



NEWSLETTER

Winter Edition 2015

from Cllr. Geoff Banks – Cowes Town Mayor

YOUR NEWSLETTER

This edition includes articles from Cowes RNLI, Cowes Rotary, Community First Responder, Storeroom2010, Cowes Police and the Island Youth Water Activity Centre. Our aim is to bring you news from any organisation based in our town. If you belong to or have knowledge of any local community organisation which could benefit from providing an article for this Newsletter, can they please let us know?

ROSE GARDEN TO BECOME WORLD WAR 1 COMMEMORATION EPITAPH

The Isle of Wight Council, as readers will be aware, are looking to parish and town councils to undertake the upkeep of many of their public open spaces. The circular rose bed, at the entrance to Park Road Car Park,



is such an area. Your Town Council has requested that they adopt this rose bed with a view to turning it into an area of remembrance commemorating the centenary of the First World War and the town's loss. Plans have yet to be prepared as to how this epitaph might best be created and, until such time as this Council receives a formal acceptance from the Isle of Wight Council that they are licenced to manage the space, we can but give some thought as to how this epitaph could best be established. We would welcome any thoughts on such.

The photo shows the rose bed at the entrance to Park Road Car Park.

SHELTER ALONG EGYPT ESPLANADE

The Town Council has agreed sketch proposals for the erection of a seaside shelter sited on one of the groynes set midway between those nearest shelters, a near mile apart, on Egypt Esplanade. The shelter, which is now to be the subject of a Planning Application, will be to the style of those two painted shelters sited nearer to Cowes; these are thought to be the shelters salvaged from the demolition of the old pier off Cowes Parade.

The new shelter would be in natural oak and, due to its siting on the groyne over the line of a cross Solent gas main, will have to be demountable yet robust enough to withstand the elements. The shelter, if approved, will provide that often sought after covered sanctuary on this popular seafront walkway.

HIGH STREET MATTERS

The Town Council took it on itself to erect 'Cyclist Dismount' signs having had requests for such to be erected by Island Roads/IW Council refused. That highway governing authority had them removed as being dangerous and illegally placed. However, the Town Council intends to persevere if only to underline its concern as to illegal cycling through the town.

Requests for the replacement of drainage channels and covers running through the High Street continues and, we are informed, there will be a maintenance programme for those essential works to be undertaken in the spring.

The I W Council has eventually got around to drafting a Highways Amenity Policy to govern and licence the siting of tables, chairs and 'A' boards along our High Street. The Policy document, out to consultation at this time of writing, has been commented on by several traders and the Town Council has raised issues as regards to the difficulties applicants would have in satisfying the requirements of the form filling. The Town Council has welcomed the introduction of such a licencing policy and, as one of the consultants being able to comment on applications, is hopeful that an element of sensible control can be employed.

RUBBISH

Town Councillors met with a representative from the IW Council Parking Services to discuss the possibility of the Town Council providing a 6 cu yd skip in St Mary's Road Car Park. Concerns have been continuously raised as regards to the degree of fly-tipping, the accumulation of waste not placed in bins and those difficulties with weekend visitors unable to put out their waste at the refuse collection dates. Although the Parking Services' officer was happy with the principle of a service skip, the request has now to be agreed with the waste control recycling refuse collectors. In the interim, at the request of the Town Council, a re-deployable CCTV camera has been placed in the car park to monitor refuse depositing.

SPEED LIMITS FOR COWES?

Residents in Union Road have expressed their concerns as regards to speeding traffic entering the road as it narrows towards its downward descent into the town. The Town Council contacted the Isle of Wight Council to request possible road calming measures. In response they drew attention to the possible introduction of 20mph speed restrictions rather than ad hoc roadway painting and erection of road signage. Many towns and villages are requesting such traffic calming and the Town Council seeks residents' written views as to where they consider 20mph speed limits could be considered of benefit. Once such responses are received these will be presented to the local constabulary for their comments and then passed to the Isle of Wight Council for consideration.

