

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **COWES TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Drawing Room, Northwood House, Cowes on Thursday 9 April 2015 at 7pm.

Present: Councillor Banks (Town Mayor) (Chairman)
Councillors Brown, Corby, Fuller, Jones, McNeill, Matthews, Nicholson, Oliver, Peacey-Wilcox, Spalding & Wardrop.

PRESENTATION: A presentation was made by Paul Savill, Voluntary Sector Locality Link Officer, Community Action Isle of Wight, on the project 'My Life A Full Life'. Mr Savill explained that the project is the driving force for bringing people and organisations together to deliver a programme which can change cultures, attitudes and behaviours and redesign services to focus on person centred community responses and to ensure people receive co-ordinated care and support. The project is a collaboration between the Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Isle of Wight NHS Trust and the Isle of Wight Council. The Island is being split into three localities: West & South (of which Cowes is included); South Wight & North East Wight. Each locality will have a multi-disciplinary team which will look at needs as a whole; and an operational team which will provide the required service. Care passports are being created which will give the whole picture of a person including their personal details, care and support needs and medical conditions. This will allow all persons involved with the individual to understand that person's needs and requirements. The aim is to deliver truly integrated care and support on the Isle of Wight and to allow as many people as possible to stay independent and in their own homes for as long as possible. A number of questions were raised and discussed including who is taking the lead on this project and at what cost? The Health & Wellbeing Board are taking the lead over this project and money will be saved through health care savings. It was noted that communication and signposting was key to delivering this project not just through the use of IT but by engaging and meeting with local groups.

Councillor Jones thanked Mr Savill for giving up his valuable time to make this presentation and he acknowledged that Town & Parish Councils have an important role to play in co-ordination of services in the local community.

Prior to the start of the meeting Councillor Banks welcomed Councillor Joey Oliver to his first Town Council meeting following his Co-option on 18 March 2015. Councillor Oliver gave a resume of himself including his background and interests.

7058 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cowan, Hammond & Robinson.

7059 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Spalding declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 7071 as she is a user of Cowes Community Sports Facility.

Councillor Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 7068 as she is a member of Northwood House Charitable Trust Co. Ltd.

7060 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 March 2015 be taken as read, approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

7061 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public.

7062 REPORTS FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Fuller provided a written report which had been circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Fuller made reference to the ongoing consultation regarding Community Toilets which closes on 17 April.

Councillor Fuller left the meeting at 7.39pm.

Councillor Peacey-Wilcox provided a written report which was circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Peacey-Wilcox referred to her attendance at an Island Roads Asset Management Workshop on 23 March. She had asked Island Roads to email the slides through but they had indicated that they would like to show the slides at a future Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED

That Island Roads are invited to attend the June Town Council meeting to make a presentation on Asset Management. The meeting will have an earlier start time of 6pm.

Councillor Nicholson provided a written report which was circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Nicholson was available for questions but none were raised.

Councillor Bertie did not provide a written report and was absent from the meeting.

7063 REPORT FROM COWES SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Acting Sergeant Gary Knight did not attend the meeting. A written report was subsequently received and circulated to all Councillors.

7064 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Skip at St Mary's Road Car Park (Min Nos 6976 / 6996a / 7015a / 7034a / 7050a refers).

The license for the skip was issued by Island Roads for a period of 12 weeks. The skip was put in place on 16 March 2015 and has been emptied once on 7 April 2015. The contents of the skip contained black bagged household waste. It was noted that rubbish is still being dumped around the recycling bins even when the skip had capacity. Is this because the sign erected does not clarify what can be deposited in the skip.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk reviews the wording on the sign and considers the re-wording of such.

b) Timing & Frequency of meetings (Min No 7053.3 refers)

The Town Clerk presented a paper regarding the timing and frequency of meetings for decision in advance of the Annual Town Council meeting on 21 May 2015. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

- 1. That Town Council meetings start at 7pm.**
- 2. That Committee meetings start at 6.15pm.**
- 3. That Cowes Town Council meet monthly; there will be no Town Council meetings in August or January of the municipal year. The July meeting and December meeting will be held in the middle of those months.**
- 4. Planning Committee will continue to meet on dates, as required, to enable comments to be made within the statutory timeframe.**

