

Spring Edition 2019 from Councillor Paul Fuller – Cowes Town Mayor, Tel: 01983 289595

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

Thank you to all residents that have fed back on their thoughts as to how we can make Cowes an even better place to live in and visit.

During the winter, Town Councillors met with volunteers involved with Cowes Foodbank and Men In Sheds. In addition, through the support from our Council's precept, The Footprint Trust and Jigsaw have supported residents within drop-ins at Cowes Library.

Following concerns with the Floating Bridge, Cowes Town Council and East Cowes Town Councils met to discuss issues which we wish to see addressed by the Isle of Wight Council. Town Councillors also met and raised matters with the IW Council's Cabinet who met at Cowes Enterprise College in January. In the meantime through local Councillor Lora Peacey-Wilcox and Councillor Neil Oliver feedback continues to be relayed!

In addition, I met with Cowes Business Association to address some of the numerous shortfalls in respect to parking in parts of the town and the continued difficulty residents are finding to access local shops.

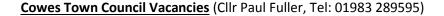
I know that in some areas of Cowes parking is at a premium, and as Councillors we want to know the steps we can take to free up the availability of more parking in our town, particularly for residents and visitors. This was very much key when the Town Council met to discuss priorities for what is known as the Network Integrity Register!

Prioritised were the following highways schemes:

- Place Road: Bus Shelters and improved access and speed restrictions adjacent to The Range.
- Tennyson Road/ Stanley Road/ Fraser Close/ Shamblers Road: Parking issues/ restrictions.
- Victoria Road/ Mill Hill Road junction: Junction safety measures.
- Queens Road: Improved mobility access.
- Park Road: Improved mobility access to public transport between Parklands Avenue & the IW Community Club.
- Baring Road: Parking issues/ restrictions between Ward Avenue and Castle Hill.
- Park Road: Retention of road crossing patrol during term times.

On this, please let Town Councillors know your views!

At Christmas Time, the Town Council continued our support of Mountbatten's Light up a Life Christmas Carol Service; the turning on of the Christmas Lights by Queen Victoria; the three late night shopping events in town and the residents' drop-in at the Christmas Fair at Cowes Yacht Haven.





It is with sadness that Councillors Roger and Jean Bartrum have left Cowes Town Council. On behalf of the Council, I have expressed my gratitude and overwhelming appreciation to these Councillors for their enthusiasm and hands-on approach to resolving issues. Both Jean and Roger's involvement will be missed.

For further details on these vacancies please contact Debbie Faulkner, our Town Clerk on 01983 209022.



The Cowes Big Lunch 2019 - Sunday 2nd June

This year's Cowes Big Lunch will take place at Northwood House on Sunday 2nd June.



The event is in its fifth year and we're currently planning a great afternoon of entertainment, fun and games. All residents of Cowes, as well as surrounding neighbourhoods of Gurnard, Northwood and East Cowes, are very welcome to come along too!

Entry to the event is free; just bring a picnic, sit back and enjoy the live music, the games and activities in the children's arena and the ever-popular baking competition and fun dog show!

The event also offers an opportunity for local charities, good causes and community organisations to take a free stand to showcase their services. If you represent a local charity, good cause or organisation and are based in PO31 or PO32, please get in contact with the event committee at hello@cowesbiglunch.org

Finance Committee Report (Cllr Paul Fuller, Tel: 01983 289595)

Cowes Town Council resolved to freeze this year's precept, given that savings could be made without impacting upon the services that are supported by your Town Council on residents' behalf.

Please let us know if you feel that our priorities are wrong, as this is your money spent on your behalf on what we believe are our community's priorities!

