



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at CHOYD Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 6:30pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), M Collinson (YTT), T Adams (YHC), 13 members of the public

59/2025 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence

60/2025 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR MATTERS

The Harbour Commissioner reported that short stay visits were at an all-time high for May, and long-term visitors were the second-highest on record for that period, with total visits at around the 30-year average. The new ferry service, Quay2Quay, is close to completing preliminary arrangements for operation.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

Chairman Martyn Collinson delivered the following report:

- 1) **Town Hall:** A reminder that the Town Hall will be open to the Public on St James day with a Trustee on duty throughout the day – Friday July 25th. We have purchased a Philips Series 9000 Air Purifier for the upstairs of the Town Hall.
- 2) **The Common:** We have now received a copy of the survey that Island Roads have carried out on the drainage of the road above the Common. The Trustees are considering the next steps as most of the drains appear blocked and/or need attention. We are still chasing Island Roads/IOW Council re the missing dog waste bin.
- 3) **Mill Terrace Cottages:** Renovation of No 11 is nearly completed, the Tenant of No 13 is preparing to move to no 11 and the Tenant in no 9 has asked to move to no 13!
- 4) **The Recreation Ground:** The Rec Ground Committee needs to meet once the new members have been confirmed by the Town Council. One item for

consideration would be to install a water bowser, perhaps in the Rec Ground hut, to water the young trees in this area.

- 5) **Graveyard Copse:** There is a broken strut on one of the benches that will need attention.
- 6) **Town Council Trustee appointments** – we await the Town Council's four nominees to the Trust which are for 4 years beginning on the 28th of July.
- 7) **Town Trust Clerk:** We have received over 20 applications for the part time role of Town Trust Clerk and are now down to just 2. Denise Cronin and I have been carrying out the interviews.
- 8) **Next Trustee Meeting:** The next Trust meeting is being held on Thursday July 17th at 18.30

The Mayor undertook to notify YTT of its nominated representatives shortly.

iii) **ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Former Yarmouth Delicatessen: The IWC Planning Enforcement is taking a strict line with the new owners regarding the unauthorised alterations. They have been given 10 weeks to restore the wooden frontage, otherwise IWC will take enforcement proceedings, which means that a non-compliance order will be issued which is a criminal offence. The owners must also apply for planning permission for the cooling fans at the rear of the property within 6 weeks, though planning consent is unlikely to be granted because Environmental Health has ruled that the noise of the fans is in excess of the tolerance for a domestic area. In addition, the neon sign on the front of the premises has to be removed.

Hursts Freshwater: This shop was due to close but has been given a temporary reprieve which will be reviewed in 2 months time.

Fort Victoria: The enforcement officer is still considering this unauthorised development but it's likely that 2 small containers will have to remain on the site because they have been in situ beyond the period that enforcement can be carried out, though Cllr Spink is hoping to challenge that on the basis that unauthorised work cannot be carried out on a listed building. Planning permission for the large white container is unresolved at the moment but Cllr Spink believes it requires planning permission because it's not temporary and it requires planning permission as it's used for the purposes of storing live seafood which is a change of use and should require planning consent.

CHOYD business rates: It seems unlikely that there will be any reduction in the £595 levy for 2025/6.

IWC structure: The IWC's decision to move from a cabinet system to a committee structure is likely to be negated by forthcoming Government legislation which imposes a compulsory cabinet system on local authorities.

iv) **COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

There were no reports by Councillors concerning local groups.

v) **LOCAL ISSUES**

Cllr Draper and the Deputy Mayor referred to the dilapidated condition of old Thorley church and churchyard. The Clerk advised there is a small budgetary provision of £368

for Thorley churchyard which doesn't specify whether it was intended for the old or the new one.

The Mayor reported that the farm gate which had been dumped along Thorley Road had still not been removed, and the Deputy Mayor agreed to send the Clerk a photograph of the location so that it could be reported again to Island Roads.

Cllr Cronin referred to the fact that the flagpoles had not yet been serviced.

vi) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public.

61/2025 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of interests

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB	National Trust Bowcombe Estate
A Draper	Isle of Wight Food Partnership Strategic Steering Group Grow Gurnard Community Interest Company National Coast Watch Institution Yarmouth Carnival Committee	
D McCleary		The Piano Bar Wheatsheaf Freshwater Bay Vintage
P Spink	IWC CPRE	
P Farrell	RSYC	
B Freshwater	Yarmouth Sailing Club Yarmouth Gig Rowing Club Dabchicks	
M Peckham	RSYC	Coldborough Park Estates Ltd

62/2025 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

RESOLVED: To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the June monthly meeting held 3/6/25.

63/2025 FINANCE

63/2025.1 Payment of Accounts

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Cllr Farrell and agreed unanimously to approve payment of the following accounts for July:

256029	West Wight Men in Sheds	Planters	£180.00
256030	ICS	Toilet cleaning	£708.33
256031	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary June	£1,000.27
256032	Yarmouth Town Trust	Rec lease	£180.00
256033	Wight Digital Solutions	Printer spares	£41.26
256034	Mark Holmes Construction	Rec grascutting	£525.00
256035	Thorley Church	Premises hire	£60.00
256036	HMRC	Clerk's salary June PAYE	£374.99
256037	WWSC	Grant	£9,356.00
256038	YTT	Grant	£360.00

63/2025.2 Bank Reconciliation

The financial statement for 30/6/25 was noted.

64/2025 PLANNING ISSUES

Cllr Spink abstained from voting as he's a member of the IWC Planning Committee.

