

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Projects Committee Meeting held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Tuesday 18 April 2017 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors Nicholson (Chair), Banks, Brown, Jones, McNeill, Spalding and Taylor

In attendance: IW Councillor Bertie, Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk), Debbie Faulkner (Town Clerk)

119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bartrum.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) No declarations of interest were received.
- b) No written requests for dispensation were received.

121. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 22 March 2017 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

122. UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

- a) **The Cut**
Island Roads will be undertaking a borehole on site to see what the make-up of the carriageway is. The findings will be brought before the committee at a future date.
- b) **The Shelter**
The Shelter was installed on Egypt Esplanade on 7 April. Concerns were expressed regarding the seating height which will be looked into and considered at the next meeting. No contact has currently been received from the family who provided the original dedicated bench on the groyne. Councillors agreed the wording for a dedication plaque to be installed on the Shelter.
Action: The Assistant Town Clerk obtains costings for the dedication plaque to be sited on the Shelter.
- c) **Defibrillators in the town**
The defibrillators located at Cowes Yacht Haven and Shepards Wharf are now fully operational. Details of defibrillators available for community use throughout Cowes are on the Town Council's website, including links to an information leaflet produced by the Town Council, a location map and full list of the location of each unit. All defibrillator owners had been asked to include details of their units on the Heartsafe website. Councillors felt that this project had achieved a good result for the community.
Action: The Assistant Town Clerk continues to encourage the inclusion of all defibrillators for community use in Cowes to be registered with Heartsafe.
- d) **High Street Pedestrianisation and Bollards**
Councillors request for the inclusion of 'No cyclists' or 'Cyclists dismount' signs to be added to the schedule of new signs in the High Street have been turned down. Island Roads have advised that no additional signs can be provided as part of the main signs as there is no such permitted variant in the regulation. Councillors are concerned that the current No Entry sign does not deter cyclists from riding their bikes through the High Street.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk contacts the Police to ask their advice on the proposed signage and for their support to reiterate that the prohibition signage includes 'cyclists'.

e) **Northwood Recreation Ground survey results and expanding the Outdoor Gym**

The Isle of Wight Council have given their approval to the proposed equipment and location for the expansion of the outdoor gym.

Councillor Brown circulated copies of a drawing which illustrated the possible location for an extension to the current skate park for younger children. Quotations will be sought from skate park providers for the supply and installation of equipment that is suitable for 8 year olds and under. Councillors felt that a great deal of research had been undertaken when installing the current skate park, which would assist in considering the options for the proposed extension.

Actions:

1. The Assistant Town Clerk will order the new gym equipment.
2. The Assistant Town Clerk will write to the Isle of Wight Council to confirm that the gym equipment will be managed and maintained by the Town Council and keep them updated with installation details.
3. Councillor Brown will contact skate park providers to request layout proposals for a skate park aimed at children of 8 years old and under.

f) **Plaques in Francki Place**

The new plaques are on display in Francki Place. This item will be removed from the agenda.

g) **Access Audit of the Town**

The Isle of Wight Council and Island Roads have advised that discussions are ongoing to ensure accessibility issues are considered when works are planned. They are keen to include the Town Council in these discussions. This item will be considered further at the next meeting, following the election in May 2017.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk contacts Island Roads and the Isle of Wight Council to advise that Councillors will consider this further after the local election, and requesting that any meeting should be on site and include representatives from the Town Council and Isle Access.

h) **Road Crossing Patrol in Park Road**

Cowes Primary School have launched a Crowd funding initiative to raise money towards the cost of the road crossing patrol service in Park Road, which has already raised in excess of £500. Councillors considered this to be good progress.

i) **WW1 Centenary Memorial in the Rose Bed**

The Isle of Wight Council have advised that the transfer of the rose bed cannot move forward until the land is registered under their ownership.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk requests the Isle of Wight Council gives consideration to claiming ownership of the land as they have maintained it in excess of 20 years.

j) **Plaque on the crane**

The replacement plaque has been delivered and will be fitted to the crane located near the Harbour Commission office shortly.

- k) **Westbury Estate Residents' Association**
Island Roads' Development Control Team have contacted the Homes and Communities Agency with regard to reinstatement of the trench in Seaview Road. The Homes and Communities Agency have arranged for a temporary repair to the defect in Seaview Road and are awaiting their contractors' availability to repair the dip in the road. Island Roads are liaising with Persimmon regarding elements of the land covered by the highway adoption agreement. Persimmon have advised the Town Council that they are investigating the current status of the adoption of the Westbury Estate.
- l) **Benzie's Clock**
The condition of the clock remains unaltered.
- m) **Lanesend Primary School**
Councillors Peacey-Wilcox and Nicholson, as ward Councillors, will continue to monitor traffic safety measures and report back to full Council. This item will be removed from the Projects Committee agenda.

123. NEW PROJECTS

- a) **Yachting Parade of Fame**
IW Councillor Bertie circulated a report to Town Councillors prior to the meeting. He presented his ideas on the creation of a yachting parade of fame to celebrate significant achievements in yachting from around the world, to be sited on The Parade. The Parade consisted of in excess of 2,000 paving slabs. The paving slabs could be replaced, over a long period, with high quality engraved paving slabs detailing a person or event which had made a memorable contribution to yachting.
Councillors supported the idea in principle and felt a steering committee needed to be established to further this project, consisting of a representative from the Town Council, Destination Cowes and appropriate organisations.
Action: The Assistant Town Clerk contacts Island Roads regarding their costs, if any, for the fitting of engraved paving slabs, and asking them to repair any broken slabs currently on The Parade.

124. MAINTENANCE ISSUES WITH EXISTING PROJECTS

- a) **Street Furniture**
 - i. The Isle of Wight Council have been contacted regarding the condition of the six plastic picnic benches at Mornington Road. They have offered to fund 50% of the cost to replace the current picnic benches with six metal picnic benches, with the Town Council meeting the remaining 50% and agreeing to take responsibility for the future maintenance of the picnic benches. An estimated cost of £6,000 for the supply and installation of six metal picnic benches would require partnership funding of approximately £3,000 from the Town Council.
RECOMMENDED: That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee consider the cost of approximately £3,000 to partnership fund six metal picnic benches to be sited at Mornington Road and the Town Council agrees to take responsibility for the future maintenance of the picnic benches.
 - ii. The condition of the Town Clock was discussed. The base is showing signs of corrosion and is in need of professional repair and redecoration. The access hatch requires the allen keys to be replaced.

Actions:

1. Councillor Banks provides the Assistant Town Clerk with a specification for the decoration of the town clock.
2. The Assistant Town Clerk obtains quotations to repair and decorate the town clock with the appropriate specification.

b) **Information Boards**

The Information Board sited on The Parade has been repaired and refitted.

The proceedings terminated at 7.30pm.

CHAIRMAN