



Minutes of the meeting held of the **TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 2 September 2013 at 6.15pm.

Present: - Councillor Brown (Chairman),
Councillors Banks, Cowan, Hall, Jones, Peacey-Wilcox and Robinson
Councillor Nicholson was also in attendance but non-voting

516 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Wardrop sent her apologies and has now resigned from the committee.

**517 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2013 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

518 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

519 PARADE PLAQUE

Cllr Banks provided an update – the plaque has now been delivered and taken to DMR Engineering for the backing tray to be manufactured. The backing tray will have to be re-designed as the plaque was not manufactured to the specifications provided by Councillor Banks, although this should not be too costly.

520 TOWN GUIDE/RESIDENTS HAND BOOK

At the last full Town Council meeting, the resolution was made to consider the Town Guide to be incorporated into the existing Port Handbook. Four councillors have now signed a motion for that resolution to be reviewed. In light of this, this item will be held over to the next meeting awaiting the outcome.

521 NEWSLETTER

Cllr Banks has designed an outline which will provide readers with details of how Cowes Town Council can assist residents, and the areas over which they have no control. He will introduce all the councillors and explain the ward system. The newsletter needs to be ready for the printers by 13th September; this will allow him time to include details of all the recent Town Council and Committee meetings. One of the problems with the Beacon article was that it has to be written six weeks ahead of publication. The newsletter this time will consist of four pages of A4 of which 2 pages will comprise the Town Questionnaire. The aim is to provide a quarterly newsletter which Cllr Banks is

happy to compose with input from any councillors who wish to be involved. Some councillors wished to read the draft before publication, so councillor Banks will do this.

522 DOG FOULING AND LITTER BINS

Councillor Brown provided an update. She reminded councillors of the telephone number to use to contact Island Roads to report any problems. She asked Cllr Banks to mention the problem in the Newsletter requesting that residents report the worst areas in Cowes for both litter and dog fouling. There was discussion about people not using the litter bins for dog waste as they are unaware that they are dual purpose. Cllr Brown also read a letter from the IW County Press where a lady in Elmfield had complained to Island Roads about the amount of dog fouling in a particular area and they responded with the installation of a dog waste bin very quickly.

RECOMMENDATION: That Cowes Town Council provides signage for all litter bins advising residents that all litter bins are dual purpose.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk will investigate to see how many litter and dog bins are in Cowes and where they are positioned.

523 SHELTERS

Cllr Banks showed everyone some pictures of a potential shelter which could be provided on the walkway between Cowes and Gurnard. It would need to be situated on one of the groins (in place of one of the benches), so would need permission from the Isle of Wight Council, Coastal Protection and Planning. The idea is to provide a structure in a Victorian design to provide both seating and shelter from the weather. The concept was first brought to the council in 2010, but at that time was shelved in favour of other projects. Discussion took place about the potential for vandalism, Cllr Banks advised that the roof could be made from timber shingle (no value for removal) and the glass would be flexi glass which cannot be broken.

ACTION: Cllr Banks to identify a location, design and potential costs for the next meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council accepts the principle of providing a Victorian shelter on the walkway between Cowes and Gurnard, subject to planning, availability and cost.

524 BUNTING

Cllr Banks updated councillors of the problems experienced by the CBA for their flags and banners which in turn affects CTC for the bunting. Island Roads has governance over everything to do with Highways including anything erected above the highway. They have insisted that all contractors erecting anything above the highway provide a method statement, public liability insurance and risk assessment. Island Roads are preparing an Islandwide application form for any work, which will provide a framework for all the relevant paperwork. As this is still being designed, for this season only, they have accepted the paperwork provided by Trevor Cole who erects, maintains and will dismantle the bunting at the end of the season for Cowes Town Council. Councillors will have to make a decision about next summer nearer the time.

525 ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

A) TOWN NOTICE BOARD

As requested at the last meeting, the Assistant Town clerk has obtained a quotation from Leander Architectural for a replacement notice board as the one on Hurst's wall is looking very dilapidated – Cllr Jones provided some photographs. The cost of replacing the internal board with an enamel one was also discussed together with the cost of replacing the perspex and re-painting the frame which would total nearly £500. The cost of a replacement notice board is £845 plus delivery and VAT.

RECOMMENDATION: That a replacement notice board is ordered from Leander Architectural to replace the existing one sited on the wall of Hurst's.

B) Queens Diamond Jubilee TREE PLAQUE

A red leafed oak tree was planted on Mornington Green to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A temporary sign, made from plasticised paper and card surrounded with parcel tape, was erected in case the tree did not survive. Quotations have been requested from:

AJ Wells	£357 plus VAT
Biltmore Signs	no quotation received
The Sign Company Limited	£25 plus VAT

RECOMMENDATION: That a sign is purchased from The Sign Company and Cllr Banks arranges the installation.

C) ADDITIONAL SEATING ALONG THE SEA FRONT

A letter was received in response to Cllr Bank's request in the Beacon for projects to be considered for the town. The resident is requesting additional seating along the seafront between Cowes and Gurnard. On the Cowes side there are three benches all situated on the groins. In view of the recommendation for the shelter, no further benches will be considered at this time as the shelter would provide the additional seating requested.

D) LAND AT THE BOTTOM OF MARKET HILL

Cllr Walters had previously requested that the Town Council consider purchasing a parcel of land at the bottom of Market Hill to provide a green area for the town. The Assistant Town Clerk reported that planning permission has now been granted for a pair of semi-detached houses on that land. No further action is to be taken.

Meeting ended at 7.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN