

Cowes Town Council

Minutes of the TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE held in the Cowes Town Council Office, Demark Road, Cowes 26th April 7.20pm

Present: Cllr McGregor (chair)

Cllrs Banks, Birch, Jones, Matthews, Wells,

In attendance (non-voting) Cllrs Linda Brown, Sanderson, Robinson and George Chastney (from Cowes Heritage)

307 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mazillius, Wilcox, Peacey-Wilcox and Thwaites.

**308 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 2011 be taken as read and approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

309 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs MCGregor and Wells declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Queen Victoria Plaque due to a family interest in AJ Wells & Sons. Cllr Banks declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the basketball court tenders as his company has tendered for this work.

It was agreed to change the running order of the agenda to enable George Chastney to speak at the start of the meeting.

310 a PIER PLAQUE

George Chastney gave a brief history about the pier at Cowes and described its social and military history. He suggested telling the story of the pier on a new plaque near the Queen Victoria Plaque. And so that the walls and to conform with the balustrade that the cream paint be changed to battle ship grey. Size of the new plaque should be similar to the existing Victoria Plaque.

RESOLVED

That a budget costing be done for the above works and presented at the next Town Improvements Committee meeting.

b Queen Victoria Plaque - Update

Queen Victoria Plaque has been taken down by AJ Wells & Sons for safe keeping as it was coming off the wall. AJ Wells & Sons have provided a suggested specification to remount the plaque with a wood and aluminium frame. Councillors felt that using any wood in the frame would not be useful as this would quickly warp. It was suggested that a plastic wood-like substitute be used. Cllr Banks will get more information about this product for the committee.

7.32 Cllr McGregor and Wells declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Banks chaired the meeting.

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CONSIDERATION OF QUOTE TO RE-MOUNT QUEEN VICTORIA PLAQUE

Asst. Town Clerk stated cost of new frame to be £450 + VAT for a hardwood and aluminium frame.

RECOMMENDED

That the quote be accepted with the adjustment that the frame be made of a plastic wood substitute.

7.41 Cllr McGregor and Wells returned to the meeting and Cllr Banks left

311 a BASKETBALL COURT

i CONSIDERATION OF REVISED TENDER

Martin Hayles requested that IMP House to resubmit their quote without flood lighting reducing the cost to £55, 741. Could also save an additional £800 by changing the spec of the court paint taking the cost to £54, 941.

ii FUNDING UPDATE

Have £38 500 with Awards for All grant confirmed. Still waiting for the Tesco's application result (£4 000), specifically not permitted to chase this application. IW Council section 106 money have requested £5, 000, no update available as the officer is on leave until 27th April.

- £10 000 ring fenced from Town Council funds.
- Awards for All £10000 have a year to spend,
- Youth Opportunities fund monies are in the bank account and need to be spent soon.
- Two police grants of £3 000 need to be spent by end of June 2011.

Safer Neighbourhood team has put a letter round to local businesses as at Local Action Group lack of youth facilities was raised, given the current economic climate it is not likely that this will be a substantial amount. Still waiting to hear about £9000 which would take the total to £47 500. Blue Lamp Trust £5, 000 for lighting was unsuccessful.

Concern over the management of the court was raised, however the new courts at the rebuilt high school will not be open access. The court will be self-managed by the young people of the area so that they can learn the skills to share facilities and self-manage their environment.

RESOLVED

That once the committee know the outcome of the grants applications that a meeting be called to discuss the implications.

8.02 Cllr Banks returned to the meeting

b i NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND TOILETS CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH IW COUNCIL

Lease has not been requested numerous times from the IW Council however this was not sent for the meeting.

The tenancy at will agreement remains in place until the lease is agreed.

ii DRAFT CONDITION REPORT

Cllr Sanderson and Banks have drafted a condition report for the toilets (attached).

RESOLVED

To complete the condition report to include the accessible toilet and cleaners' cupboard.

That once the report is complete to send the report to the IW Council and request that they bring the toilets into a good state of repair so that the toilets can be returned in a good state of repair

To request an electrical safety certificate from IW Council.

iii INSURANCE FOR TOILETS

No further progress has been made on this item as it has been very difficult to get accurate information from the IW Council as to the age of the toilets which is needed to calculate the insurance risk.

It was also reported that the toilets are locked at night – this is contrary to what is stated in the tenancy at will agreement. The committee agreed to take no action over this matter.

iv CONSIDERATION OF REVISED CLEANING TENDER

Mike Bucket has submitted a revised tender for the cleaning work contract which stated a more clearly standard of work that he will undertake and that the quote cost remains unchanged.

This cost is higher than the IW Council contractors costs. It agreed that once the lease is in-place that the committee reconsider the cleaning of the toilets at this time and that they advertise for a self-employed person to undertake this duty.

312 DOG HITCHING

Ady Newbald has accepted the work and will contact the asst. Town Clerk soon as to when he can do the work.

313 COMMUNITY PAY-BACK

Letter from Hampshire probation offering work and range of the works offered.
Financial contribution of £65 per day with 3 -11 people attending on site.
Bollards in the high street have been done in the past.

Meeting Closed 8.18