5. **Projects Committee will meet monthly, dates will be set annually in advance. Meetings will be cancelled if there is no business.**
6. **Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee will meet bi-monthly, dates will be set annually in advance. Meetings will be cancelled if there is no business; additional meetings will be arranged, if necessary.**
7. **Standing Orders will be amended accordingly.**

c) Safety issues at the junction of Mill Hill Road & Victoria Road (Min No 7048.2 refers)

The Town Clerk took up the concerns regarding safety at this junction with Island Roads. They confirmed that of the four collisions in the past three years the cause has been attributed to driver error. They do not feel that there is any engineering deficiency with the signage and are therefore unlikely to implement any additional measures at the junction.

d) Co-opted Member for Cowes North Ward (Min No 7054 refers).

Two candidates for co-option were interviewed by a panel of Councillors on Wednesday 18 March 2015. Mr Joey Oliver was the successful candidate and signed his acceptance of office on 26 March 2015.

e) Community Flood Plan (Min No 7038 refers)

A draft copy of the updated Community Flood Plan had been circulated for discussion. It was agreed that some minor changes needed to be made before final publication.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk makes the agreed amendments to the draft and circulates to all Councillors, by email, for approval before finalising and subsequent publication.

7065 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

a) Harbour Advisory Meeting

The Notes of the Harbour Advisory meeting held on 6 March 2015 were received. Councillor Corby advised Councillors that Destination Cowes is being re-instated and a business plan will be developed.

b) Acquisitions Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Acquisitions Committee held on 11 March 2015 were received. Councillor McNeill advised Councillors that negotiations with the Isle of Wight Council were ongoing and it is hoped that this Committee will shortly make a recommendation to the Town Council in respect of discretionary services.

c) Planning & Licensing Committee

The Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 18 March 2015 were received.

d) Cowes Week Shoreside Meeting

The Notes of the Cowes Week Shoreside meeting held on 19 March 2015 were received.

e) Town Improvements Committee

The Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee meeting held on 23 March 2015 were received.

i) Town Map

RESOLVED

If Red Funnel is agreeable, the Assistant Town Clerk will contact the Chamber of Commerce and request an additional print run to a cost of £500.

ii) Repairs to Crane and Benches outside The Harbour Office

RESOLVED

That provided the work can be completed within the timescale, the contract is awarded to John Groves (IW) Ltd, but to also include herras fencing for safety.

iii) Legal Agreement for the Tree Sculpture, Newport Road

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Tree Sculpture be added to the Town Council's Insurance Policy for Public Liability purposes.**
- 2. That the Tree Sculpture be added to the Town Council's Asset Register.**
- 3. That once all paperwork is completed, the Mayor and Town Clerk will sign the legal agreement with the Isle of Wight Council.**

iv) Beach Walk

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council do not support the proposal due to the potential cost, legal issues and maintenance.

v) Lighting in Arctic Park

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council do not support this project due to the legal issues, high costs and creation of a potential meeting point.

f) Festive Lights Meeting

The Notes of the Festive Lights Meeting held on 30 March 2015 were received.

g) Supporters of Cowes Library

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Supporters of Cowes Library Group held on 23 February 2015 and 23 March 2015 were received.

7066 SPEED LIMITS IN COWES

Councillor Banks presented a paper on Speed Limits in Cowes following consultation with residents via the Cowes Town Council winter newsletter. Two responses from residents in Market Hill & Union Road had been received. Cowes Town Council needs to give due consideration as to whether certain roads should be speed regulated to 20mph.

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council, due to a large amount of ongoing business, re-visit this subject in six months' time, either through the new Projects Committee or through a meeting of the Town Council.

7067 WREATHS AT THE WAR MEMORIAL

Councillor Banks presented a paper on wreaths at the war memorial following consultation via the Cowes Town Council winter newsletter. The question raised was whether residents would like the wreaths to remain on the war memorial throughout the year or remove them prior to Christmas; mixed responses gave favour to both options. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council support retaining the wreaths on the war memorial until the end of October, prior to Remembrance Day in November.