COWES TOWN COUNCIL APPROVED BUDGET 2019-2020

EXPENDITURE	2019-2020	DISCRETIONARY SERVICES	
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION		Northwood Rec. Grounds Maintenance	£8,100
Town Clerk's salaries/ NIC/ Tax/ Pension	£48,500	Northwood Rec. Skate Park/ MUGA/ Outdoor Gym	£6,000
		Maintenance	
Office Rent	£8,100	Northwood Rec. Toilets- Cleaning, electricity + other	£11,000
		costs	
Sundry Office Expenses	£200	Northwood Park Grounds Maintenance	£10,200
Stationary, Office Supplies/ Software	£500	Northwood Park Toilets- Cleaning Only	£3,000
Office Equipment/ Photocopier	£1,000	Dog and Litter Bin emptying	£5,500
Telephone/ Broadband/ Website	£1,500	Other Grounds Maintenance in Cowes	£5,500
Postage	£300	4x Public Toilets- Cleaning and other costs	£45,500
Travelling	£200	Cowes Library	£22,400
Conference Fees	£500	Cowes In Bloom	£5,000
Training	£500	Environment Officer	£2,600
Hire of Meeting Rooms	£200	Warmer Cowes	£2,700
Subscriptions	£1,900	Discretionary Services Contingency	£8,000
Insurance	£2,200	Sub Total	£135,500
Audit and Accountancy	£1,700	TOWN IMPROVEMENTS/GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	
Mayor's Allowance	£2,000	Street Furniture Maintenance	£2,000
Newsletters/ Publicity	£4,000	Civic Christmas Trees, Festive Lights and Bunting	£17,000
Elections/ Admins Contingency	£2,500	New Projects	£4,000
Sub Total	£75,800	Grants	£22,000
		The Big Lunch	£2,000
		Remembrance Sunday and Charity Donations	£1,500
		Public Toilet Refurbishment	£40,000
		Sub Total	£88,500
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£299,800

In addition, in the last financial year Cowes Town Council supported the following good causes:

Age UK - Cowes Memory Group	£200	Moorgreen Road Allotment Society	£370
Destination Cowes	£2,000	Breakout Youth Charity	£250
British Power Boat Racing Club	£1,000	NHCTCL - Cowes Week Tennis Lessons	£360
Isle of Wight Literary Festival Youth Zone	£5,000	Cowes Primary School Defibrillator (Part funded)	£750
Cowes Medical Centre Patient Participation Group	£500	NHCTCL - Tennis Court Fencing	£2,786
RAF 100 Event	£250	TeamSpy	£1,000
Citizens Advice IOW	£500	Cowes Primary School - Shed (Part funded)	£500
Cowes Open Bowls Tournament	£400	IOW Music, Dance & Drama Festival	£100
Cowes Week Fireworks	£1,500	Jigsaw Family Support	£1,000

Friends of Northwood Cemetery Report (Cllr David Jones, Tel: 01983 298445)



The Friends of Northwood Cemetery, as part of this year's Walking Festival, are holding 3 cemetery walks. "A Walk Through History from Victorian Times":

2.00 pm, Wednesday 8th May 11.00 am, Saturday 11th May 10.30 am, Tuesday 14th May

The Friends of Northwood Cemetery are holding a Quiz Night on Friday 24th May at the Heritage Resource Centre (former West Chapel) 7.30pm. Teams up to 6 persons welcome. Prizes, raffle & refreshments.

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

Improvements to The Cut are still in the Design Approval stage with Island Roads so we may not see any work started on it until next year.

A Parking Strategy Working Group has been approved to have a good look at the unique situation of parking in Cowes and to work on a strategy to make the situation better for everyone.

Cowes as a Pesticide Free Town is slowly coming to fruition and we are looking to undertake a trial of a Glyphosate-free weed killer. If successful we will share our findings with the IW Council.

The large Town maps are out of date and it is a project to replace them. Several meetings have taken place to determine what needs to be on the map and what doesn't; we are hoping to have the new maps ready for the tourist season.

A recreational path around Northwood Recreation Ground has been proposed and we have had a meeting with People Powered Community Interest Co. to discuss the initiative. The path would be a hard path about 3m wide and suitable for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility scooters.

Nearly everyone likes the idea of a small community orchard of 8 fruit and one nut tree. A couple of sites in Northwood Recreation Ground, one in the near corner where the cycle path enters the Recreation Ground, and one in the far corner near Place Road may be the best option.

Bonfires (Cllr Paul Fuller, Tel: 01983 289595)

With spring arriving early, I have received reports of bonfires in the valley of the spring in Baring Road.

Please advise neighbours if you plan to have a bonfire, as from feedback received this can cause distress. This is particularly relevant to those with health conditions and to the elderly. If you are unable to dispose of garden waste sustainably, please ensure fires do not cause a nuisance and are not left unattended!

