

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Cowes Town Council held in the Parish Hall at St. Mary's Church, Cowes, on Thursday, 10th May, 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor McGregor (Town Mayor) (Chairman)
Councillors Banks, Brown, Ellis, Fuller, Hammond, Jones, Matthews, Mazillius,
Robinson, Sanderson, Walters and Wells.

6611 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Proposed by Councillor Fuller and seconded by Councillor Matthews that Councillor Walters be elected Town Mayor until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

There being no further nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor Walters be elected Town Mayor until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

Councillor Walters thereupon made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, thanked the Town Council for his election and paid tribute to Councillor McGregor for her hard work, dedication and achievements, particularly for bringing the new MUGA to fruition during her year in Office.

(Councillor Walters (Town Mayor) in the Chair)

6612 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Proposed by Councillor Hammond and seconded by Councillor Fuller that Councillor Banks be elected Deputy Town Mayor.

There being no further nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor Banks be elected Deputy Town Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

Councillor Banks thanked Members for their support and pledged to work in the best interests of the Town Council and the local community.

6613 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Birch, Peacey-Wilcox and Wilcox.

6614 FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the following members be appointed to serve on the Finance Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

The Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor and Councillors Birch, Brown, Jones, McGregor, Matthews, Sanderson and Wells.

6615 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the following members be appointed to serve on the Finance Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

The Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor and Councillors Birch, Brown, Jones, Mazillius, Robinson, Sanderson and Wells.

6616 TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the following members be appointed to serve on the Town Improvements Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

The Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor and Councillors Birch, Brown, Fuller, Jones, McGregor, Matthews, Robinson and Wells.

6617 NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the following members be appointed to serve on the Northwood Recreation Ground Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

The Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor and Councillors Birch, Brown, Ellis, Fuller, Jones, McGregor and Mazillius.

6618 ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the following members be appointed to serve on the Acquisitions Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

The Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor and Councillors Birch, Brown, Mazillius, Sanderson and Wells.

6619 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED

1). That the following representatives, having been duly proposed and seconded, be appointed to serve on the following Bodies until the Annual Meeting in 2013:

Cowes/Deauville Twinning Association

Councillor L. Brown

Deputy - Councillor R.E. Robinson

Cowes Community Partnership

Councillor D.K. Walters (Town Mayor) and Councillor J. M. Matthews

Cowes Harbour Commission Advisory Group

Councillor D.K. Walters

Cowes Police Liaison

Councillor L. Hammond

Deputy - Councillor P.A. Fuller

Cowes Youth and Community Centre Management Committee

Councillor D.K. Walters Deputy - Councillor S.E.J. Ellis

Island Waste Services Community Advisory Group

Councillor G.J. Banks

Member Auditor – Town Council Accounts

Councillor P. Birch Deputy – Chairman of the Finance Committee

Shoreside Committee, Cowes Week Ltd.

Councillor G.J. Banks

Tree Wardens

Councillors L. Brown and L. Hammond

Wight in Bloom – Steering Group

Councillors D. J. Jones and R.E. Robinson

6620 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RESOLVED

That the Town Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be re-affirmed.

6621 ATTENDANCES

The Town Clerk reported that the attendances of Members at Council Meetings during 2011/2012 were as follows:

<u>Town Council</u>	Possible	Attendances	%
Councillor G. J. Banks	13	11	85
Councillor P. Birch	13	11	85
Councillor L. Brown	13	13	100
Councillor S. E. J. Ellis	13	10	77
Councillor P. A. Fuller	9	9	100
Councillor L. Hammond	13	7	54
Councillor D. J. Jones	13	11	85
Councillor R.J. McGregor	13	13	100
Councillor J.M. Matthews	13	11	85
Councillor R. Mazillius	13	8	62
Councillor L. J. Peacey-Wilcox	13	6	46
Councillor R. E. Robinson	13	12	92
Councillor W. I. Sanderson	13	9	69
Councillor A. Thwaites	1	1	100
Councillor D. K. Walters	13	11	85
Councillor A. L. Wells	13	10	77
Councillor J. R. Wilcox	13	4	31

