



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Thorley Church Tuesday 2nd September 2025 at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D McCleary (Mayor), G Head (Deputy Mayor), P Cronin, P Spink, P Farrell, M Peckham, B Freshwater

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Gretel Ingham, 8 members of the public

Gretel Ingham of Community Action about the Yarmouth gave a presentation about the housing needs survey, emphasising that the next step was for Yarmouth Town Council to officially sign off the Survey. It was decided to bring forward agenda item 97/2025, and it was agreed to arrange a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party and any other Councillors who wished to attend for 9/9 at CHOYD.

Gretel also advised that the Government has withdrawn further funding for neighbourhood plans, though NP Working Party deputy Chairman Thomas Cowley pointed out that it would be desirable to be in a position to proceed with a neighbourhood or place plan should funds become available. Gretel did point out that a HNS would normally be linked to a neighbourhood plan.

81/2025 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Draper

82/2025 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR MATTERS

No report had been received from the Harbour Commissioner though the Mayor did point out that the new Quay2Quay service was shortly to begin operations.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

The YTT Chairman had emailed to say that there were no issues to be reported on this month.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Spink brought forward agenda item 87/2025 to give an update on the former Yarmouth Deli. The occupier had not met any of the restrictions imposed by the IW Planners, including the shop front and illuminated sign, while the refrigeration unit fans at the rear of the premises were still creating an illegal amount of noise. The Case Officer is compiling a file of all the planning breaches to put before the senior planning officer with a recommendation for criminal prosecution, and Cllr Spink suspected that the occupiers would suffer a fine rather than comply with planning regulations. He also plans to contact IWC Parking Services to ask why the local parking warden is not issuing parking tickets to employees of the former Deli who are parking outside the building all day.

He also paid tribute to the recent Yarmouth Carnival.

He brought forward agenda item 95/2025 concerning the fenced-off landslip along Bouldnor Road which has been the source of dispute for several years. An investigation is to be held into the cause of the landslip, which has also involved a neighbouring property, and positive action is expected to arise from this process.

iv) COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

The Deputy Mayor reported that she had attended the Wight Nature Fund presentation, the Fire Service consultation, Yarmouth and Freshwater School tea party, and the Yarmouth Carnival opening ceremony and dog show.

Cllrs Spink, Draper and Peckham also attended the Yarmouth and Freshwater School tea party.

v) LOCAL ISSUES

The Mayor reported that the old trough outside Gossips café had been boxed in which has created much bad feeling in Yarmouth. The Clerk was asked to add an item to the next agenda to discuss this.

Cllr Cronin reported that the new flagpoles were not entirely vertical, the Union Jack had been hung upside down and he hadn't obtained keys for the new flagpoles from the contractors. The Clerk was asked to bring these issues to the notice of the contractors.

The Deputy Mayor commented favourably on the bus station planters and asked the Clerk to express appreciation to West Wight Men in Sheds.

The Mayor reported concern about the state of the poles along Coastguard's Green and Cllr Spink was asked to bring this to the attention of IWC.

The Deputy Mayor pointed out that the Thorley Road street sign at the junction with Wilmingham Lane is dirty and illegible and undertook to clean it. She also referred to an initiative to restore St Swithins Old Church in Thorley.

The Mayor brought forward item 91/2025. Along with Cllrs Freshwater and Cronin she had met with the Yarmouth Sports Federation. Cllr Freshwater reported that the building was owned by 4 trustees, only one of whom is currently active, but there is little knowledge of the Trust itself. Thomas Cowley informed that funding was in place for the year ahead and final documents were awaited from the Trustees. Progress on this is very low key, but once the present financial situation is resolved the way ahead should be clearer. The topic will remain on future agendas until sorted out.

vi) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public drew attention to a parking space in the High Street and two parking spaces along Tennyson Road which he felt should be removed as both sites are potentially hazardous. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of IWC Parking Services with a copy to Cllr Spink.

83/2025 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no specific declarations to be made, apart from Cllr Spink who's unable to participate in votes on planning applications and Cllr Cronin who has a payment to him in the financial report.

84/2025 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the June monthly meeting held 1/7/25.

85/2025 FINANCE

85/2025.1 Payment of Accounts

Cllr Cronin abstained from this vote due to his being a beneficiary.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to approve payment of the following accounts for August/September:

256039	Brian Jacobs	Clerk' s salary July	£1,000.07
256040	CHOYD	Room hire	£22.50
256041	CHOYD	Broadband	£53.76
256042	Medina Marching Band	VE Day performance	£350.00
2566043	Brighstone Landscaping	Cemetery - 1 year	£1,129.87
256044	Brighstone Landscaping	Grounds maintenance	£991.84
256045	IWC	Election expenses	£1,426.89
256046	The Tree Council	Subscription	£250.00
256047	ICS	Cleaning services toilets	£728.33
256049	ICS	Cleaning services public toilets	£728.33
256050	Peter Cronin	Gate closers Rec	£120.00
256051	Brian Jacobs	Clerk's salary August	£1,000.27
256052	HRMI	PAYE Clerk's salary July & August	£750.18
DD	SSE	Electric public toilets	£244.67
DD	Everflow	Water public toilets	£120.55

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to confirm the decision taken by email during August to replace the Council's 3 flagpoles at an estimated cost of £1908, and the flags at a cost of £203.

The was asked to email the financial report to Councillors on the day of the meeting.

85/2025.2 Bank Reconciliation

The financial statement for 31/8/25 was noted and agreed.