COWES WEEK VILLAGE

Representatives of both Cowes Town Council and the Isle of Wight Council met to discuss the former's concerns which they had raised as regards to the format of the Cowes Week Village in 2014. The Town Council had already expressed their interest in taking on the management of this facility due to their concerns that the 'Village' did not provide an acceptable image for Cowes. Aware of these concerns, Beth Taylor of Taylor Events, which has the contract with the Isle of Wight Council for the Parade Village, appraised the full Town Council of her outline plans for 2015. It was explained that her contract for the 'Village' expired after 2015 and she has asked the Isle of Wight Council for a two year extension to the present contract. Proposals for the 2015 revised format of the Parade Village would only be able to take place if Taylor Events obtained this extension.

Feedback issues from the Parade Village in 2014 focussed on four key areas and these were stated as being addressed as follows:

- 1. Noise.** *For 2015 Taylor Events is proposing to close the Spinnaker Bar at 11pm which is one hour earlier than 2014. Acoustic music will be extended to 9pm on at least 3 nights. From 10.30pm to 11pm there will only be background music. Revised PA equipment will also reduce noise levels. An additional 'Parade Garden Bar' will be placed which will be a quiet area for sailors to relax, admire the views and discuss the racing.*
- 2. Toilets.** *Currently Taylor Events are not contracted to provide extra toilets; they have however used a cleaning contractor to clean the existing toilets and this will continue. For 2015 they propose to install two toilet trailers – one at the Parade Garden Bar and one at the Spinnaker Bar.*
- 3. Open Space.** *There were 60 extra seats provided in 2014; this will rise to 80 extra seats in 2015. One retailer felt shut off by the Parade Village so a gap was left for them at their back access. Next year they will have a larger rear area which they can use if they wish. Trinity Landing will be kept clear in 2015.*
- 4. Retail.** *Retail units will be reduced to 8. Taylor Events are working with Cowes Business Association (CBA) to discuss retailers, local artists, local businesses who could take up these units. Taylor Events will offer discounts to any CBA members who are interested in acquiring retail units.*

Although these changes were suggested for 2015 it was further qualified that such would be emplaced subject to commercial governance. At the meeting with the full council it was stated by Taylor Events that without the two year extension they will be unable to provide the extra toilets for 2015 but would still ensure that the bar shuts one hour earlier i.e. 11pm. Furthermore, they would continue to provide suitable events for families / children and extend these where possible.

After deliberation the Town Council agreed that Cowes Town Council has no objection to the Isle of Wight Council extending the contract to Taylor Events for the Parade Village for a further two years subject to the specified changes, as related by Taylor Events at the full council meeting, were put in place.

MEDINA YARD DEVELOPMENT

Town Councillors attended those several public meetings, held by the land owner's agents, whereby plans for the development of the former JS White's site were announced. There remains concern with councillors that the phasing of the site might result in the eventual loss of adequate commercial marine related land if the residential development became financially unviable. There is also concern that unless phasing of the development is not adequately designated and controlled, that the relocation of existing industries away from the site may lessen their return. An issue also is as to whether commercial rates for any contained marine

usage area would be affordable. Cowes can ill afford to lose that invaluable maritime manufacturing and service space on this deep water fronting site. The Town Council has met with the Planning Authority and expressed its concern and have requested that any Planning Permissions binds the developer in making full provision for affordable marine related industry within an adequately designated site space.

TOWNSPEOPLE REMEMBER THOSE LOST IN THE GREAT WAR

A gathering of an estimated 900 people attended the 2014 Armistice Sunday commemorations at the war memorial in Northwood Park. This was possibly one of the largest attended ceremonies on the Island where people came to pay their respects to those who had sacrificed their lives in past wars. The Town Council, cognisant of such an occasion being the centenary year of the outbreak of the First World War, wished to acknowledge and raise awareness of those 147 men from Cowes who were lost in that conflict. The Town Council provided a much needed public address system and a temporary flagstaff and flag for the occasion.

The service at the war memorial was led by the Archdeacon to the Island, the Venerable Peter Sutton, who read out the names of those men of Cowes who died in the Great War.

The service which followed in St. Mary's Church paid homage to all those who had given their lives in past conflicts and the Town Council provided three large poppy candles within in the nave, as pictured.



Additionally poppy seeds were sent to the three local primary schools for planting in their school gardens in order that children would be told of their significance.

The Town Council has been made aware through the press of the concerns expressed relating to the wreaths at the war memorial remaining in place throughout the year. These have always been taken down a week prior to the next Armistice Sunday. Some consider that they should be removed a few weeks following the ceremony and others consider their presence a continuing tribute over the many months. Can we ask as to your own thoughts on the matter? We would wish to do what is considered respectfully acceptable to the townspeople.

THE CUT

Since 2003 the Town Council has, following a popular request from residents after a consultation at that time, considered the pedestrianisation of The Cut. Our most recent consultation, through our Newsletter earlier last year, gave peoples' third priority choice as pedestrianisation of The Cut and the second most favoured scheme was for establishing a weekly/monthly market. These two supported initiatives very much go together. With the whole of that area, from its point with the High Street up to the start of the toilet block being levelled and surfaced, this could create an amenity area for such as markets, entertainment and sitting out.

The Town Council had shelved the scheme previously, having gone as far as designing, planning and allocating funds for the project. This decision was brought about due to the general economic decline and concerns as regards to the Town Council's possible overburden in taking on those discretionary services which the Isle of Wight Council were considering opting out from. However, the Town Council still awaits County Hall's decision as to precisely what their expectations are for Parish and Town Council with running some of their services. In the meantime we have accumulated sound reserves and have received that unexpected windfall of £79,000 from the sale of Bridge House, East Cowes; a scheme in which this Council invested with others which drew to a close last year.

Those earlier plans for The Cut's pedestrianisation were fraught with difficulties in negotiations with the Highway Authority at that time when they were in the transition period of handing over responsibilities to Island Roads. Costs escalated at that time and the engagement with bureaucracy in what the Town Council considered to be a relatively simple and straightforward proposal for the town's enhancement became most onerous and costly. However, spurred by public opinion the scheme has been resurrected and the intention is to apply for Planning Permission for that much simpler concept which would be less costly than that originally planned. The Town Council is aware that many residents make good use of The Cut for parking and a brief visit to the chemists or to shop. Although the 'Unloading' allocated spaces will be lost there would remain an Off-Loading area alongside the toilet block with a waiting time limit.

TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS & DONATIONS

A Remembrance Day donation of £200 was awarded to the Cowes Branch of the Royal British Legion for refreshments following the Remembrance Day Parade and Service and a £50 donation was made to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in respect of a wreath laid by the Town Mayor at the Remembrance Service.

Grants were awarded to the Association of Sail Training Organisations in the sum of £400 towards the cost of Cowes Small Ships Weekend. Cowes Sports Football Club received £1,500 towards the cost of a minibus purchase and insurance. Cowes Short Mat Bowling Club received £250 towards the cost of the hire of hall for the coming year.

It was agreed that Cowes Town Council would take over the cost of emptying and maintaining litter and dog waste bins at Northwood Park as their contribution to the overall wellbeing of the community open space as managed by Northwood House Charitable Trust Co. Ltd.

NEED TO KNOW?

Garden bonfires are of concern and annoyance to many neighbours. As well as polluting the air and affecting people's health they can constitute a safety issue. Composting garden rubbish must be the preferred option and certain wastes can always be recycled. There is no law prohibiting when garden bonfires can be lit. However, the burning of domestic waste whereby harmful pollution may take place is an offence under the Environmental Protection Act. Persistent bonfire issues can be addressed under the Environmental Protection Act when "smoke, fumes or gases emitted from premises, so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance", substantially interfere with the well-being, comfort and enjoyment of one's property. However, it's always best to first approach your neighbour and request some consideration. If this fails then the Environmental Health department can be contacted on 01983 823000. The Town Council website, click "Home" then "Service", provides fuller information.