For details on Green Garden Waste please visit: https://www.iow.gov.uk/iwforms/form.aspx?k=GreenWasteSub2019

A reminder to all of the Prohibition of Driving Order in the High Street and adjoining roads:



PROHIBITION OF DRIVING

MIDNIGHT TO 7AM AND 10AM TO MIDNIGHT

The following roads are subject to a Prohibition of Driving Traffic Order

which includes all vehicles, including bicycles.

- · High Street,
- · Shooters Hill,
- Sun Hill,
- The Cut,
- Cross Street.

The High Street is subject to a One-Way Restriction

Birmingham Road and Carvel Lane have No Entry signs, and this is applicable to all vehicles including bicycles.

All signs displayed are fully compliant with the Regulation and allows the restrictions to be enforced.

The only exceptions to the Prohibition of Driving restriction are listed below -

EXEMPTIONS

- If you are directed to use these streets by the Police or a Police Community Support Officer;
- for the removal of any obstruction to traffic or the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of any of the said lengths of road;
- any building operation or demolition carried out in said lengths of road;
- loading and unloading in the said lengths of road whilst in actual use in connection with the removal of furniture and effects from one office or dwelling house to another office or dwelling or to such premises from a repository;
- for the laying, erection, inspection, maintenance, alteration, renewal or removal in or near a length of road specified in the Schedule of any sewer, main, pipe, conduit, wire, cable or other apparatus as defined in Schedule 2 to the Telecommunications Act 1984;
- to gain access to, or egress from, any property in the said lengths of road which have off-street parking which can only be accessed from those roads;
- by the Fire, Ambulance or Police in any emergency;
- for the purpose of refuse collection from any property or receptacle;
- All mobility scooters are exempt, apart from Class 3 travelling in excess of 4mph.
- If you are caught in breach of this restriction you could receive a fixed penalty of £50.
- CCTV covers these roads and evidence of non-compliance can be submitted to the Police.









<u>Cowes – Deauville Twinning Association</u> (Cllr Wendy Wardrop, Tel: 01983 298687)

This year is the Cowes members' bi-annual visit to France, taking place over the weekend of 10-13 May and consisting of 11 of us travelling to and arriving in Deauville on the Friday to meet up with French hosts for the weekend. As before there will be communal outings and dining throughout the weekend until the Monday morning when we have a free day, returning to Caen for the night before returning the following morning on the ferry back to Portsmouth.

French members visit Cowes in the alternate years for similar events, last year managing to stage a Royal Wedding for them.

The Association often meets throughout the winter at Cowes Golf Club socially, with an essential bar and for quizzes, raffles etc for the much needed fund raising! Other intermediate events being pub lunches, Xmas dinner (in January!) at the Holmwood, as well as a visit to the Tank Museum!

The Association is always looking for new members and being relatively new myself I understand historically membership was large enough that travel to France involved a coach for the event. Sadly, mostly age and other reasons have seen numbers much reduced.

If you are interested please consider coming along to any one of our meetings for a warm welcome. As the Town Council's representative, please let me know if you are interested in joining the Association. I volunteered 3 years ago, enjoying it so much I am now rather a permanent fixture, whether they like it or not!

Cowes Heritage Report (Cllr David Jones, Tel: 01983 298445)

Cowes Heritage AGM will be on Tuesday 14 May at Birmingham Road Methodist Church at 7.00pm. All welcome. There will be an illustrated talk by Sarah Burdett on the History of the Floating Bridge (we hope it is running!). Free entry, refreshments.

Cowes Library Update (Joyce Blizzard, Cowes Librarian, Tel: 01983 293341)

Cowes Library has had a good start to the year, particularly with our various regular adult and children's activities attracting new members, as have our Drawing Groups for beginners and improvers. In addition, we now host regular Parchment Craft Workshops. Several Glass Jewellery Workshops have also taken place which have proved popular and will continue periodically. We have succeeded in making the Library a friendly community hub with it being used for so many varied activities and events.