No comments were offered re the following applications:

New applications:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
25/00806/HOU	Stockbridge Cottage Newport Road Freshwater Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Proposed retention of garden room	11/7/25
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	11/7/25

25/00861/HOU	Bank House Market Square Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0NS	Formation of vehicular access and parking bay	18/7/25
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The following were noted:

Appeals:

25/00016/ENF	Little End, South Street, Yarmouth, PO41 0QH	Without planning permission and in the last four years the erection of unauthorised brick pillars, brick walls and trellis forming a pergola
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Other:

Street Trading Application, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Schedule 4

Application for: Mobile Street Trading Consent Renewal – Wight Ices - L7 WPY Island
wide

65/2025 FORMER YARMOUTH DELI

This had been dealt with under Cllr Spink's report

66/2025 YARMOUTH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Ken Grist and Martin Woodward of YCF reported that the existing governance structure of the organisation was due to be expanded and work had begun with volunteers clearing and preparing the site, and appealed for more volunteers. Several architects had been asked to submit their suggestions for the site. The school sign has been cleaned up and stored, and the Mayor said that a decision needs to be taken as to where to site it. Martin suggested a display would be mounted of all the artifacts left behind at the School.

67/2025 RECREATION GROUND

Rec Committee Chairman Cllr Cronin reported that there had been few developments at the Rec due to a combination of elections and illness. Gate closers and CCTV will be probably a month or two away but are ongoing. The RoSPA report suggested a defect on the swings due to loose bolts which Peter Scott has tightened up.

Cllr Cronin also reported that the eastern side of the pitch has been surveyed by a contractor who had identified the need for a new drain across the pitch at a cost of £2085, and for an additional £500 he would also incorporate drainage from the carousel into the new drain as well as using his equipment to lift the carousel with a view to replacing the bearings. The Clerk advised that there was budget provision of £1100 for maintenance work on the pitch. The Clerk was asked to arrange for a further quote from Brighstone Landscaping. Martyn Collinson suggested that, as the Delphi Lakeman Trust had financed the original carousel, the Trustees might consider contributing to its repair. A replacement carousel would cost around £7000.

The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with Eldridges to arrange registration of the land between the Rec and the Cyclepath.

68/2025 MILL COPSE

There was no update on restrictions of access to Mill Copse.

69/2025 YARMOUTH SPORTS FOUNDATION

The Mayor reported that Trustee Tim Honour had been in contact with the Yarmouth Sports Foundation, who had maintained that the running costs of the building, such as insurance, made the establishment unviable and there was no other option than to sell it. Cllr Farrell advised that he had heard today that the financial problems had been resolved and the Foundation was considering expanding facilities. The Mayor undertook to visit the establishment and report back to the next meeting.

70/2025 TREE WARDEN SCHEME

The Clerk reported that insurance for Thomas Cowley had been resolved, and Thomas was awaiting confirmation of his appointment from the Tree Council.

71/2025 BENCH, FORMERLY OUTSIDE CHURCH

The repair of the above was discussed at some length, with the Deputy Mayor advising that the construction and condition of the bench is likely to make it beyond economic repair. The Mayor also drew attention to the problems of siting it when repaired or replaced. A couple more repair estimates will be sought.

72/2025 NOMINATION OF YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST REPS

Yarmouth Town Trust will be advised of the YTC nominees by 17/7 deadline.

73/2025 YARMOUTH PROMOTION

Adrian Evans was not present to provide an update.

Cllr Farrell gave a brief summary of the historic plaques project which aims to put blue plaques on the George Hotel, Yarmouth Mill, Refuge Lane, the Heroes' Orchard and to restore the lectern opposite Thorley Church. The cost was estimated at £4.6K + £1.5K planning costs as at last October but was deferred in favour of the promotional video. Since then it is unlikely that the Refuge Lane and Mill Plaques will be undertaken. Cllr Farrell wondered if grants might be available to fund the remaining work and will investigate this possibility.

74/2025 DOG FOULING CYCLEWAY

The Clerk reported he had notified Island Roads about the damaged dog waste bin, and was informed that it was in progress, and had chased up the Environment Office several times but with no response. However, some new notices have been put up along the cyclepath.

75/2025 NEIGHBOURHOOD/PLACE PLAN

It was pointed out that the Government had announced its intention to remove any funding for neighbourhood plans. Cllr Farrell had downloaded from the WWW a comparison between a place plan and a neighbourhood plan and circulated that among Councillors. He suggested that a further meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party should be held to discuss a Place Plan and indicated that, at relatively little cost, Living Streets could conduct an on-street survey of all of the people, and all the people who come here and wander around the centre of Yarmouth, asking where they come from, how do they get here, what are they going to do here, what have they done, what have they spent, etc? This could be done once during the holiday season the off season, when the town is completely different.

76/2025 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Cllr Freshwater had attended the NALC training for new councillors and he and Cllr Draper proposed to attend further courses during July.

77/2025 CLERK'S REPORT

77/2025.1 FYT

Cllr Freshwater has been asked to become a trustee of FYT, but proposed, with the agreement of other Councillors, that he remain as a YTC representative.

77/2025.2 AGENDA PACKS DELIVERY

It was proposed by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously that agenda packs would in future be sent by email, with a paper copy available at the actual meeting.

77/2025.3 CLERK'S TIMESHEET

The Clerk's timesheet was noted.

78/2025 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

79/2025 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Bouldnor Road landslip

Dog fouling

Adoption of a .gov.uk domain for YTC's email address and presentation by Cllr Freshwater

Dispense with declaration of interests at meetings

Yarmouth Sports Foundation

80/2025 MEETING VENUES

The venue for the September monthly meeting, Thorley Church 2/9/25 18:30 was confirmed.