Urban foxes are a growing nuisance whereby refuse bags are torn apart and gardens fouled and dug up. There is an estimated 33,000m urban foxes in the UK. Foxes are not afforded protection from human control measures. However the law does prevent the use of poisons or illegal traps or snares to control foxes, and it is illegal to shoot them in urban areas such as parks. Killing and controlling foxes is restricted under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. There is no poisonous substance authorised for use on foxes. The Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 makes it an offence to intentionally inflict unnecessary suffering on any wild mammal. The use of Gin Traps is banned under the Pests Act 1954 and it is an offence to set snares for foxes in a situation where a dog, cat or protected animal may be killed or injured. There are, however, many pest control devices on the market and the most one can do is to attempt to turn your garden into an unwelcome environment; they move on when not welcomed.

Overhanging Branches that grow over your neighbours' land are trespassing on their air space. The neighbour can chop the branches back to the boundary but has to return the lopped branches to the owner of the tree together with any fruit that might have been on them. If anyone lops beyond their boundary, then it constitutes trespass. It is always best to ask your neighbour first although you do not need his permission to lop overhanging branches so long as they are returned. You could sue the owner of the tree or shrubs for trespass, nuisance and/or negligence (only in the case of their becoming dangerous). It's always best to talk to your neighbour of any lopping intent.

NEWS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS



STOREROOM 2010

The Isle of Wight's leading furniture re-use charity

Storeroom2010 is a small independent furniture re-use charity based in Cowes (1 Manners View PO31 8PD) serving the whole of the Isle of Wight; successfully operating without the benefits of statutory funding.

Furniture donated by Island residents (that may otherwise have been taken to the landfill site) is utilised, enabling affordable furnishing and this also minimises impact on the environment. Storeroom2010 facilitates Island residents to recycle and to help their community and the environment too. Our figures for 2014 show we have assisted with the re-use of 146,318kgs of furniture, saving this from our island landfill. It's difficult to imagine that weight, so think of 20,903 average dining chairs instead!

Customers who are in need, benefit from a discounted price (when referred by statutory and voluntary agencies) on the already very reasonable prices which are charged to the general public at Storeroom. Currently, approximately 15% of our customers are referred by one of 50 support agencies across the IOW.

Thanks to funding received last year from a variety of charitable sources we are able to run various training courses of our choice. We have tutors available who we can call upon, along with assessors and internal verifiers as required. We want to continue to offer useful and practical training courses to unemployed people, enabling them to find paid work. Please see the training page on our website at www.storerroom.org.uk for further information.

We are trying to achieve sustainable education in areas of need, filling skills gaps that are currently proving difficult for the local education system to overcome. Due partly to these skills gaps, unemployment is high even though more work opportunities would be available if those currently unemployed had the opportunity to fill positions by obtaining specific training.



A view of the Shop Area

In a nutshell the purpose of Storerroom2010 charity and its objectives are threefold:

- * The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public in such ways as may be thought fit including the provision of training, employment, work experience and volunteering opportunities.
- *The prevention and relief of poverty by supplying donated furniture and household goods at minimal cost to people in need.
- *The protection and preservation of the environment by encouraging re-use/recycling of donated furniture and household goods.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER SCHEME

Dominique Howard is a paramedic with the Isle of Wight Ambulance Service and has been given a new role as lead for the Community First Responders for the Isle of Wight. This scheme has been running for nearly 10 years and unfortunately, due to lack of charitable funding available, this has not evolved as the organisation would have liked. As the new lead officer Dominique is very passionate that this is taken forward and provides the best cover they can for the Isle of Wight.

Community First Responders are local unpaid volunteers who are trained and despatched by the ambulance service to attend life threatening medical emergencies and provide basic life support until the arrival of the ambulance response. Research has shown that in cases of cardiac arrest, fast access to emergency support can increase pre-hospital survival rates by 25-30% and there is sufficient evidence that for every minute that passes without defibrillation a patient's chance of survival reduce by about 14%. Responders usually use their own cars, no blue lights or sirens, but being local can be on scene with a patient in just a few minutes and provide vital support until the arrival of the ambulance. Sometimes the difference is providing reassurance prior to the arrival of the ambulance: sometimes it is saving someone's life

Currently they only have 13 volunteers involved in the scheme on the Island where as SCAS (South Central Ambulance Service) are operating with a strong 2000+ volunteer force providing support for local communities.

Dominique's vision is to continue to provide a credible Community First Responder scheme to support the ambulance service response, operated solely for the benefit of the community, using their unpaid volunteers and on a 24 hour basis, where possible. They need to gain and try to recruit new volunteers of these communities that they currently have in place, but then to extend their areas of cover, involving new communities on the Island. They currently have Cowes, East Cowes, Bembridge, Brighstone/Shorwell, Whitwell/Niton, Godshell and St.Helens in the Community Responder scheme.

It costs in the region of £1500 for each scheme to be equipped and kitted out, and then a further £900 for an A.E.D., (defibrillator). Currently they have only one Community Responder for the Cowes area and they are looking for new volunteers to join the scheme. They have requested financial support from the Town Council and have been asked to submit a Grant Application so that such can be considered to enable them to provide the best service for our area.

If anyone would be able to give some of their time to support this scheme such would be most welcome. With Cowes being a very busy town throughout the year, with various sailing and other events, their aim is to provide Cowes with daily responder cover. No previous experience is needed, as full training is given in a relaxed friendly environment.

Anyone wishing to offer their support is to contact Dominique Howard, Interim Lead for Community Response. Office tel. no. 01983 534912.

COWES RNLI

Cowes lifeboat ended 2014 with 53 services and assisting 89 people. The saddest event we attended was just after Cowes Week which was to a fatal head injury on a large yacht between Egypt Point and Gurnard in extremely rough sea conditions. The lifeboat escorted the yacht to Trinity Landing, which is the dedicated place for ambulances to attend. The crew did what they could but sadly the yacht crew member had died. The lifeboat station then became a temporary home for the rest of the yacht's crew and others who were involved with the tragedy. It is on occasions like this that the shore crew and launching authorities come into their own. The yachtsmen were looked after for five hours, fed and given refreshments. It is important to remember that the lifeboat station isn't just a boathouse conveniently situated on Cowes Parade. It is a hub of activity all year and has a real heart to it. This heart is made up of the good people of Cowes, East Cowes, and Gurnard & Northwood who provide a 24hr rescue service irrespective of anything.

Having got over the excitement of the station being built, a visit by H.M. The Queen and a new boat we have settled down to play our part in the town and have felt honoured to be asked by the Royal British Legion to parade on Remembrance Sunday.

We take our civic duties seriously and believe the education of young people in the dangers of going down to the sea is important. We have gradually built up an enthusiastic visits and education team who really enjoy welcoming the youngsters from primary schools not just here but from other parts of the island.

2015 got off to an unusual start with us tasked to the capsized ship on the Bramble Bank, that night the station filled with people and planning for what may come next; a second boat crew were dressed and on stand-by (they were needed at 01:30 to cover the airlift of 3 remaining ship's crew). More were by their phones at home waiting a call and others went off to buy and prepare hot food for the first crew who were out for 4 hours.

If you want to know what we do, when we do it, visit our website, Facebook or twitter.

www.cowes-lifeboat.org.uk

FB Cowes RNLI lifeboat

Twitter; @Cowes RNLI



Lanes End Primary School's visit to the lifeboat station

COWES SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (Cowes Police)

Police Constable Justin Pringle attended the January meeting and presented a report which was subsequently circulated to all Councillors. He gave apologies for Acting Sergeant Gary Knight who was unable to attend.

The report states that for the year to date crime is up by 4% on 2013/ 14 figures, however, compared to 2012 / 13 figures, crime is down 12%. The one community priority for Cowes is cyclists and cars using the High Street during times of prohibition; police continue to actively patrol the High Street to prevent incidents re-occurring. If re-offenders are stopped they will be dealt with by either a Fixed Penalty Notice or reported for summons. An arrest has been made for the robbery at Ladbrokes. New Year's Eve went very smoothly – it was the quietest it had been for many years and no serious assaults or crimes were reported.

COWES ROTARY

COWES ROTARY meet every Thursday evening at 7pm and are always looking for new members who wish to help support a large number of worthwhile charities. The group has various tasks, from finance, web work, fundraising, minute taking, admin, and even parking attendants!

This year Cowes Rotary have helped to collect and organise the Shoe Box Appeal, helped with Walk the Wight and parking at Barton Manor for the Hospice, parking for IW Car club which helped raise over £1,500 for the Kissy Puppy Appeal. They supported Cowes Sailability with a donation of £400.00, helped fund a memorial garden for the Sea Scouts; funded a fabulous new flagpole for Sea Cadets, and raised over £1,600.00 over Christmas including their Annual Christmas Concert. Cowes Week saw members dressed as pesky pirates entertaining the children (and adults!!) on the Parade raising over £3000 for their charity fund!

So please come and support us. It's fun and we make a difference. If you fancy popping down and having an informal meet then contact: Mike Cowan on 200415 or michaeliancowan@hotmail.com

IYWAC

About IYWAC

The Island Youth Water Activities Centre (IOW) Ltd. is a Charity run for the benefit of all young people on the Isle of Wight. Our aims are to provide a variety of water based experiences which combine challenge, safety and enjoyment and training to national standards for young people and potential instructors (of any age).

We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and supporters whose backing enables us to fulfil these aims. For full details see our Annual Review or our website.

The Centre is committed to providing equal opportunities.

We have the experience and facilities to cater for many special requirements. The Centre is now fully accessible with new easy access shower and toilet, making IYWAC open to more young people.

Ideal Location

On the western bank of the river Medina in Cowes we have easy access to safe sheltered waters in the river and the harbour mouth and the more exposed waters of the Solent. When conditions and/or experience permit, our activities take place on the Solent, otherwise activities take place on the River Medina to the south of the centre.

Quality Team

Phil Devereux is our Centre Manager. Phil is an RYA Coach Assessor, Yachtmaster Instructor, Powerboat and PWC Instructor. Phil joined the Centre in April 2014 with over 15 years' experience in sailing and watersports.

Helen Gilpin is our Administrator and has been with the Centre for eighteen years. Helen will help anyone choose the right course for them and will process their booking.

Dan Mudie is our Chief Instructor and joined us in 2011. He is a qualified RYA Senior Instructor, BCU Coach and RYA Powerboat Instructor. Dan has over 10 years teaching experience and has taught at centres large and small both in the UK and abroad.

Staff and helpers are all volunteers and make up the rest of the team among some of which will be temporary or seasonal staff. Many of these have learnt to sail or paddle at the Centre and have progressed to instructing others. Anyone who has been sailing or paddling for some time can enquire about becoming part of our team.

As well as being qualified in watersports instruction all of our staff has an enhanced check through the Disclosures and Barring Service and training in safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults.

Schools and Groups



Much of our time is spent organising activities for groups, especially during school term time. All our activities are available for group bookings. Leaders of youth groups and schoolteachers wishing to take part in one of our activities can contact the Centre to discuss possibilities; most needs can be catered for and we can provide an information pack and booking form to assist.

Friends of IYWAC

If you are really keen to participate at IYWAC but cannot due to the cost or transport difficulties please contact our support group. We can assist with course fees if you write to the 'Friends of IYWAC' at the Centre. The 'Friends' aim is to support the activities at the Centre with funding for disadvantaged individuals using the Centre and replacing equipment. Find out how to

help the 'Friends' by contacting us; we always welcome support.

Courses in 2015

This year we're running a variety of courses from youth to adult covering a wide range of exciting and adventurous activities. Details of these can be found on our website www.iywac.org.uk or you can email us on info@iywac.org.uk or ring us on 293073. We cater from ages of 7 onwards and can provide you and guide you into water activities which are fun yet demanding.

