



Autumn Edition 2018 from Councillor Paul Fuller – Cowes Town Mayor Tel:289595

Mayor's Report (Cllr Paul Fuller, Tel: 01983 289595)

This summer proved to be both eventful, as well as hot and sunny.

With Cllr Wardrop I attended a lovely evening with delegates from the Cowes/Deauville Twinning Association at the Woodvale. It was a real pleasure on behalf of the Town to receive gifts, hospitality and friendship from the people of Deauville.



Lendy Cowes Week 2018 proved popular with competitors, visitors, residents and our local businesses. In addition Royal Visitors, The Big Lunch, The Cowes- Torquay- Cowes Powerboat Race, The Round the Island Race, The Sevenstar Round Britain and Ireland Race, Isle of Wight Day, Cowes Carnival Events and the Isle of Wight Literary Festival continued to draw people into our town from all over the world...

Thank you to the many residents who give up their time to organise and dedicate their time to ensure our town's many events run smoothly. It is so appreciated!

This summer, it was brilliant to catch up with so many lovely residents who share our enthusiasm for Cowes and its regeneration.

In our Autumn Newsletter, Cowes Town Council would like to know where **you** would like to see the Council spend your precept? Following feedback from last year, work has commenced on upgrading our public toilets with a clear focus this year to making our High Street more attractive.

When setting next year's precept our Town Councillors would love to know what initiatives, events and projects you would like to see in our town and, by working with stakeholders, how your Town Council can make these better!

Cowes Carnival (Cllr Stuart Ellis, Tel: 01983 246352)

Cowes Carnival is a major part of the community. Not only do we put on 2 carnivals in Cowes, we attend all carnivals around the Island representing Cowes.

We also do a big Christmas programme taking Father Christmas to Cowes as well as Gurnard and Northwood. Each year we get around 250-300 letters for Father Christmas which all get a reply, even if we have to use our Facebook community to find children who have forgotten to put a reply address...



Along with stopping outside Corries Cabin and Aldi's, we also attend some of the other Christmas events on the Island and help other community events in and around Cowes.

At Christmas we ask for your nominations of families who may be having a rough time. These families receive a personal visit from Father Christmas to ensure everyone receives a bit of Christmas spirit.

It takes a lot of time and money to build these floats, and any support is very much welcomed and gratefully received! For further information, please call me.

Isle of Wight Against Scams Partnership (IWASP)

The IOW Trading Standards Service has joined forces with the Police, Fire and Rescue, Age Friendly Island and Citizens Advice Bureau to form a partnership called IWASP.



IWASP is an acronym for Isle of Wight Against Scams Partnership. Under the Charter all of these organisations will work together to better protect people on the Isle of Wight from scams, doorstep crime and fraud and to support victims. IWASP doesn't intend to stop there though, we hope to increase our partnership providing on-going support and information from a wide range of organisations and agencies.

Cowes Town Council has pledged to support the Charter. Further details are available at: <https://www.iow.gov.uk/Council/OtherServices/IWASP/Introductio14>, or by calling 01983 823771.

About Scams

Scams make victims part with their money and personal details by intimidating them or promising cash, prizes, services and fictitious high returns on investment. It is important to remember that no matter what type of scam, all scams are **crimes**.

- Approximately 3.2 million people (1 in every 15) fall victim to scams each year.
- The average age of a scam victim is 75.
- Scams cost the UK economy between 5 and 10 billion pounds each year.
- Only 5% of these crimes are ever reported.

These statistics make for quite frightening reading and with an increasing elderly population on the Island this problem will only increase.

Footprint Trust (Cllr Paul Fuller, Tel: 01983 289595)

The Footprint Trust provides residents with free home visits, where tailored guidance will be given on how to reduce energy bills, switch supplier and get discounts on water charges, plus help available from other charities and government bodies.



Telephone 01983 822282 to book a home visit.

The Footprint Trust are holding a drop in surgery from 10:30am-11:30am on Friday 23rd November at Cowes Library to assist residents in saving money by making their home more energy efficient and can potentially help switch suppliers...



MONEY

Skills to Cut Bills
FREE help to reduce
electricity,
water & gas bills
Fun, informal session

10.30am, Friday 23rd November
Cowes Library
Beckford Rd, PO31 7SG

Phone 822282
or email info@footprint-trust.co.uk

The Footprint Trust Ltd
Riverside, The Quay, Newport PO30 2QR
Reg. Co. 0458 7815. Charity no. 1106024



Cowes Accessibility Forum (Cllr Jean Bartrum, Tel: 01983 717210)

In May we had our second accessibility forum hosted once again by myself and Jan Brookes of Isle Access.

