



Minutes of the meeting held of the **TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 25 November 2013 at 6.15pm.

Present: - Councillor Brown (Chairman),
Councillors Banks, Hall, Nicholson, Peacey-Wilcox and Robinson

541 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Cowan and Jones

**542 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2013 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

543 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

544 THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA ITEMS WAS MOVED TO ACCOMMODATE THE FACT THAT CLLR BANKS HAD TO LEAVE EARLY.

545 REMEMBRANCE ORCHARD

Cllr Banks provided a short report advising councillors of an Island wide project being led by the wife of the Yarmouth Town Mayor to provide Remembrance Orchards to mark the 100th Anniversary of the start of World War One. The planting season for fruit trees falls after Remembrance Day. If many Town/Parish councils are in favour of the project, an Island wide bid for National Lottery funding would be applied for. The problem is that the Town Council does not own any land. After much discussion it was decided that before recommending to full council, permission must be sought for a suitable site from the Isle of Wight Council.

ACTION:

- 1 The Assistant Town Clerk to contact John Metcalfe to enquire about siting the orchard on the old Love Lane School site.**
- 2 The Assistant Town Clerk to contact Nigel Leppard at the IW Council to enquire about siting the orchard on the Moorgreen Reservoir site.**

546 UPDATE ON THE INSERTION OF ADDITIONAL PAGES IN THE PORT HANDBOOK

Cllr Brown reported on her meeting with David Brookes and Cllr Peacey-Wilcox. A price has been negotiated at a 40% discount, but it would still cost £1,795 plus VAT for an annual distribution of 22,000. Mr Brookes was also offering space on the on-line version of the guide. Cllr Banks had previously offered to write the contents. The deadline for the copy would be 28/02/14 for inclusion

in the 2014 version. After much discussion it was decided that this is not a good use of council funds so it was:

RECOMMENDED: That the inclusion of four pages into the Port Handbook would not be taken forward.

Cllr Nicholson arrived at 6.25pm

547 UPDATE ON THE POSSIBLE PROVISION OF OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

Cllr Brown has met with Lee Matthews from IW Council who advised that gaining consent from the neighbours of Mornington Green would be a first step to gaining permission from the IW Council for the gym to be sited there. This would require a visual interpretation to be able to show to residents. A quotation for the equipment had been received from Freshair Fitness, so alternative quotations for similar but not identical items were sought:-

All quoted for seven pieces of equipment – skier, surfer, body twister, space walker, rower, four wheel spinner and leg press

Freshair Fitness £10,921.80 including VAT

Mant Leisure £19,053.00 plus VAT

Wicksteed £13,902.70 plus VAT

Sovereign £15,254.75 plus VAT

Kompan no quotation yet received although they know have an agent who lives in Ryde and wants to provide cost effective quotes

Lightmain £13,008.70 plus VAT (using Freshair equipment)

As Freshair Fitness provided the Gym at Ventnor, are installing one at East Cowes and also provided the most cost effective quotation, they will be asked to provide a Visual Impact version of the site to be able to show residents. Then a formal letter will be constructed by Cllr Brown and the Assistant Town Clerk outlining the proposal to the residents. Isle of Wight Councillors also need to be involved, so

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk emails both Cllr Bertie and Fuller to inform them of the project and asking for their support.

RECOMMENDATION: That a leaflet is delivered to all neighbouring properties with an aim of gaining their support for the project.

Cllr Peacey-Wilcox arrived at 6.40pm.

548 UPDATE ON THE PARADE PLAQUE

Cllr Banks provided an update –DMR Engineering is still constructing the backing tray which will be ready for installation in the spring.

549 UPDATE ON THE TOWN GUIDE/RESIDENTS HAND BOOK

Cllr Brown advised that David Brookes has been asked to supply a quotation for the guide as he has most of the required information already collated for the Port Hand book. It would be a major project for anyone else to provide the required information.

In view of the publication of the questionnaire in the winter newsletter, it was

RECOMMENDED: that this project is taken no further until the results of the survey are known.

Cllr Banks left the meeting at 6.50pm.

550 UPDATE ON THE PROVISION OF DOG WASTE SIGNS FOR ALL LITTER BINS

100 dog waste bin signs have been ordered from the Sign Company at a cost of £165 plus VAT, we await delivery. Discussion was held concerning permissions and distribution of the signs.

ACTION:

- 1 Cllr Peacey-Wilcox has a meeting with Paul Herbert of Island Roads and will ask for written permission for Cowes Town Council to display the new signs on each litter bin in the town.**
- 2 Cllr Brown is happy to install all the litter bin signs but would be grateful for help from any councillors in their own wards.**

551 UPDATE ON THE PROVISION OF A SHELTER ON COWES SEAFRONT

Cllr Banks provided a written report to the chairman advising that he has been in communication with the IW Council Legal Department and they are arranging a site visit.

RECOMMENDATION: That until the results of the questionnaire which is part of the Winter Newsletter are completed, this project will not be taken forward.

552 COMPILATION AND FORMATION OF FUTURE NEWSLETTER

This item will be discussed at the next full Town Council meeting on Thursday 5th December.

553 UPDATE ON ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

Compiling a list of Town Council Assets not maintained by Island Roads

This item was raised by Cllr Jones and is still being worked on. We are awaiting a response from all councillors regarding this, then Cllr Jones will collate (with the Assistant Town Clerk) an Asset Register split in two parts – those maintained by Island Roads and those to be maintained by the Town Council. A report will be produced for the next Town Improvement meeting.

Possible addition of a path/bench/flag pole to the War Memorial in Northwood Park.

Cllr Jones previously raised a question about this in relation to the “100th Anniversary of the outbreak of World War One and 70th Anniversary of the D Day Landing” commemorations. Cllr Banks added that the memorial requires the lettering to be maintained. Hampshire County Council is offering grants, but although a request has been made to IW Council for a similar grant – no response has been received. There are grants available from the War Memorial Trust and the National Heritage Lottery Fund.

A meeting was recently attended by Cllr Banks, Cllr Jones, Roger Hendey (Town Clerk) and four members of the Northwood House Charitable Trust where this item was discussed. The proposal will be discussed again at a future meeting. This item will return to the Town Improvement Agenda once permission has been agreed by NHCT.

Meeting ended at 7.20 pm.

CHAIRMAN