



Minutes of the meeting held of the **TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 14th July 2014 at 6.15pm.

Present: - Councillors Brown (Chairman) Banks, Jones, Peacey-Wilcox and Robinson
Cllrs Fuller and Wardrop arrived at 6.35pm (non-voting)

600 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Nicholson.

**601 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2014, were amended (min N 596) – the recommendation was to seek quotations from Andy Fortune only at this stage, then, may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

601 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this stage.

602 DOG WASTE

Following the instruction to install the two additional dog waste bins for the Parade and Egypt Point, Island Roads have increased the cost of emptying them from £2.15 per lift to £2.25. In view of the approaching school holidays and the need to have the bins in place and emptied, it was agreed that:

RECOMMENDATION: That the increased contract is signed by the Assistant Town Clerk immediately.

603 SHELTER ON THE SEAFRONT

Cllr Banks provided hand written designs for the shelter. It would be made in three modules and craned into position to fit on 10 stainless steel base supports. Cllr Banks was commended for all his hard work and was asked to obtain quotations for the work.

ACTION: the designs are to be presented to the legal department at IW Council for their consideration before the quotations are sought.

604 WISHING WELL

Following the advertisement of the Town Council's possible intention to take over the responsibility of the maintenance of the Wishing Well, the only contact received was from a member of the IW Council staff who confirmed that ownership lies with them.

RECOMMENDATION; That the Assistant Town Clerk contacts the Isle of Wight Council advising them of the action taken and requesting a legal agreement to take over the maintenance of the Wishing Well.

605 TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS

Cllr Jones has completed the condition survey, the base of the clock has been repainted and all the benches in Northwood Park have been repainted. He provided a list of Town Council assets which Island Roads are now responsible for the maintenance.

ACTION: The assistant Town Clerk to contact Island Roads and request that the necessary maintenance is carried out.

606 USABLE WOOD FROM THE UMBRELLA TREE

A quotation has been received from Andy Fortune who has been to look at the wood that has been salvaged from the diseased Umbrella Tree. The cost of making an 18" platter with a brass plaque would be £150 - £175, with an additional cost of £140 for the processing and transporting of the wood. He has suggested that coasters would not be suitable, but small bowls, key fobs/rings, wooden pens or bud vases could be made from the wood. He has also suggested that a councillor visits his workshop before any further decisions are made.

ACTION: That Cllr Jones visits the workshop at Arreton Barns and reports back to the committee.

607 MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE PLAQUES ON THE BANDSTAND

An eleven page legal agreement has been received from Isle of Wight Council allowing Cowes Town Council access rights to the bandstand to take over the maintenance of the plaques.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That as Town Mayor, Cllr Banks signs the legal agreement on behalf of the Town Council.**
- 2) That Cllr Banks writes a suitable specification for the work of cleaning the plaques.**
- 3) That once the specification is written, quotations are sought to complete the work.**

608 QUOTATIONS RECEIVED TO REPLACE THE FREE FRENCH PLAQUE

Two quotations have been received:

A J Wells	£459.00
Stocksigns	£195.86

RECOMMENDATION: That two new enamel signs are purchased from Stock Signs at a cost of £195.86 plus VAT.

609 PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE LACK OF BOLLARD IN THE HIGH STREET

Cllr Wardrop submitted a written report regarding the continual breaking of the traffic prohibition in the High Street due to the fact that the bollards are not being raised. Cllr Fuller advised that a meeting with Island Roads and Isle of Wight councillors for Cowes has taken place. The district steward will be providing a condition survey of the bollards. The Isle of Wight Council are still advising that the bollards are not required, and do not wish to take responsibility of them.

ACTION: To await the report from the conditional survey from Island Roads, before CTC could consider paying for a contractor to raise/lower the bollards on a daily basis.

The issue of cyclists in the Town was also discussed. Although it has previously been requested to Island Roads that a "cyclist dismount" sign was erected at the top of Shooters Hill, this was not taken forward.

ACTION: That the Assistant Town Clerk obtains a quotation for a "cyclist dismount" sign from Stocksigns.

610 ADDITIONAL LITTER BIN AT THE BOTTOM OF BLACKBERRY LANE

Cllr Fuller provided a written report regarding the amount of rubbish that is being left in Blackberry Lane. There had been a previous problem when IW Council disputed ownership of the land but this has been concluded. The best location would be by the road sign. It was agreed that once installed; councillors would provide some education to the schools.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That one additional litter bin is ordered from Island Roads at a cost of £85.00 plus installation**
- 2) That the bin is emptied twice per week at £2.25 per lift**

611 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed for Monday 11th August 2014 at 6.15pm.

Meeting ended at 7.25 pm.

CHAIRMAN