These meetings are not just around disability access and sight impairment, although these have been at the forefront of our forums, these meetings are about any issues relating to access including pathways.



It was agreed to have guest speakers in the future, and on **Tuesday 30th October at 10.30am** at the Isle of Wight Community Club on Park Road we will be holding our last one for this year, so please come along and give us your ideas and views on how to improve things in Cowes Gurnard and Northwood. We will be taking questions from you to IW Councillor John Nicholson, who is the Chairman of the IW Council's Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Adult Social Care and Health.

The meetings have proven to be a huge success and the tea and coffee is free! A warm welcome awaits you and a chance to meet your councillors.

Northwood Recreation Ground (Cllr Linda Brown, Tel: 01983 295222)

The Rec. saw good use during the exceptionally warm summer this year and youngsters were treated to skateboard tuition sessions at The Summer Skate Club by Mr John Cattle, funded by Cowes Town Council. These were a great success and hopefully will be repeated next year. This makes vandalism in the Skatepark all the more disconcerting for both conscientious users and the Town Council footing the bill!

Have you been enjoying a fitness experience on our MOBILE GYM APPARATUS? It's there for adults, although supervised youngsters are not discouraged. If you are one who has been watched by Gran or Grandad why not change places next time!

To find out more about how each piece of equipment works please visit: www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk



Cowes Town Council Vacancy (Cllr Paul Fuller, Tel: 01983 289595)

Following the recent Councillor resignation of Amanda Glendenning, a vacancy has occurred in the Cowes West Ward of the Town. For details and an update on this vacancy, please contact Debbie Faulkner, Town Clerk on 01983 209022. Email townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk

VACANCY

Thank you Amanda, for your hard work and hands-on commitment to our Town since joining the Town Council in 2016. You will be missed, and a very hard act to follow!

Plastic Free Cowes and Refill Scheme (Cllr Jean Bartrum, Tel: 01983 717210)

Plastic Free Cowes got off to a flying start with businesses signed up to reduce the single use plastic in Cowes High Street. We have taken part in successful beach cleans hosted by Costa Coffee, attended by Councillors and enthusiastic members of the public.

Cowes Town Council also ran their own clean-up of Northwood Recreation Ground and Councillors continue to work in and around Cowes; don't forget to say hello when you see them with the High-Viz vests and litter pickers!

We also have a 'Plastic Free Cowes' Facebook page, so do join us - your input is invaluable.

There a Refill scheme running in Cowes High Street - if you wish to fill up your water bottles for free, look out for the sticker; this also indicates that the business is making great efforts to be plastic free so do support these where possible. More stickers will be available when they arrive. If you are a business you can also join by signing up to www.refill.org.uk. This is a UK initiative and it has been a great success so far.

Cowes Town Council are committed to Plastic Free and will continue to promote this alongside the Surfers for Sewage campaign on the Island.

Current establishments supporting the Refill scheme are:

**The Duke of York
Sugar Store, Shephards Wharf
Corries Cabin
Sails Cafe
Cowes Yacht Haven
Tiffins
Jolliffes
Costa Coffee
Harbour Kitchen
Healthy Indulgence
The Fountain Inn
Little French Franks, Fountain Yard
Steam/Red Jet terminal and Red Jet
Island Sailing Club
The Ice Cream Parlour
Well Bread
Manny's
The Union Inn
Watchbell Cafe
The Yachtsman**



Cowes Business Association

Do you have spare time on your hands and you're not sure what to do? Do you have business experience?

The Cowes Business Association is looking for Committee Members - for more information, please contact the office either by email office@cowesbusiness.org.uk or by telephone 280972.

News from Cowes Library

The Library has continued to thrive with the help of the Supporters of Cowes Library and our fortnightly Adult Cards & Board Games Club is still a popular group for adults of all ages and numbers for our Colouring Club for Adults have increased.

The monthly Philo Café, a philosophical discussion group based on the Socratic Dialogue, where topics are discussed from people's own experiences, has gained good numbers this year. The Library also continues to be used for a Drawing Group for beginners and improvers, with an additional evening class being provided as well as a daytime session. An experienced volunteer now runs weekly iPad sessions in the Library for those with their own device who need more guidance, and we are looking to purchase a number of iPads and tablets for more people in the community to become more engaged with touch-screen equipment.



Since May, a new Community Navigator for North Wight holds drop-in sessions on the last Tuesday of the month. This is for people aged 50+ to find out about social activities in Cowes, Gurnard and Northwood or for those interested in lending a helping hand to individuals or community group activity.