Forthcoming events include:

- **10am 4.30pm, Saturday 6th April.** Book & DVD Sale donated books, CDs & DVDs for all ages will be available to buy. There will also be a selection of ex-rental Library DVDs for sale. Refreshments will be available courtesy of The Supporters of Cowes Library.
- 2pm 4pm Friday April 12th April and Monday 15th April The Shipwreck Centre & Maritime Museum will be at Cowes Library with a great children's event. Children can find out what it's like to be a maritime archaeologist! They can see how archaeologists work under the water, dive kit they use and how this has changed through the years. Attendees receive a 25% off voucher for the Shipwreck Centre & Maritime Museum at Arreton Barns. This event is suitable for children age 6+. Cost is £2 per child. All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout. For adults sessions coming soon to the Library again from the Shipwreck Centre & Maritime Museum. Artefacts from the Museum will be used to explore local First World War Shipwrecks, the history of diving and the work of maritime archaeologists.
- 10am 12pm, Friday 24th May as part of Dementia Action Week, the Library will be holding a Tea and Coffee
 morning in conjunction with Cowes Alzheimer Cafe. People can come along to chat and relax and participate
 in playing cards and board games or colouring for adults. All games and colouring materials will be provided. Cakes
 will be provided by our lovely Supporters.
- 10.30am 2.30pm, Saturday 29th June We are part of the Guide Dog Isle of Wight Library Tour 2019. This is a dropin session and a chance to meet representatives from Guide Dogs (IW), find out about the charity, see how you can help, and meet some lovely guide dogs!



Apart from these we have drop-in sessions from various Community Groups, organisations or Charities. Cowes Library has a large collection of Community Information on display covering areas on: Health & Wellbeing including organisations such as Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Footprint Trust, Citizen's Advice, Diabetes Group and many more; Adult Community Learning and various training opportunities; Community Events and Social Activities in Cowes and the surrounding areas.

It is free to join the Library, so we encourage people to take advantage of our services and facilities. We are most thankful for the continued support of Cowes Town Council and our users. Our Library Supporters are a strong team and help Cowes Library to achieve many of the things we do.

<u>Trading Standards Update</u> (Trading Standards, Tel: 01983 823371)

Trading Standards are working on supporting our residents and encouraging new partners to join us.

We have 181 Friends Against Scams and 14 Scamchampions registered on the Island. If you, or you know of somebody who would be interested to undertake the online awareness session please visit:

https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/article.php/37/become_a_friend/0db8442e609350b95877fe8da9515ca8
It takes about 20 minutes. If you require any assistance with training, or further information, please contact us!

Current Scams:

We suspect old scams, such as the 'HMRC' warrant for arrest for unpaid taxes, or calls from 'BT/TalkTalk' stating your internet will be cut off if you don't make a payment will continue.

This is the time of year that scammers will use so-called potential Council Tax refunds to try to cheat victims out of bank details and cash. These scams are both believable and frightening to vulnerable residents who believe them to be genuine.



Please let Trading Standards know if you, or somebody you know have been made aware of new scams.

Partner Update from Age UK

There is so much that communities can do to prevent and deter scams in their area. Neighbourhood Watch schemes are being encouraged to report and inform Trading Standards of emerging scams and to add these to the mailing list of scams and crucially to provide community intelligence that deters offending.

Being fully informed about scams is a great way to start tackling the problem:

- The Neighbourhood Watch Plus project conducts crime prevention surveys which focus on home security and give guidance on factors that can attract scammers (eg untended gardens, obvious outstanding home maintenance, key safes and grab rails). Home owners have the option to use Age UK's Isle of Wight's Home Safe Team of DBS checked technicians to carry out necessary work.
- Neighbourhood Watch Plus has developed a community level safeguarding plan for Neighbourhood Watch, to help communities ensure that they are doing all they can to protect the vulnerable.
- Encouraging online training through 'Friends Against Scams' (see link above). This covers some of the signs that a vulnerable neighbour may be the target of a scam.
- Neighbourhood Watch have a Crime Prevention Toolkit relating to scams on their website, which includes an informative PowerPoint presentation. Please visit: www.ourwatch.org.uk
- The Metropolitan Police produce two useful booklets: 'The Little Book of Big Scams' and 'The Little Book of Cyber Scams', available on their website www.met.police.uk
- Action Fraud investigate fraud in England and Wales and provide information and advice on: www.actionfraud.police.uk

Age UK Isle of Wight's Neighbourhood Watch Plus is funded by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police Commissioner, and can be contacted on 01983 525282 or steven.howes@ageukiw.org.uk

Hampshire Alert Community Messaging system

This site provides an invitation for you to participate in the exchange of information with Hampshire Constabulary and Neighbourhood Watch. You do not need to join a specific watch scheme but you may find that there are like minded residents or businesses in your area who would welcome your support.