Finance Committee

Councillor G. J. Banks	5	2	40
Councillor P. Birch	5	5	100
Councillor L. Brown	5	4	80
Councillor D. J. Jones	5	4	80
Councillor R.J. McGregor	5	4	80
Councillor L. J. Peacey-Wilcox	5	1	20
Councillor W. I. Sanderson	5	3	60
Councillor D. K. Walters	5	5	100
Councillor A. L. Wells	5	3	60
Councillor J. R. Wilcox	7	0	0

Planning and Licensing

Councillor G. J. Banks	14	10	71
Councillor P. Birch	14	12	86
Councillor L. Brown	14	11	79
Councillor S. E. J. Ellis	12	0	0
Councillor P. A. Fuller	8	4	50
Councillor L. Hammond	12	0	0
Councillor D. J. Jones	14	14	100
Councillor J. M. Matthews	14	11	79
Councillor R. Mazillius	14	5	36
Councillor R.J. McGregor	14	10	71
Councillor L. J. Peacey-Wilcox	12	0	0
Councillor R. E. Robinson	14	12	86
Councillor W. I. Sanderson	14	13	93
Councillor D. K. Walters	14	9	64
Councillor A. L. Wells	14	6	43
Councillor J. R. Wilcox	12	0	0

Town Improvements

Councillor G. J. Banks	7	6	86
Councillor P. Birch	7	6	86
Councillor L. Brown	7	7	100
Councillor S. E. J. Ellis	7	0	0
Councillor L. Hammond	7	0	0
Councillor D. J. Jones	7	6	86
Councillor J. M. Matthews	7	4	57
Councillor R.J. McGregor	7	6	86
Councillor L. J. Peacey-Wilcox	7	2	29
Councillor R. E. Robinson	7	6	86
Councillor D. K. Walters	7	6	86
Councillor A. L. Wells	7	5	71
Councillor J. R. Wilcox	7	0	0

6622 ACCOUNTS 2011/2012

The Town Clerk submitted details of Town Council Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2012

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts for 2011/2012 be received and noted.

6623 DATES OF MEETINGS 2012/2013

RESOLVED

That the Town Council meetings be held on the following dates in 2012/2013 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

2012

7th June
19th July
6th September
4th October
1st November
6th December

2013

10th January
7th February
7th March
4th April
18th April (Annual Town Meeting)
16th May (Annual Council)

6624 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

An opportunity was given for members of the public to ask questions but none were asked.

6625 REPORTS BY ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Brown had apologised for his absence.

He had submitted a written report giving a detailed summary of the meeting he had attended in the last month (31 in total). The Cabinet met weekly to discuss all policy and budget matters and Cabinet and Directors met as necessary to discuss matters with policy impact.

One of his meetings had been to consider progress at the new Vestas plant in Stag Lane and to exchange views on employment growth.

He also had a preparatory meeting for an event in London on 10th May at which investors from international groups were discussing the Isle of Wight as a base for sustainable energy projects and supply opportunities.

Additionally, he would meet with the Council Leader several times each day for informal exchanges of views.

Councillor Peacey-Wilcox referred to the following in her written report:

- a) That she was still communicating with Crown Estate, local residents and 'green parties' in respect of land at Fraser Close.
- b) That the public slipway in Medina Road was now open. It was hoped that a new sign stating 'Public Slipway' would be installed and that a sleeping policeman could be removed.
- c) That the I.W. Council were expected to make a decision regarding the redundant Youth Centre site within the next twelve months.
- d) That a report was still awaited in respect of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) sites.
- e) That revised proposals to increase parking provision had been agreed in respect of the Cowes Traffic Order for St. Faiths Road, Arctic Road, Pelham Road and part of Newport Road.
- f) Keep Out signs had been erected at Shamblers Copse; she had discovered that the land had recently been sold but was still trying to ascertain who to and what the intention was for the land.
- g) That there was much public concern regarding the planning application for the proposed asphalt plant at Medina Wharf, Arctic Road.
- h) That she had been dealing with a number of enquiries in respect of school transport issues.