We have held some very interesting talks in the Library including 'A History of Gardening on the Isle of Wight' by Richard Smout, Heritage Service Manager, and a highlight for children was 'Georgina's Snake Experience' in April, who brought along a variety of her own snakes. Families flocked in to handle them and ask interesting questions. The Library and Supporters also had a table at the Big Lunch at Northwood House in June which was most successful.

Despite the hot weather, an amazing number of children chose to spend their summer holidays reading. The Summer Reading Challenge is for all school children aged 4 – 11. If they can read at least 6 books of their choice, collecting incentives along the way, they receive a medal and certificate.

Children's reading can 'dip' during the summer holidays if they don't have regular access to books and encouragement to read for pleasure. The Reading Agency's annual Summer Reading Challenge really helps by getting three quarters of a million children into libraries over the summer. We have received great feedback from both children and adults with quotes such as 'Positive and friendly attitude of staff to engage with children – they love coming to the Library each week'. 'It gives continued development without a parent having to instigate or push them to read.'



In addition to all this, our visitor figures have been good and Library membership increasing. May this long continue.

Lights of Love (Assistant Town Clerk, Kate Gibbs, Tel: 01983 209022)



The Town Council's Lights of Love Carol Service in aid of the Earl Mountbatten Hospice will be held at Cowes Methodist Church, Birmingham Road on **Thursday, 6th December 2018**, commencing at **6.30pm**. The Mayor, will give a welcome address to open the service, followed by a number of seasonal carols and music.

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be served after the service, along with a chance to admire the large number of decorated Christmas Trees that will be on display in the Church. All are welcome!

News from Cowes Medical Centre

Cowes Medical Centre are urging residents to book their **Flu Jab**. This can be undertaken by appointment, and is most effective when taken between September and November. At the same time immunisation can also be taken for **shingles**.

In addition the Centre is reminding residents about making appointments for **cervical screening**, and you can register with the practice for **on-line services**, where two forms of ID are required (Driving Licence/ Passport plus Utility Bill). Please call **294902** to book an appointment.



Projects Committee Report (Cllr Paul Taylor, Tel: 01983 295222)

Much of the Project Committee's time has been discussing the details for the pedestrianisation of the Cut and its allocated delivery bays, and design work for the Mural to replace the existing outdated one. We have held an informal meeting with Island Roads, who are our contractor for the project and who have been discussing the drawings from our architect who then presents the drawing updates to the committee. Island Roads have now provided two main possibilities with their costings. This has to be finally approved by the Full Council.



Other projects making good progress are Cowes as a Pesticide Free Town; the Plastic Free Cowes initiative and Mornington Woods and Car Park management. Such diversity of projects always promotes lively discussion. A new project coming soon will be to try and educate visiting coaches and cruise passengers to spend some real time in Cowes, which has much to offer visitors, who up to now have not spent much time in our town. Your ideas here could be valuable. Let us know please.

Tree Wardens Sought (Cllr Paul Taylor, Tel: 01983 295222)



Two volunteer tree wardens are sought by Cowes Town Council, to complement the two council tree wardens.

Duties are getting to know the trees in your allotted area, keeping a simple database of trees and their condition, or a handwritten list. A bit of walking at your own pace is required. A good tree guide is available from wardens. Simple training can be given.

Please contact Kate Gibbs, Assistant Town Clerk on 01983 209022, email: assistanttownclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk or Cllr Paul Taylor, email: duirpaul@yahoo.co.uk

Floating Bridge Report (Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Tel: 01983 645765)

As many of you know, due to issues around noise disturbance in neighbouring properties, the council have been trying to find solutions. Matting was put down, and more recently, re-engineering of the ramps on both sides, completed by our local company. Early indications say this has reduced noise by around 10 db.

More works are due to the fingers, shoes, and ramps to help reduce scraping. A set of works, once concept, design and costs are arranged will take place on the slipway to ensure the bridge can meet 'square on'.

The chain depth continues to be an issue, despite that being one of the initial, consistent concerns at new design stage.

Crossing times were an issue which all users raised. The old bridge could handle around 5-6 journeys, (every 10-15 mins) so we could plan to use the bridge knowing we could make onward connections.

When asked about a 'proper timetable', it was discussed but decided that due to tides this would be difficult, if not impossible to stick to a scheduled timetable.

The Users have lost confidence in the new bridge. Users are requested to do all they can to make payment in advance or use the saver card, mobile app or ticket machines both sides. This should help increase turnaround time on journeys.

The launches (as we reported over a year ago) are simply not appropriate especially for pram, wheelchair and bike users. The IW Council could have, and should have purchased their own transport over the past 2 years to transport passengers; this would have been FAR more economical.

