



Minutes of the meeting held of the **TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Monday 23 March 2015 at 6.15pm.

Present: - Councillors Brown (Chairman) Banks, Jones, Peacey-Wilcox, Robinson and Spalding.
Councillor Nicholson arrived at 6.30pm.

Councillors McNeil and Wardrop also attended the meeting, but were unable to vote as they are not part of the committee.

660 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

661 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2015 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

662 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of Interest at this stage.

663 MATTERS ARISING

- a) **Developing the Cut** - Cllr Peacey-Wilcox took the previous plans to Martin Hayles who has requested a budget for the project. Discussions took place about the surfacing as this will have a large impact on the budget. The previous budget was around £55,000. It was decided that prices will be obtained for both tarmac and block paving once the plans have been drawn up. Permission for the project would have to be obtained from both the IW Council and Island Roads before planning permission was obtained. Once plans have been drawn up and the relevant permissions obtained, a tender document can be drawn up to obtain contract prices.

ACTION:

Councillor Peacey-Wilcox will talk to the IW Council to obtain their permission “in principle”

- b) **Festive Street Lighting** – a meeting has been arranged for Councillors Banks, Jones, McNeill and Spalding to attend with the Cowes Business Association on Monday 30 March 2015. Councillor Banks has previously dealt with a company who will design, obtain the relevant permissions, supply, install and maintain a festive light system.
- c) **Shelter on the Seafront** – Councillor Banks advised that planning permission has been agreed on 18/03/15 for a period of three years. The next stages in the project are to obtain a licence from the IW Council, write a specification and working drawings to then obtain quotations via a tendering process.

ACTION: Councillor Banks will contact Martin Hayles for a quotation to provide the detailed working plans and specification for the project.

- d) **Benzie's clock** – a letter was sent to Benzie's asking them to repair the clock on 18/02/15. To date no response has been received.

ACTION: That the letter is re-sent to Benzie's asking for a response.

- e) **Town Map** – quotations have been received for additional copies of the map provided by the Chamber of Commerce - £600 for 2,000 copies and £1250 for £5,000. Councillor Peacey-Wilcox has a meeting with Red Funnel so will ask about them allowing these maps to be displayed.

RECOMMENDATION: 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.

- f) **Wishing Well** – the IW Council has agreed to allow CTC to repair the Wishing Well as they have no funds for the project. Permission has also been sought from Island Roads advising them that the asset was missed from the register. The repairs have now been completed.

ACTION: Councillors will visit the site and report to the Assistant Town Clerk that all is in order.

664 REPAIRS TO THE CRANE AND BENCHES OUTSIDE THE HARBOUR OFFICE

Quotations have been received ranging from £2,940 to £4,400. Discussion took place about the need for sandblasting the crane and the installation of herras fencing. The work needs to be completed before the summer season, so preferably by the end of April, although during May could be possible.

RECOMMENDATION: That providing 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 purposes.

ACTION: That now the cost of the project has been established, the Assistant Town Clerk contacts the Cowes Harbour Commission, Red Funnel and Cowes Waterfront Trust requesting a financial contribution to the work.

665 LEGAL AGREEMENT FOR THE TREE SCULPTURE, NEWPORT ROAD

A legal agreement has been received from the IW Council which was circulated to members. A map and photograph is required to complete the paperwork. Councillor Peacey-Wilcox will email a picture to the Assistant Town Clerk, who will add with a location map to the agreement.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) That the tree sculpture is added to the Town Council's insurance for public liability purposes.**
- 2) That the tree sculpture is added to the Town Council's Asset Register**
- 3) Once all paperwork is complete, the Mayor and Clerk will sign the agreement.**

666 REPAIRS TO THE TOWN CLOCK

Unfortunately the current "keeper of the clock" is unable to complete any work unless it is at his home. One clock face is currently not working which requires removing and the space made water tight. Once this has been completed he is happy to carry out the necessary service at his home. Someone will then need to replace the face, and take on the responsibility to change the time to summer time at the end of the month. Councillors felt that this was a good opportunity to research the cost of new mains electrical workings

ACTION:

The Assistant Town Clerk to contact the SSEC to obtain a quotation for a mains supply.

667 BEACH WALK

A resident has provided a proposal to initiate a “Beach Walk” from the Parade at Cowes along the seafront towards Gurnard. This proposal would involve marking on the pavement the number of steps to encourage walkers from Cowes to Gurnard. In view of the potential costs, legal issues and maintenance involved councillors did not support the project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Assistant Town Clerk advises the resident that the councillors do not support the proposal due to the potential cost, legal issues and maintenance.

668 LIGHTING IN ARCTIC PARK

Councillor Hammond had requested that councillors discuss the lack of lighting in Arctic Park. After some discussion about the potential costs for both installation and maintenance it was decided that:

RECOMMENDATION: This project is not supported by the Town Council due to the legal issues and high costs, and that if the area was lit, it may become a meeting point for the local youths.

669 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

In view of the current restructuring of committees being discussed at full council, a date will not be set until the new committee is established.

Meeting ended at 7.45 pm.

CHAIRMAN