Councillor Fuller had submitted a written report which referred to the following:

- a) That there were on-going discussions regarding compliance matters on the former Rookstone and Brambles sites in Egypt Hill. Also in Egypt Hill, he had requested the Planning Compliance Officer investigate issues to extend the Moorings.
- b) In Mornington Mews, he was once again chasing up soft landscaping which was agreed as part of the conditions for this development.
- c) In Baring Road, it had been necessary to contact the police following complaints lodged over dangerous parking by tradesmen at Essex House.
- d) In Ward Avenue, a legal agreement relating to ancillary accommodation was due to be debated by the Planning Committee.
- e) That he had received a number of complaints from residents who were finding the wheelie bins supplied by the Isle of Wight Council too large and cumbersome.
- f) That he was supporting residents in Debourne Manor Drive who had been campaigning to get their drive repaired. The road was privately owned but the owner had confirmed that repairs would be undertaken in the coming weeks.
- g) That he had been asked to intervene on an issue concerning Southern Water. This related to the closure of a Public Slipway in Cowes during Easter. Having closed public access to the slipway, Southern Water continued to delay work to their Pumping Station due to parts not arriving to fix the pump. He had requested the I.W. Council bring pressure to bear on the water company to ensure public access is restricted no longer than necessary.
- h) That he had received three separate complaints from residents in Ward Avenue and within the Crossfield Estate about hard-sell cold calling from the World Wildlife Fund. Because charities could cold call within No Cold Calling zones he had reported to the WWF who advised action would be taken against the representatives; they would avoid calling in such areas again.
- i) That he had dealt with numerous other miscellaneous incidents during April.

Councillor Mazillius had submitted a written report that referred to the following:

- a) That a major application for an asphalt plant at Medina Wharf, Arctic Road was being considered by Cowes, East Cowes and Northwood Councils. There were many areas of concern arising from the application centring around 24 hour operation, noise and transport movement levels, light pollution, asphalt particulates and dust. Whilst these issues were either broadly or in detail addressed in the planning application and supporting documents, local residents were nevertheless, much concerned about the impact of such matters. As the local member he had already indicated that he would not want this matter to be decided under the delegated planning procedure; he knew that Officers fully appreciated the need for such a major application to be decided by the Planning Committee with the usual comprehensive public speaking including that from Town and Parish Council representatives. Comments had to be submitted by 18th May although being a major application he had no doubt that late comments would still be "in time" to be considered in the subsequent report.
- b) That the I.W. Council had issued a consultation paper proposing to move the Pupil Referral/Behaviour Unit from Carisbrooke to the Love Lane Primary School site and a public meeting outlining the proposals had been arranged at the school (now Lanesend Primary) for Wednesday 16th May at 7.30 pm.
- c) That the small green hedged area at the top of Upper Moor Green Road had been damaged by utility companies laying services to the two new houses being built at the end of that road. He had been liaising with residents and Highways to get the necessary new grass and hedging plus posts installed at the utility companies' expense. He was glad to now report that this has been done.

- d) He understood around 1,150 passengers had been carried on Community Bus Route 32 during April and that approximately £430 in donations and fares had been collected. The passenger numbers equated to an average of 30 per day of use.

6626 REPORT FROM THE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Sgt. Sizer had apologised for his absence.

PC Sarah Waldegrave wished to add Safer Neighbourhood Team congratulations to Councillor McGregor, the outgoing Town Mayor, for her dedication during her year in office; she then she referred to the following:

Overall crime figures for the year had dropped by 14.6%.

The priorities identified by the Local Action Group for the Police were:

- Drugs
- Graffiti
- The High street and the issues with the drop down bollards.

The issue with the bollards would be taken up by Councillor Jones at the next meeting of the Cowes Business Association.

