



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at CHOYD Tuesday 6th March 2024 at 6:30pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk) and 11 members of the public

174/2023 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Tim Adams and Martyn Collinson

175/2023 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

In the absence of a Harbour Commissioner and any reportable events, the following issues were raised:

A quantity of slurry upriver was reported, but there was no clue as to its provenance.

Cllr T Cowley reported that he had presented a tree planting plan for the Green to the Harbour Commissioners, which had been gratefully received. It was proposed by Cllr S Cowley, seconded by Cllr Farrell and agreed unanimously to contribute up to £500 to this project.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

The YTT Chairman was not present and had notified the Clerk that there was nothing to report this month.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Isle of Wight Councillor had been detained at an IWC planning meeting and was not available to deliver a report. Cllr Farrell suggested changing the date of future meetings later to allow Cllr Spink more flexibility in attendance. There was some debate about this and Deputy Mayor Head suggested beginning future meetings at 7pm. It was agreed to defer further discussion until the next meeting to allow Cllr Spink to participate and to allow Councillors to vote on this issue.

iv) COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Cllr Farrell and Deputy Mayor Head reported that the annual Pancake Race staged by Yarmouth Carnival Committee has proved very successful in spite of poor weather.

Cllr T Cowley reported on the activities in Mill Copse of a group of 24 volunteers from Wight Nature Fund who had cleared areas of the Copse. The approved Forestry Commission Management Plan was to be put up online.

Mayor McCleary informed that negotiations were ongoing to resurrect Yarmouth Business Association.

Cllr Ingram reported that work on Thorley Church wall is under way, and welcomed the news that Island Roads is to improve the pathway to the bus shelter at the bottom of Hill Place Lane.

v) LOCAL ISSUES

Cllr Cronin reported that the hedge alongside the cemetery has become overgrown, and the Clerk agreed to bring this to the attention of Island Roads.

Cllr T Cowley advised that he had removed 2 truckloads of cuttings from the upper set of steps at the Mount.

Cllr S Cowley expressed concern that the advertising graffiti at 'On The Rocks' was still visible through the coat of paint that the owners had been ordered to cover it with, and the clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Planning Enforcement.

Cllr T Cowley informed that the Conservation Area Character Appraisal will shortly be ready for issue and will become a Supplementary Planning Document and he and the Clerk will arrange a press release to emphasise that YTC is doing all it can to preserve Yarmouth's heritage.

Mayor McCleary reported on a dangerous overhanging branch along Thorley Road, and the Clerk will contact Island Roads regarding this.

vi) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public again raised the issue of traffic and parking in Yarmouth. Cllr T Cowley responded that YTC has no jurisdiction on this issue, and can only make representations through Island Roads, but suggested that YTC would have much more control over such issues under a neighbourhood plan. The Clerk indicated a confirmation that Island Roads would likely be commencing on a review of parking restrictions in Yarmouth next year. The Mayor urged as many Yarmouth residents as possible to contact Island Roads/IWC to report their concerns about traffic safety in Yarmouth. Sylvia Mence explained that, in her experience, introducing traffic calming measures was a very fraught process, and often resulted in problems for those who lived in the area.

Mayor McCleary reported that arrangements were under way for a community speed watch in Yarmouth, scheduled to be discussed under 188/2023.

176/2023 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB	National Trust Bowcombe Estate
A Ingram	Shalfleet PC Millenium Green	
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
P Farrell	RSYC	

177/2023 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Head, seconded by Cllr T Cowley and agreed unanimously to take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the last monthly meeting held 6/2/24.

178/2023 FINANCE

179/2023.1 Payment of Accounts

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Head, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed unanimously to approve payment of the following accounts for March:

BACS234097	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary February	£960.67
BACS234098	ICS	Cleaning public toilets	£688.33
DD	Everflow	Water public toilets	£120.60
DEB	Typeform	Online survey service - used in 2023 re Yarmouth School but no longer required and disputed. To be reclaimed.	£415.20
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£15.60
DEB	Pay by Phone	Car park charges	£4.95
DEB	Microsoft	Office 365	£3.00
DEB	GiffGaff	Office phone	£6.00
DEB	HMRC	Clerk's salary January	£301.50
			£2,515.85

179/2023.2 Bank Reconciliation

The financial statement for 29/2/24 was noted.

