

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Projects Committee Meeting held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors Taylor (Chair), Adams (6.17pm), Brown, Bustin, Fuller, Peacey-Wilcox and Nicholson

In attendance: Councillor Wardrop (non-voting); Will Ainslie and Martin Gibson (People Powered CIC); Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk)

249. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Reynolds.

250. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

251. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 12 February 2019 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

252. UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

a) **The Cut - Enhancements**

Martin Hayles has submitted a revised planning application to the IW Council on behalf of the Town Council. The application is currently advertised with any comments to be received by 15 March 2019. Island Roads have advised that unfortunately using the sub-contractor associated with St Mary's roundabout is not a viable option. The works at The Cut will need to be carried out using their direct labour/resources. They are currently in their final year of the core investment period and have a significant programme of works to deliver. They cannot commit to other works outside of their scope if there is a risk it will impact on their contractual requirements. They will monitor their workload and look for an opportunity to fit the works in at the earliest opportunity. Martin is working to complete the outstanding paperwork as requested under the 'Enhanced Standard' process and will forward this to Island Roads. Following a meeting on site, Island Roads have requested a modification to assist with lorries reversing from the loading bay. They will confirm the modification required in writing to Martin. Once all the paperwork is completed, Island Roads will be able to provide final costings for the project.

The Cut - Mural

Councillors considered the second draft of the new mural design. A number of suggestions were made which will be passed on to the artist.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk will contact the mural artist to forward on Councillors' amendments.

b) **Tree Planting and appreciation / Community Orchard**

The planting of a community orchard is discussed under Minute number 252.h below.

c) **Activities to promote Cowes Town Council**

Councillors are in support of having a promotional stand at The Big Lunch on 2 June 2019 at Northwood House. Councillor Bustin offered to bake a cake for the cake competition on behalf of the Town Council.

ACTIONS:

1. The Assistant Town Clerk will reserve a stand for The Big Lunch.
2. Councillor Bustin will bake a cake for the cake competition on behalf of the Town Council.

d) **Cowes as a pesticide free town**

The Chairman of the Projects Committee has obtained free samples of a Glyphosate-free pesticide product to undertake a six month trial at a suitable location. He suggested an area of Northwood Recreation Ground would be suitable for the trial, subject to the consent of the Isle of Wight Council. Councillors felt that the trial and the generosity of the supplier should be publicly promoted.

ACTIONS:

1. The Assistant Town Clerk will contact the Isle of Wight Council to seek their agreement to the Glyphosate-free product being trialled for a six month period by Cowes Town Council on an agreed area of Northwood Recreation Ground.
2. Subject to the agreement of Action 1, Councillors Brown and Taylor will undertake the trial and photograph evidence of the findings.
3. Subject to the agreement of Action 1, the Assistant Town Clerk will produce a press release to promote the trial and the supplier of the Glyphosate-free pesticide product.

e) **Mornington Woods Management Plan / Mornington Road Car Park**

A meeting with IW Council officers and representatives from Mornington Wood Volunteer Group has been arranged for Monday 18 March to progress the management plan and the use of Mornington Road car park. An update will be provided at the next Project Committee meeting.

f) **Updating the Town Maps**

Enquiries have been made with local companies for the design and printing of a new town map to update the current maps on display throughout the town. Five quotations were considered and it was

RECOMMENDED

1. **That Cowes Town Council agrees the cost of £450 for Company A to design a new town map, with the cost to be met from the 'New Projects' budget heading.**
2. **That Cowes Town Council agrees the cost of £102.50 for Company B to print six maps on polypropylene paper and one map on normal poster paper, with the cost to be met from the 'New Projects' budget heading.**

ACTION: Councillor Adams will arrange to access the map display cases.

Councillor Bustin left the meeting at 7.23pm.

g) **High Street Bollards and Cycling**

Island Roads have produced an A5 flyer which has been approved by Hampshire Constabulary, Island Roads, the IW Council and Cowes Business Association, which will raise awareness of the current restrictions for vehicle drivers and cyclists in the High Street. SpeedWatch have been asked for their assistance and participation in promoting the flyer. Councillor Bertie has offered to create a 'bollard cover' sign to promote the prohibition of vehicles in the High Street and will present it to Town Councillors at a future Projects Committee meeting.

ACTIONS:

1. Councillor Peacey-Wilcox will contact PCSO Lisa Paul to ask for the support of the Police/SpeedWatch with the promotion of the flyer.
2. The Assistant Town Clerk will produce A4 copies of the flyer for circulating to local shops.

Councillor Nicholson left the meeting at 7.25pm.

h) **Recreational Path at Northwood Recreation Ground**

The Town Council was approached by People Powered Community Interest Company (CIC) regarding the creation of a recreational path around the perimeter of the main field at Northwood Recreation Ground. Councillors Fuller, Peacey-Wilcox and Taylor met with Will Ainslie and Martin Gibson of People Powered CIC to discuss their proposal, following which Will and Martin were invited to present their idea to Councillors at the Projects Committee meeting on 12 March 2019.

Will circulated a sketch showing the proposed recreational path which will be suitable for a number of users including those learning to ride a bike, scooter or roller-skates; walkers and cyclists wishing to avoid busy roads and those using mobility scooters. The proposal is for a shared use path, having a smooth surface and being approximately 3 metres wide. It is hoped that the path will link from Place Road through to the pathway leading to Seaview Road and Park Road. Some areas of the existing pathway behind the Cricket Club are in a poor condition and it is hoped that these can be upgraded in conjunction with the proposed new recreational pathway. Will advised that there may be an opportunity to upgrade the footpath from Three Gates Road through to the Recreation Ground using S.106 monies from the Place Road development and felt this pathway could be upgraded into a cycleway. There may be an opportunity to incorporate a small community orchard into the landscaping of the new pathway. The IW Council have suggested a joint meeting with interested parties to discuss the recreational path and community orchard. It was **RECOMMENDED: That Cowes Town Council agrees to support in principle the proposal of a recreational path at Northwood Recreation Ground.**

ACTION: Subject to the agreement of the above recommendation, the Assistant Town Clerk will arrange a meeting with IW Council Officers, People Powered CIC and Councillors Nicholson and Taylor to discuss the proposal for a recreational path and community orchard at Northwood Recreation Ground. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will also be invited to attend.

Will Ainslie and Martin Gibson left the meeting at 6.44pm.

253. NEW PROJECTS

a) **Flood Plan**

A community emergency plan template was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors discussed various community halls etc located in the town that, subject to the agreement of the relevant owners, could be utilised in the event of a community emergency. Councillor Fuller offered to collate a list of suitable facilities in the town, with the assistance of Councillor Peacey-Wilcox.

ACTION: Councillors Fuller and Peacey-Wilcox will compile and collate a list of suitable facilities in the town that could be used in the event of a community emergency.

Councillor Wardrop left the meeting at 7.26pm.

254. MAINTENANCE ISSUES WITH EXISTING PROJECTS

a) **Street Furniture**

The Assistant Town Clerk has undertaken a condition survey of the Town Council's assets which has identified that some assets require decorating. Quotations are being sought. Councillor Peacey-Wilcox requested that consideration be given to the wording on the finger arms being changed from Gold to White to assist those visually impaired.

255. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- No items were raised for inclusion on future agendas.

The proceedings terminated at 7.34pm.

CHAIRMAN