



Minutes of the meeting held of the **TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 11th August 2014 at 6.15pm.

Present: - Councillors Brown (Chairman) Banks, Jones, Nicholson, Peacey-Wilcox and Robinson.

612 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

**613 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2014 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

614 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this stage.

The following items were taken out of order to accommodate Cllr Jones who had to leave early.

615 USABLE WOOD FROM THE UMBRELLA TREE

Cllr Jones has visited the workshop at Arreton Barns and was surprised at the amount of usable wood that had been saved. The wood is light in colour but has a nice grain. Cllrs agreed that rather than have large items made, it would be better to have smaller items that can be offered for sale (for Cowes residents to purchase as a souvenir) and used for civic gifts.

ACTION: That Cllr Jones contacts Andy Fortune and obtains costings for the production of small bowls (6 inch) and wooden pens.

616 INSTALLATION OF BBQ PITS ON PRINCE'S GREEN

Cllr Jones advised that the grass has been burnt by people using disposable BBQ's. The Assistant Town Clerk contacted IW Council requesting permission to build brick or metal BBQ pits for people to use. Lee Matthews (IW Council) advised this is an Island wide problem, but they have decided not to allow the building of pits (for this year) but to erect temporary signage (at their expenses) for this season to inform people of the dangers and to protect the environment.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to contact Lee Matthews at IW Council to enquire if the installation of BBQ pits would be considered for next summer, and requesting information about the ones at Puckpool Park and Fort Victoria which are operated on IW Council land.

Cllr Jones left at 6.40pm.

617 SHELTER ON THE SEAFRONT

Cllr Banks advised that all the information presented to councillors at the last meeting had been passed to Fergus Gilmore at the IW Council Legal department. Fergus will approach the Crown Estates and others on behalf of the Town Council. Until the approval has been agreed in principle, no further action can be taken.

618 LEGAL AGREEMENT FOR THE WISHING WELL

Although the assistant Town Clerk has chased the legal department of the IW Council, to date no information has been received, so this item is held over to the next meeting.

619 MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE PLAQUES ON THE BANDSTAND

Cllr Banks has provided a specification for the cleaning of the plaques, and signed an amended legal agreement on behalf of the Town Council to allow access onto the Bandstand. The next step is to write a tender for advertising in the IW County Press.

ACTION: Cllr Banks will write the tender advertisement with the Assistant Town Clerk.

RECOMMENDATION: That the tender advertisement is placed in the IW County Press for cleaning the plaques in the bandstand on the Parade.

620 INCLUSION IN THE FREE COWES A – Z ONLINE GUIDE

The Town Clerk had received an email offering a free insertion for a downloadable guide for the Cowes area. Cllr Banks had requested that this item be discussed by the council. The free entry includes name, logo, contact details (including a link to own website) plus up to 50 words of text.

RECOMMENDATION: That Cllr Banks writes the 50 words for insertion into the free online guide for Cowes.

621 SUPPLY OF WATER AT THE TOILET BLOCK, NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND

Southern Water has produced 13 quarterly bills dating from April 2011 to July 2014 totalling £2,804.23 including VAT. They have apologised for not issuing them sooner, so have offered a payment plan.

RECOMMENDATION: That the account is settled in full.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed for Tuesday 30th September 2014 at 7.00pm.

Meeting ended at 7.00 pm.

CHAIRMAN