180/2023 PLANNING ISSUES

The following were noted:

Notice of major application: The following application is within Shalfleet parish but immediately adjacent to YTC area:

22/00713/FUL Land Adjacent Lucketts Farm And Woodland South Of Main Road, Yarmouth

Proposed Woodlands tourism and leisure project consisting of Proposed Means of Access (and bus stop improvements), Car Park, Reception, Café, Wellbeing Buildings (spa/treatment room and sauna pods), 15 treehouses, 8 safari lodges, 8 tiny homes, associated infrastructure, amphitheatre landscaped zone and wider site landscaping

(Updated Master Plan) (Readvertised application and Revised description)(readvertised application)

Application refused:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comment
23/02157/FUL	Windy Ridge Bouldnor Road Shalfleet Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO40	Proposed detached dwelling	1) The application represents over-development of the site 2) There are concerns about land stability in this area as evidenced by the nearby landslip which has still not been rectified after several years of representations by Yarmouth Town Council.

181/2023 CHOYD DEFRIBILLATOR

Sylvia Mence reported that discussions were still under way for the above.

182/2023 YARMOUTH SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET

Cllr S Cowley reported that a decision by IWC was expected shortly.

183/2023 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Farrell was concerned that local residents were unsure as to the implications of a Neighbourhood Plan and wished to ensure YTC was following due diligence. Cllr S Cowley explained that it was a long term planning tool for the benefit of the community, and Cllr T Cowley went on to say that it had been fully discussed at public meetings, and he had exercised due diligence by contacting several local councils on the Island and beyond who had engaged in a neighbourhood plan. He stated that it was important to have such a document to avoid any shortcomings in the Island Plan and the national planning policy framework insofar as they affected Yarmouth and Thorley, where a target of 30 new housing units was planned over the next 15 years. In response to a query from Mayor McCleary he assured that the management of the School site bid would not impact upon the production of a neighbourhood plan.

It was proposed by Cllr S Cowley, seconded by Cllr T Cowley and agreed unanimously to confirm the intention to proceed with a neighbourhood plan, and that the initial meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party will be at 18:45 25/3/24 at CHOYD.

184/2023 HYP PROJECT PLAQUES

Cllr Farrell had spoken to Kevin Shaw and he is still on track to finish his designs by the end of this month.

Clifford J Mathews Ltd have now been to see the Thorley lectern. They say the stand is fine and that just the top frame needs replacing. Refurbishment costs are not available from them yet but they are unlikely to be significant against the likely cost of the project.

When Kevin's designs are available it will be possible to get a more accurate cost for the overall project, at which point I will bring it to YTC for a decision.

185/2023 RECREATION GROUND

It was proposed by Cllr T Cowley, seconded by Cllr P Cronin and agreed unanimously to proceed with laying a substrate and chippings by the 2 pedestrian access gates.

Mark Holmes will present his proposals for use of the Rec by his youth football team at the next Rec Ground Committee meeting on 21/3.

Cllr T Cowley expressed concern about the clearance of the elm suckers along the Cycleway-Rec path at the Rec end. He suggested adopting a planting plan which he will devise in association with Cllr Cronin, along with laying down a suitable surface for the path, to be carried out in the Autumn.

186/2023 TREES

This had already been covered in the public forum.

187/2023 D-DAY 80TH COMMEMORATION

It was proposed by Cllr S Cowley, seconded by Mayor McCleary and agreed unanimously to grant up to £300 to CHOYD for its proposed activities for this occasion, and June Ring outlined the suggested programme.

188/2023 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Mayor McCleary reported she had received an email that the speedwatch group was still being formed and asked for this item to be put on next month's agenda. Cllr S Cowley reported that Shalfleet PC has an unused speed camera available.

189/2023 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

It was agreed that the recent IWALC training course in Ethical Leadership was excellent, and Mayor McCleary reported that she had arranged with Steve Cooper to do a follow session at CHOYD, which would be slightly different to the previous one. Cllr Cronin suggested that it was beneficial to share the course with other local councils to get their views on the issues involved.

190/2022 CLERK'S REPORT

Cllr T Cowley reported that he had recovered the old bench which used to stand outside the Church, and he is waiting on a quote from Lallows though was doubtful if the unit was repairable.

191/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received since the last meeting was noted:

- 31-Jan-24 IWC Council consults on new drainage guidance to help reduce flooding
- 06-Feb-24 AJG Horizon – New Speakers Announced
- 09-Feb-24 IWC Councillors continue work on new proposals to improve democratic accountability
- 26-Feb-24 IWC Building 41 one year on

192/2022 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Amplification for meetings
- Community Speedwatch
- Market in Yarmouth
- Biosphere Festival
- Meeting times

193/2022 MEETING VENUES

It was agreed that the venue for the next meeting on 2/4/24 will be CHOYD, followed by the Annual Town Meeting, CHOYD 23/4/24.