The User Group will be meeting again towards the end of November. If you have any concerns or wish for items to be raised then please contact me or the Town Council.

iwight.com/floatingbridge is having a refresh of the page, service status, live web cam. This should all help users.

USEFUL NUMBERS.

Cowes Town Council Councillors: (* Also Isle of Wight Councillor)

Name	Address	Tel No./ Mobile/ Email	Ward
Jean M Bartrum	7 Granville Road, Cowes PO31 7JD	01983 717210; 07842 143593 jeanmbartrum@gmail.com	Medina
Roger A Bartrum	7 Granville Road, Cowes PO31 7JD	01983 717210; 07717 532508 rogerbartrumjnr@gmail.com	Medina
Lynn Hammond	28 Love Lane, Cowes PO31 7ET	01983 282308; 07803 161272 lynn.hammond21@btinternet.com	Medina
David J Jones	194 Newport Road, Cowes PO31 7PU	01983 298445 davwin@talktalk.net	Medina
Lora J Peacey-Wilcox* (Deputy Town Mayor)	29 Pallance Road, Northwood PO31 8LW	01983 645765; 07970 424214 lora08@sky.com	Medina
Anni L Adams	39 Alexandra Road, Cowes PO31 7JT	07715 253558 anni.adams@outlook.com	North
Paul M Bertie*	39 Crossfield Avenue, Cowes PO31 8HP	01983 243100; 07711 255000 cllr.paul.bertie@btinternet.com	North
Paul A Fuller* (Town Mayor)	74 Wyatts Lane, Northwood PO31 8QA	01983 289595; 07935 090835 paulfulleriw@gmail.com	North
Neil G Oliver	156 Park Road, Cowes PO31 7NE	01983 291179; 07969 258366 neil.sue.iow@gmail.com	North
Wendy Wardrop	20 Granville Road, Cowes PO31 7JD	01983 298687	North
Linda Brown	38 Crossfield Avenue, Cowes PO31 8HN	01983 295222; 07443 335107 lindymlou47@gmail.com	South
Stuart Ellis	10 Elm Grove, Cowes PO31 7HB	01983 246352; 07721 606934 bigstu2006@hotmail.co.uk	South
John U A Nicholson*	Sunnyside, Pallance Lane, Northwood PO31 8LT	07918 757843 cllr.john.nicholson@btconnect.com	South
Christine Bustin	Sail View, 14 Lower Church Rd, Gurnard, PO31 8JG	01983 508933; 07976 802679 jimchris3@sky.com	West
Paul G Taylor	38 Crossfield Avenue, Cowes PO31 8HN	01983 295222; 07443 332497 duirpaul@yahoo.co.uk	West
Vacancy			West

Town Clerk: Ms Debbie Faulkner, Town Council Office, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes. PO31 8AZ
townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk Tel: 01983 209022.

Assistant Town Clerk: Mrs Kate Gibbs, Town Council Office, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes PO31 8AZ
assistanttownclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk Tel: 01983 209022.

Cowes Town Council Emergency Out Of Hours Number: 07502 444883

	Tel. Number		Tel. Number
St Mary's Hospital	01983 822099	Isle of Wight Council	01983 821000
Cowes Medical Centre	01983 295251	Member of Parliament (Bob Seely)	01983 220220
Emergency Services (all)	999	Red Funnel Ferries	0844 844 2699
Ambulance/Fire/Police (non emergency)	101	Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
NHS (non emergency)	111	Cowes Primary School	01983 293261
		Lanesend Primary School	01983 293233
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	Gurnard Primary School	01983 295713
Environment Agency	0800 807 060	Northwood Primary School	01983 293392
Floodline	0345 988 118	Cowes Enterprise College	01983 203103
Gas Leaks	0800 111 999	Cowes Library	01983 293341
Electricity Emergency	0800 072 7282	Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 1444
Southern Water	0330 303 0368	Age UK (IW) (Advice on benefits/ grants and handyman service)	01983 525282
Island Roads (24hrs.)	01983 822440		
Homestart - Support for families with young children	01983 533357	Foodbank	01983 292040
IW Fire Service - Free home fire safety check fire.communitysafety@iow.gov.uk	01983 407075	Social Services (Adult)	01983 814980
Jigsaw Family Support - community based for everyone affected by family separation www.jigsawfamilysupport.com	01983 639 793	Social Services (Children)	0300 300 0117
Pension Service (Pension Credit entitlement check)	0800 99 1234		
	01983 822282	Samaritans Isle of Wight	01983 521234
		Storeroom (Furniture project)	01983 298679