PC Jim Holden had recently been assigned to the Safer Neighbourhood Team and he was settling in well; PC Minka Armitage should be back to work in June.

The Safer Neighbourhood team had been working with The Northwood House Trust and Pubwatch regarding the Level 42 concert on 4th June 2012; the aim was to ensure that undesirable individuals were unable to obtain tickets.

Following the spell of good weather in March there had been some problems with anti-social behaviour on the Green. The Police had been able to disperse the group of youngsters to avoid trouble and had now installed a temporary CCTV camera in the area.

6627 REPORT FROM THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER

The Environment Officer was on holiday so no report was available for the month.

6628 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th April 2012 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6629 MATTERS ARISING

a) Cowes War Memorial

The Town Clerk submitted a letter from the I.W. Council Deputy Director, Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure which confirmed that following discussions with the Northwood House Trustees, the I.W. Council would continue to maintain the War Memorial in Northwood Park.

b) St. Faith Church

The Town Clerk reported that the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee for the Diocese of Portsmouth were considering recommending to the Bishop the closure of St. Faith, Cowes as a place for regular public worship in the Church of England with the sale of the building to Apex Church; the recommendation had been made as the regular congregation had dwindled to such an extent that those left no longer felt able to maintain the building and the financial commitments associated with it. The Committee was required to ascertain the views of interested parties; they would consider any views prior to coming to a final decision on what, if any, recommendations should be made to the Bishop. A copy of the draft proposals had been circulated to all members

(Councillors McGregor and Wells declared personal interests in this item as they were personal friends of many of the Officers of the Apex Church).

6630 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

a) **Northwood House**

The Town Council received and noted a report from the Chairman of the Northwood House Charitable Trust.

The full report is attached to these minutes and the most recent report to the Town Council can also be viewed at www.northwoodhouse.org/news.

The Town Council felt unable to devote sufficient time in respect of the final Consultation document from the Charity Commission regarding the Scheme for the new governance of Northwood House and park; the consultation period expired on 4th June.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk writes to the Charity Commission requesting a one month extension to the consultation period and that the Town Council hold a special meeting regarding this one topic.

b) **Cowes Week Ltd**

Notes of a Meeting of Cowes Week Ltd. held on 23rd March 2012 were received.

c) **Supporters of Cowes Library Group**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Supporters of Cowes Library Group held on 26th March 2012 were received.

d) **Annual Town Meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 19th April 2012 were received.

e) **Town Improvements Committee**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Improvements Committee held on 24th April 2012 were received.

i) **Francki Place**

RESOLVED

That the I.W. Council liaise directly with business owners adjacent to Francki Place in respect of the installation of an additional bollard to prevent the illegal parking of cars and in relation to bin storage arrangements.

ii) **Signs at Arctic Park**

RESOLVED

That no further action be taken regarding the dog signs in Arctic Park that had been agreed with the I.W. Council; any future dog signage to include the Town Council logo.

iii) **Outdoor gym equipment**

RESOLVED

That the Town Council seeks I.W. Council approval for the siting of outdoor gym equipment within an agreed area of Northwood Recreation Ground.

iv) **Christmas in the town**

RESOLVED

That the Town Council representative to the Cowes Business Association seeks their suggestions and proposes to them joint working on Christmas arrangements in the town.

- v) **The Cut**
RESOLVED
That M.J. Hayles (Architect) be invited to attend a special meeting of the Town Improvements Committee to consider how best to progress the enhancement of The Cut area of the town.

- vi) **MUGA**
RESOLVED
1). That subject to I.W. Council approval, the Town Council purchases two benches from Broxap Ltd. in the sum of £958 plus VAT and delivery for installation outside of the new MUGA by a local company; and
2). That the fee for the skatepark/MUGA cleaner be increased from £220 to £250 per four week period with effect from 15th April 2012 to reflect the additional cleaning work now involved.