7068 TOILETS IN NORTHWOOD PARK

Councillor Banks presented a paper regarding an informal approach from the Trustees of Northwood House. They are requesting that Cowes Town Council consider taking responsibility for the servicing and cleaning of the toilet block in Northwood Park. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council enters into early dialogue with Northwood House Charitable Trust Co. Ltd to determine the possible financial and contractual commitments in servicing and cleaning the Park's toilet block.

7069 WORLD WAR ONE – ROSE GARDEN TO PARK ROAD CAR PARK ENTRANCE

Councillor Banks presented a paper regarding a licence, shortly to be issued by the Isle of Wight Council, which will enable Cowes Town Council to take full responsibility for the Park Road rose bed.

The Town Council had been approached by the Cowes Branch of the Royal British Legion with a request to place a World War One Centenary plaque on the Bandstand, Cowes. The Mayor suggested, as an alternative to the Bandstand, that they might like to place the plaque on the proposed epitaph at the rose bed, subject to the agreement of Cowes Town Council. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

- 1. That Cowes Town Council liaises with Cowes Royal British Legion whereby the latter provides their own plaque at their expense for the memorial epitaph to compliment any other Cowes Town Council commemoration references.**
- 2. That Cowes Town Council works with Cowes Royal British Legion in the proposals for creating a World War One commemorative area.**

7070 COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Councillor Nicholson presented an update on Community Wellbeing in which he gave details of a new community partnership called 'IsleHelp'. He also gave details of the Action Based Community Development Workshops on 20 & 21 April 2015 at the Riverside Centre. Councillor Nicholson was available for questions but none were raised.

7071 COWES COMMUNITY SPORTS FACILITY

Councillor Spalding presented a paper on the Cowes Community Sports Facility. The facility based on the Cowes High School site was built as a community sports facility using lottery money. With the closure of the old high school in 2013 the sports facility has not been available for public use. With health and wellbeing being an important issue it is important to keep sports facilities open and available for public use. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council write to the Isle of Wight Council's Officer for Sport & Recreation to explain our concerns about the loss of this facility and to seek advice as to how we may be able to move this matter forward.

7072 COWES POST OFFICE

The Town Clerk reported that the consultation to move the Post Office to 27 High Street, Cowes has ceased and the branch will continue to operate from the current site at this time.

7073 CHEQUES AND PETTY CASH PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – MARCH 2015

RESOLVED

- a) That the cheque payments totalling £22,205.32 are accepted and approved.
- b) That the petty cash payments totalling £216.53 are accepted and approved.

7074 ISLE OF WIGHT JOINT TRAINING PARTNERSHIP SPRING SEMINAR – 16 MARCH 2015

The Town Clerk presented a report following attendance at the Spring Seminar on 16 March 2015. The Town Clerk was available for questions but none were raised.

7075 ISLAND PLAN CORE STRATEGY POLICY SP2 (HOUSING REVIEW) – DRAFT REVIEW CONSULTATION

The consultation document had been circulated to all Councillors. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Councillors can make individual contributions to the consultation process by the deadline of midday on 11 May 2015.

7076 HEALTH & WELLBEING DRAFT STRATEGY FOR THE ISLE OF WIGHT 2015 – 2017 (FOR CONSULTATION)

The consultation document had been circulated to all Councillors. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Councillors can make individual contributions to the consultation process by the deadline of midnight on 28 April 2015.

7077 RESPITE CARE & SITTING SERVICE CHARGES – CONSULTATION SURVEY

The consultation document had been circulated to all Councillors. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Councillors can make individual contributions to the consultation process by the deadline of 30 April 2015.

7078 MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Details of miscellaneous correspondence were circulated to all Councillors.

Councillor Wardrop left the meeting at 9.03pm

7079 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Invite Janet Allan from Northwood House Charitable Trust Co. Ltd to give a presentation on Northwood House and Northwood Park.

(The proceedings terminated at 9.10pm)

CHAIRMAN