL GRANTS

It was proposed by Cllr Head, seconded by Cllr Ingram and unanimously RESOLVED to make a grant of £250 each to Ability Dogs for Young People IOW and Citizen's Advice Bureau IW.

81/2023 HYP PROJECT PLAQUES

A suggestion that the information plaques for the original HYP project should be renewed and the cost met from the HYP fund was discussed and Councillors will inspect the plaques to determine their condition.

82/2023 RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Cronin reported that the new goals have proved very popular since they were installed.

Councillors were enthusiastic about the suggestion by Mark Holmes that the Rec is used, after redressing the surface, by a local youth team.

83/2023 RIVER ROAD FLOWER BED

This area, after becoming very overgrown and dilapidated, has been tidied up by Brighstone Landscaping and looks considerably better. Councillors did not consider a major replanting necessary, but the situation will be monitored.

84/2023 YARMOUTH SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET

Cllr S Cowley presented a report about progress of the submitted bid, and that can be found in Annexe A to these minutes.

Cllr Farrell asked if any information was available on the other submitted bids but was told they were confidential. He asked about the bid by Marine Archaeological Trust/Herrapath Shenton Trust and was informed by Cllr S Cowley that this was considered by the School Site Steering Group to have insufficient community representation and was based on a different philosophy to the YTC bid, which had been the result of a public survey and will entail the establishment of a Community Benefit Society to ensure local control. He explained that professional specialist legal advice had been engaged, and that certain aspects of the YTC bid did not appear to be present in the MAT/H-S bid, such as a new scout hut.

Cllr Farrell thought that the Steering Group had not provided sufficient information, but Cllr S Cowley pointed out that regular updates about the bid and its progress had been provided and were available on the YTC website. Cllr T Cowley added that certain information was commercially sensitive and could not yet be published. Moreover, the IWC was in the process of launching a Section 77 consultation, which is being hampered by staff redundancies, and that further information will not be available until this is concluded – likely to be a lengthy timescale.

85/2023 COUNCILLOR TRAINING COURSE

Cllr S Cowley reported that a councillors training course was planned for 19/9 subject to CHOYD being available.

86/2023 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr T Cowley referred to the Cowes TC plan to pilot a scheme called a 'Place Plan' but advised that it did not have the same legal impact as the proposed neighbourhood plan. The latter would be able to influence the local Government housing target of 3-5 units a year over 15 years, which was a low figure because of the planning restrictions on building in Yarmouth. Cllr Farrell suggested that YTC should approach selected people to serve on the neighbourhood plan working party.

87/2023 DROPPED KERBS BY COMMON

It was noted that Island Roads, IWC and IsleCare have been notified about this request but no action has yet been promised.

88/2022 CLERK'S REPORT

88/2023.1 YARMOUTH FIRE STATION ACV

The timing for the submission of the above was discussed and Councillors were in agreement that it should be submitted immediately.

88/2023.2 QUOTE TO RE-SEED YARMOUTH REC

Cllr T Cowley explained the quote that he had submitted for the above, then withdrew from the room because of his pecuniary interest to allow the remaining Councillors to discuss it.

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Cllr Head and unanimously RESOLVED unanimously to accept Option 1 in the quote at a cost of a cost of £4300.

89/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

To review correspondence received since the last meeting (attached)

90/2022 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Budget

School site

Neighbourhood Plan

Facebook site

Dropped kerbs

Councillor training

HYP plaques renewal

91/2022 MEETING VENUES

To confirm the venue for the next meeting on 3/10/23 was agreed to be CHOYD.

The following CHOYD meetings dates were confirmed:

2/4/24 – April monthly meeting

23/4/24 – Annual Town Meeting

7/5/24 – Annual Council Meeting and May monthly meeting

ANNEXE A: YTC School site Steering Group – September Update

Following the unanimous decision of YTC at Council's Extraordinary meeting of 15th August, our bid for the site was presented to Hose Rhodes & Dixons before 12.00 noon on Wednesday 16th August. With various appendices it contained some 60 pages of information. Presentation about the scheme can be found at:

<https://www.yarmouthtowncouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Yarmouth-School-Site-August-2023-Presentation-.pdf>

We now understand there were a number of other bids for the site.

The Steering Group has been invited by the IWC to help them understand better what our bid is. We await a date for this meeting. Once the bids have been evaluated by the IWC, a report will be prepared for the IWC Cabinet.

Members of Yarmouth Town Trust (of whom I am one) have been informed that the Maritime Archaeology Trust (MAT) have also made an offer for the site supported with cash from the Herapath- Shenton Trust.

Members of the Steering Group worked with MAT as a potential tenant of the site. Their offer contains many elements of our proposals. We could not agree two of their conditions because they wanted equal representation on the new trust of: MAT, H-S T, YTT and YTC, putting those of the Community in the minority. We felt that this was inappropriate for the site which remains an asset of Community Value as set by the IWC.

The second issue was that they were seeking to recover £40,000/£50,000 per unit for the Affordable Housing which would make the whole housing scheme unviable.

We are now in the hands of the IWC Cabinet.

A book, 'Yarmouth School: A Celebration' is now available at £15.00 each. Please email Jill Cowley on jandscowley@gmail.com for further details.