- vii) **Northwood Recreation Ground toilets.**
RESOLVED
That G.J. Banks (IW) Ltd. be awarded the contract for the refurbishment of the Northwood Recreation Ground toilets in accordance with option 2 of the schedule for the fixed sum of £4,368.80 plus VAT.
(Councillor Banks declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item as his company had submitted a quotation for the work; he left the room during the discussion and decision)

- viii) **Consultation with local businesses.**
RESOLVED
1) That a copy of the report following the consultation with local business owners be forwarded to the new Chairman of the Cowes Business Association; and
2) That the Town Council writes to the I.W. Council with a copy to the Cowes Business Association requesting additional signage in Carvel Lane stating 'No Vehicle Access to the Floating Bridge or Car Ferry'.

- f) **Queens Diamond Jubilee Sub Committee**
Councillor Wells stated that a recommendation from the Queens Diamond Jubilee Sub Committee meeting held on 28th March 2012 had not been ratified by the Town Council at their April meeting.

RESOLVED
That a grant of £800 be made to Lanesend Primary School to assist with the funding of a street party and for a play by children to commemorate events of the past sixty years.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Queens Diamond Jubilee Sub Committee held on 8th May 2012 were received.

- i) **Flags**
RESOLVED
That the Town Council purchases 600 hand held flags for the Jubilee concert and the Queens visit from Nigh & Sons at a maximum cost of £210 plus VAT.

- ii) **Jubilee tree**
RESOLVED
1) That the kind offer from Mr. Paul Taylor of planting the oak tree at Mornington Road and maintaining it for the first year be accepted; and
2) That the Town Mayor performs a small dedication ceremony at Mornington Road with Councillors in attendance although at this stage no plaque would be installed.

- iii) **Funding for celebrations**
RESOLVED
1) That the Town Mayor and members of the Town Council attend the Jubilee play at Lanesend Primary School at 9.30am on 1st June and following the

performance, present the children of the school with their Diamond Jubilee mugs; and

- 2) That a grant of £200 be made for a Castle Road Street party on 4th June on condition that they first see all consents in respect of the party including road closure approval.

g) Finance Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 9th May 2012 were received.

i) Applications for Grants

RESOLVED

- 1) That grants be made to the following organisations in accordance with the amounts shown:

a) Cowes Carnival Committee	£2,000
b) Cowes Open Bowls Tournament Committee	£400
c) Gurnard Pre School	£500

- 2) That the balance in the budget of £2,600 be kept in reserve pending further applications which may be received.

(Councillors Ellis and Hammond declared personal and prejudicial interests in (a) above as they were members of the Carnival Committee and they left the room for this item). (Councillor Banks declared a personal interest in (a) above as he had donated materials for the carnival float and Councillors McGregor and Wells declared personal interests as they had been asked to be judges at the Queen of Queens event).

(Councillor Banks declared a personal and prejudicial interest in (c) above as his daughter had submitted the application and he left the room for this item)

(Councillor Jones declared a personal interest in (c) above as his great grandson attended the Pre School)

ii) Renewal of Insurance

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk be authorised to renew the Town Council's insurance policy with Aon in the sum of £2,101.80.

6631 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN CLERK

- a) To consider whether or not the Town Council should comment on the I.W. Council consultation regarding plans for the future of Love Lane Primary School.
- b) To consider whether or not the Town Council should bid to become an I.W. Council official arts commissioning partner for the next three years.
- c) To consider appointing a representative to a Cowes/Northwood/Gurnard Good Neighbour Volunteer Scheme meeting on 17th May 2012.
- d) Details of miscellaneous correspondence.

RESOLVED

- 1) That the consultation regarding plans for the future of Love Lane School be deferred to the next meeting;
- 2) That the Assistant Town Clerk contact the I.W. Council to ascertain whether proposals to enhance the bandstand qualified for the arts funding and if so, calls a meeting of the Town Improvements Committee to develop a funding bid; and
- 3) That Councillor Mazillius represents the Town Council at the Good Neighbour Volunteer Scheme meeting.

(The proceedings terminated at 9.05p.m.)

CHAIRMAN