86/2025 PLANNING ISSUES

No objections were raised to the following applications:

25/01085/FUL

25/01089/HOU and LBC

25/01091/LBC

The following were noted:

Applications Approved:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comment
25/00806/HOU	Stockbridge Cottage Newport Road Freshwater Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Proposed retention of garden room	No objections
25/00823/RVC	The Barns Tapnell Farm Newport Road Freshwater Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Variation of condition 2 on 24/01613/RVC to allow for a revised link extension design	No objections

Refused:

25/00651/TW	1 Wellington Square Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0LB	T1; Monterey cypress - Remove at ground level.
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87/2025 FORMER YARMOUTH DELI

This was dealt with above.

88/2025 YARMOUTH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

There is a public open day for the former school on 27/9/25.

It was proposed by The Mayor, seconded by Cllr Farrell and agreed unanimously to nominate Cllr Freshwater as YTC representative to YCF.

Concern was expressed about the lack of communication between YCF and Yarmouth Guides & Scouts Association and the Clerk was asked to communicate with YCF on this issue.

89/2025 RECREATION GROUND

Chairman Cllr Cronin reported that the Rec had been well-used during the summer months. He also reported that a gate closure fitted to the north gate had worked well and he proposed fitting one to the south gate.

Peter Scott has retired from the Committee and it is recommended to appoint a replacement plus one additional member to ensure meetings are always quorate. It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by The Mayor, and agreed unanimously to appoint Mark Holmes as Committee Member.

New land drain: Cllr Spink suggested approaching Yarmouth Town Trust from who the land is leased for a grant towards the cost of the drain and drainage for the carousel, and the Mayor undertook to do raise this issue at the YTT meeting on the coming Thursday.

CCTV: Cllr Cronin announced his proposal to install CCTV by the storage hut to monitor dog fouling on the pitch and asked the Mayor if she would seek permission from YTT at the above meeting to carry this out.

Cllr Cronin also suggested he would contact the Football Federation to see if grants were available to carry out work on the football pitch, since Yarmouth is on the National Pitch Register. YTT are also able to apply for a grant of up to £25K for a new pavilion.

90/2025 MILL COPSE

Thomas Cowley made the following report:

Currently creating a Farming In Protected Landscapes grant application for the footpath in to Mill Copse. This will clear the blackthorn bank to the East of the path and plant with orchard trees, cobnuts and filberts. This is on land owned by the Taylor family, who have given their permission. Natural England have also confirmed they're happy for this work.

Landscape Connections Bid: Worthy of note and connected to trees and also related to the Recreation Ground, is the National Landscape Unit's (NLU) bid for £5m Landscape Connections Lottery Funding. The area for the bid includes Yarmouth Town Council area. The next IWALC meeting will include a presentation by the NLU and as the Town Council has a statutory duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity a representative from YTC should attend and report back to the council.

It will be possible to access this funding to improve the lower area of the Recreation Ground, which is currently poor quality Elm scrub, to create a more thriving and biodiverse environment, including the potential for a new, accessible path down to the railway line, to replace the informal and inaccessible path currently through this area.

91/2025 YARMOUTH SPORTS FOUNDATION

This was dealt with above.

92/2025 REMEMBRANCE DAY LAMPOST ROUNDELS

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Cllr Freshwater and agreed unanimously to order 20 roundels from RBL.

93/2025 BENCH, FORMERLY OUTSIDE CHURCH

Defer to next agenda.

94/2025 BOULDNOR ROAD LANDSLIP

This will be discussed next meeting.

95/2025 YARMOUTH PROMOTION

Adey Evan's report had been circulated among Councillors and another meeting of the Yarmouth Business Association is to be held.

A discussion about Wightlink advertising and plaques was deferred to the next agenda.

96/2025 DOG FOULING CYCLEWAY AND SIGNAGE

The Clerk reported that he had tried several times to contact the Environment Officer but had had no response. The Clerk was asked to continue trying to elicit a reply and to enter this issue on the next agenda.

97/2025 NEIGHBOURHOOD/PLACE PLAN

This was discussed in the Public Forum.

98/2025 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Defer to next agenda.

99/2025 ADOPTION OF A .GOV.UK DOMAIN FOR YTC AND ASSOCIATED EMAILS

Defer to next agenda

100/2025 CLERK'S REPORT

100/2025.1 MEMORIAL TREES

Councillors agreed in principle to this and will discuss details next month.

100/2025.2 DISPOSABLE BARBECUES

This was deferred to the next meeting.

100/2025.3 UKSA: REQUEST FOR GRANT AID

This was deferred to the next meeting.

100/2025.4 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Clerk was asked to arrange for 2 wreaths and further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

101/2025 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received since the last meeting was noted:

02-Jul-25	IWALC	Free Online Community Resilience training
03-Jul-25	RCN	RSN Weekly News - Free Edition (2 July 2025)
10-Jul-25	Rural Services Network	RSN Weekly News - Free Edition (9 July 2025)
16-Jul-25	IWC	Isle of Wight councillor joins literacy leaders to promote reading across the UK
07-Aug-25	IWC	Big Mead Pond

102/2025 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Former Yarmouth Deli
Bouldnor Road landslip
YCF
Bench
Remembrance Sunday
Disposable BBQs
UKSA grant
Memorial trees
HNS
Training
YTC domain
Dog fouling
Yarmouth Sport Federation
Yarmouth promotion
Gossips Trough
Landscape Connections Bid

103/2025 MEETING VENUES

The venue for the October monthly meeting, CHOYD 30/9/25 18:30 was noted.