

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Projects Committee Meeting held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Tuesday 11 July 2017 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors Taylor (Chair), J Bartrum, Brown, Jones and Peacey-Wilcox

In attendance: Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk), Debbie Faulkner (Town Clerk), Councillor Wardrop (non-voting) (6.20pm)

132. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fuller and Nicholson.

133. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

134. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 6 June 2017 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

135. UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

a) The Cut

The Council's Architect, Martin Hayles, had provided an update on the proposed enhancements at The Cut, following discussions with Island Roads. Councillors have further questions that they feel need answering before proceeding with this project. Councillors discussed the offer to replace the current mural painted on the wall behind the seating area. They feel that further design options need to be explored.

Actions:

- 1) The Assistant Town Clerk will invite Martin Hayles to the next meeting of the Projects Committee.
- 2) The Assistant Town Clerk will determine the costs spent on The Cut project to date.
- 3) The Assistant Town Clerk will arrange a meeting between the Chairman of the Projects Committee and the mural designer to discuss the design.

b) The Shelter

A quotation to install a metal foot rail under each seat on the seafront Shelter was presented. Councillors wished further options to be explored.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk will request that the Shelter's contractor, G J Banks (IW) Ltd, look at alternative materials for the foot rails.

c) Defibrillators in the town

Councillors felt that reiterating the calling of '999' in the first instance when being faced with a medical emergency should be promoted, and did not feel that training a small number of individuals would be of much benefit to the whole community.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk is to ensure that appropriate instructions are accessible with each of the three defibrillator units provided through the Town Council's application to the British Heart Foundation.

d) **High Street Pedestrianisation and Bollards**

Island Roads have advertised the changes to the prohibition of driving order for the High Street, which has been requested by the Town Council. Once this Order comes into force the bollards can be further discussed with Island Roads.

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

The mobile outdoor gym equipment has been installed. There have been a few minor issues identified which the Town Council is working with the supplier to rectify. The new equipment has already been popular with users of the Recreation Ground. An official opening will be arranged after the static gym has been refurbished.

The Town Council are in the process of obtaining quotations and visualisations from skate park suppliers for a facility aimed at children of 8 years and under. A structure comprising of concrete ramps has been recommended to the Town Council by suppliers as the most appropriate material for that age group. Councillors were happy to pursue this option.

Actions:

- 1) The Assistant Town Clerk will arrange an official opening of the outdoor gym in due course.
- 2) Councillor Brown will obtain prices and visualisations for a concrete skate park.
- 3) Councillor Peacey-Wilcox will provide contact details for local skate park designers.

f) **Access Audit of the Town**

Councillors will consider funding Isle Access to attend a two hour walk through the town with representatives from all relevant parties at the next full council meeting on 20 July 2017.

g) **Road Crossing Patrol in Park Road**

The Town Council have agreed to match fund the amount raised by the Crowdfunding page set up by Cowes Primary School, up to a maximum of £5,000, for the road crossing patrol. The final sum raised by the Crowdfunding page is £4,130.82. This item will be removed from the agenda.

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

There was no update regarding transfer of the ownership of the Rose Bed from the Isle of Wight Council to Northwood House Charitable Trust Company Limited.

i) **Westbury Estate Residents' Association**

Persimmon have advised the Town Council that they are working closely with Island Roads and the Isle of Wight Council regarding the adoption of the Westbury Estate. The Home and Communities Agency have had discussions with the Isle of Wight Council regarding the area of the estate in their ownership, to try and reach an agreement as to the works needed to bring the road up to an adoptable standard.

j) **Benzie's Clock**

Benzie's have turned down the Town Council's offer to take over ownership of the clock. There being no progress with this item, this will be removed from the agenda.

k) **Yachting Parade of Fame**

This item will be discussed at the next full Council meeting on 20 July 2017 and will be removed from the Projects Committee agenda.

i) **Tree Planting and appreciation**

The proposal to fund 2 major plantings will be considered at the next full Council meeting on 20 July 2017.

m) **Christmas Trees in the Town**

Councillors felt that a site visit should be carried out before deciding the location of this year's Christmas tree.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk obtains prices for new tree lighting.

136. NEW PROJECTS

a) **High Street Banners**

Councillors discussed obtaining two 'Welcome to Cowes' banners which can be displayed in the High Street when special events are taking place in the town.

Action: The Assistant Town Clerk contacts Cowes Business Association regarding the size, possible locations for two new banners, and suggested suppliers.

b) **Isle of Wight Day**

Councillors wished to support the Isle of Wight Day by encouraging people to enjoy their favourite parts of the Island and purchasing local produce, but did not wish to put on their own event.

137. MAINTENANCE ISSUES WITH EXISTING PROJECTS

a) **Street Furniture**

The Isle of Wight Council have been requested to place the order for six metal picnic benches at Mornington Road.

Quotations have been received for the repair and repainting of the town clock. Contractor A (repair and repaint) for the sum of £1,086; Contractor B (repaint only) for the sum of £220; Contractor C (repair only) for the sum of £111; Contractor D (repair and repaint) for the sum of £920.

The tourist information office has relocated to Cross Street. The relevant finger post will need to be altered to direct people to the new location. Additional signage placed on the wall of Day Lewis pharmacy is to be explored.

RECOMMENDED: That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee consider the cost of £111 plus VAT from Contractor C to repair the town clock, and £220 from Contractor B to repaint the town clock.

Actions:

- 1) The Assistant Town Clerk obtains the cost for adjusting the finger post towards the new Tourist Information Centre.
- 2) The Assistant Town Clerk will look at new wall-mounted signage for the new Tourist Information Centre.

b) **Maintenance of the Public Conveniences**

The Assistant Town Clerk gave details of 4 maintenance men who have agreed to be contacted by the Town Council to carry out minor maintenance tasks.

Councillors felt that there were a number of issues that needed addressing regarding the public conveniences and considered that a working group should be set up to develop a programme of maintenance works for the public conveniences in Cowes.

RECOMMENDED:

- 1) That Cowes Town Council approve the list of maintenance men.
- 2) That Cowes Town Council establish a Public Conveniences Working Group to develop a programme of maintenance works for the public conveniences in Cowes.

138. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

No items were raised for inclusion on a future agenda.

The proceedings terminated at 7.52pm.

CHAIRMAN