Please register to become a recipient of messages of information, crime alerts and witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work in a way that suits your needs and lifestyle by email, text or telephone. Just click on the JOIN NOW button at the top of the https://www.hampshirealert.co.uk/pages/2740/1/About.html link to sign up.

As a registered recipient you will benefit from two way messaging and hear about police action in your community, help identify suspected or wanted criminals or learn about community groups and events or meetings in your area.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SERVICE IS NOT FOR REPORTING CRIMES OR INCIDENTS - TO REPORT NON URGENT CRIMES OR INCIDENTS PLEASE CONTACT HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY ON 101 OR COMPLETE THE FORM ON THE LINK BELOW OR YOU CAN ACCESS THIS VIA THE TOWN COUNCIL'S WEBSITE:

http://www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Community-Partnership-Information-Form.pdf

Jigsaw Family Support: Library Drop In's: Fridays 10am-2pm

The Co-ordinator and Manager from Registered Charity Jigsaw Family Support will be at Cowes Library on Fridays between 10am and 2pm (the Library closes for lunch 12.30 - 1.30pm), providing private, confidential consultations for parents.

This is a non-profit based organisation offering support to families who are going through the painful experience of separation or divorce.



Their aim is to build a safe and happy living environment for children to grow up in. They also assist parents in building a respect-based co-operative relationship with each other to help them understand what their children are going through at this difficult time. Based in Ryde, Jigsaw are looking at other venues across the Island to make this service more accessible.

To find out more, or to make an appointment, get in touch with Jigsaw Family Support on 01983 639793 or 07546 564681 or email: info@jigsawfamilysupport.com or pick up their information leaflets in Cowes Library.

Asian Hornets Cllr Christine Bustin, Tel: 01983 508933

There is currently considerable concern about the predatory Asian Hornets arriving from the continent.



Please use the Asian Hornet Watch app on your phone to send a picture and a location via GPS in the app straight to the non-native species secretariat and National Bee Unit:

https://www.ceh.ac.uk/news-and-media/news/asian-hornet-monitoring-takes-flight-new-app-developed-ceh-scientists

If you cannot download the Asian Hornet Watch app, please use the online recording form: http://www.brc.ac.uk/risc/alert.php?species=asian hornet

As a last resort, please send a picture and email with details of where you saw the Asian Hornet with your contact details to: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

Co-opted Councillor for Cowes West Ward (Cllr Stephen Reynolds, Tel: 07734 931066)

Hello, may I introduce myself as the recently co-opted Councillor for Cowes West Ward. Having been brought up and working in Cowes, I have had a varied career from marine electronics engineering to manager/nightclub owner; many of you will no doubt recognise me. My main concerns for Cowes are the overdevelopment of the area, the ongoing floating bridge issues, cuts in social services and on a more positive note the promotion of Cowes town as a destination. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.



USEFUL NUMBERS.

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

Name Vacancy Vacancy	Address	Tel No./ Mobile/ Email	Ward Medina 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
Ànni 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)	45 Oxford Street, Northwood PO31 8PT	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
Stephen C Reynolds	38 Alexandra Road, Cowes, PO31 7JT	07734 931066 dj.1066@hotmail.co.uk	West
Paul G Taylor	38 Crossfield Avenue, Cowes PO31 8HN	01983 295222; 07443 332497 duirpaul@yahoo.co.uk	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	granto ana nanayman oorvissy	
Homestart - Support for families with young children	01983 533357	Foodbank	01983 292040
IW Fire Service - Free home fire safety check fire.communitysafety@jow.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	Samaritans Isle of Wight	01983 521234
,	01983 822282	Storeroom (Furniture project)	01983 298679