TOWN COUNCILLORS ELECTED TO COWES TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES & OTHER OUTSIDE BODIES

Cowes Town Council, under its *Quality Town Council* status, has to publish details quarterly of current councillors and as to those offices held; these are as set out below:

Geoff Banks	(Town Mayor)	Cowes West	tel. 295425	All Council Committees + HPF1D1 +WW1
David Jones	(Deputy Town Mayor)	Cowes Medina	298445	All Council Committees + HPF1D1, WW1, IWSCAG (Deputy), IWIBSB.
Linda Brown		Cowes South	295222	FC, PC, TIC, NRG, AC, CDTA, IWSCAG, TW.
John Corby		Cowes North	07798753962	FC, AC, CHCAG, SDC.
Veronica Cowan		Cowes West	200415	PC, IWALCEC, (Deputy).
Stuart Ellis		Cowes Medina	246352	FC, NRG, AC, SCCWL (Deputy), SDC.
Paul Fuller*		Cowes North	289595	NRG.
Lynn Hammond		Cowes Medina	282308	AC, GNVG (Deputy), TW, SDC.
Jon Matthews		Cowes Medina	247498	GNVG, MATCA, WW1
Mark McNeill		Cowes North	07790777101	PC, AC, CBA, CHCAG (Dpty), SCCWL, SDC.
John Nicholson*		Cowes South	619130	PC, TIC, NRG, AC.
Lora Peacey-Wilcox*		Cowes Medina	247177	FC, TIC.,
Bob Robinson		Cowes West	294234	PC, TIC, CDTA (Deputy). WIBSG.
Jacqui Spalding		Cowes South	291877	WW1, TIC, CBA (Deputy) 29
David Walters		Cowes North	200734	FC, TIC, AC, IWALCEC.
Wendy Wardrop		Cowes North	298687	PC, AC.

*** Also Isle of Wight Councillors**

CONTACTING YOUR WARD TOWN COUNCILLOR

Any written communications to councillors to be sent via the Cowes Town Council offices and any email communications to councillors to be copy emailed to Cowes Town Council offices please for record purposes. Email addresses of councillors can be found on the Town Council website, www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk.

On the 21st May 2015 the Town Council holds its Annual Council Meeting at which time the current Mayor and Deputy Mayor stand down having both served their two year maximum term of office. The May meeting will see the appointment of a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor and will determine those Council representatives to the various sub-committees and outside organisations. The appointed Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor will sit on all internal committees.

Against the listing of Councillors above, there are notations indicating on which committees those councillors sit on as well as those outside bodies where they have Town Council has representation.

The legend being:

FC– Finance Committee. **PC**– Planning Committee. **TIC** – Town Improvements Committee. **NRG** – Northwood Recreation Ground Committee. **AC**- Acquisitions Committee. **CBA** - Cowes Business Association. **CDTA** - Cowes Deauville Twinning Association. **CHCAG** - Cowes Harbour Commission Advisory Group. **GNVG** - Good Neighbour Volunteer Group. **CPALG** - Cowes Police Local Action Group. **HPF1D1** - Highways P.F.I. District One. **IWSCAG** - Island Waste Services Community Advisory Group. **IWALCEC** - Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils' Executive Committee. **MATCA** - Member Auditor- Town Council Accounts. **SCCWL** - Shoreside Committee Cowes Week Ltd. **TW**- Tree Wardens. **WIBSG** - Wight in Bloom Steering Group **WW1** – World War 1 Centenary Commemoration Working Group **SDC** – Staffing & Development Committee.

MEETINGS

Our next full council meeting is at 7pm on Thursday 5th February followed by the 5th March and 9th April. Meetings are in the Drawing Room at Northwood House. All are most welcome to attend. The Notice of these Meetings and Agendas are posted on the notice board outside of W H Hurst and can be viewed in the Cowes Public Library and are available on the Council's website as given below.

Office & Communications –Ms. D. Faulkner, Town Clerk Cowes Town Council,
Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes PO31 8AZ.
Tel. 209022, email town.clerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk

Opening hours generally Mon. – Fri 9.30 to 12.00 (except Bank Holidays). Why not visit our website at www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk for updated news, minutes of meetings and an introduction to your Town Council.

