

## COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cowes Town Council held in the Dining Room, Northwood House, Cowes on Thursday 6 June 2019 at 7pm.

**Present:** Councillor Peacey Wilcox (Town Mayor) (Chairman)  
Councillors Adams, Bertie, Brown, Bustin, Fuller, Gilpin, Hammond (7.12pm),  
Jones, Nicholson (7.06pm), Rafferty, Reynolds & Taylor.

**In attendance:** Debbie Faulkner, Town Clerk; Kate Gibbs, Assistant Town Clerk; 2 members of the public.

### **PRESENTATION FROM SALLY LIST, PROJECT LEAD FOR THE MOUNTBATTEN NEIGHBOURS COMMUNITY PROJECT**

Mountbatten Neighbours Project is aimed at people living with a chronic, long-term or terminal illness, or over 65's, who feel lonely or isolated in the community. The Mountbatten Neighbours (MN) is a free, community-led project which could give some extra support for people to do the things they like doing and to stay connected with people around them. MN are a group of trained volunteers who offer their time, companionship and support to people living near them. The volunteers can visit for a cup of tea and a chat, go for a walk, offer friendship or emotional support, explain the services provided by Mountbatten which can help people live well with their illness, listen to ideas for future care and be a link to access Mountbatten services. MN are reaching out across six pilot areas: Cowes, Freshwater, Newport, Ryde, Shanklin & Ventnor and has funding for 12 months. Sally confirmed that the trained volunteers work with other stakeholders to help their clients to access other services.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Lisa for her interesting presentation in what is an emotional and complex area; he wished her every success with the future of the project.

Councillor Peacey Wilcox gave a vote of thanks to the former Town Mayor, Councillor Fuller, for his two years as Mayor of Cowes. Councillor Fuller replied that it was an honour to serve the people of Cowes.

Councillor Peacey Wilcox thanked Councillor Bustin for baking a cake on behalf of the Town Council for The Big Lunch cake competition. Her victoria sponge was 'highly commended'.

### **7954 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellis, Oliver & Wardrop.

### **7955 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **7956 REPORT FROM THE LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER**

The Local Safer Neighbourhood Officer sent his apologies for the meeting but had provided a written report which had been circulated to all Town Councillors. The crime statistics for the month of May 2019 showed 13 assaults; 11 criminal damage; 5 theft; 1 theft from a motor vehicle; 1 theft of a motor vehicle; 5 malicious communications; 1 drug offence; 4 public order offences. Their priorities are Shed breaks: in light of recent breaks Island-wide; Drug related harm: to identify and

reduce harm to people who may be affected in the community; Op Sceptre: force-wide educational initiative / awareness into knife crime.

**7957 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting held on 9 May 2019 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**7958 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Two members of the public addressed the Town Council to raise their concerns regarding the health and safety implications relating to the installation of a 5G network in Cowes. They advised that no risk assessments have ever been undertaken in regard to wireless technology and the possible associated health risks. They advised that some countries have already stopped the roll out of the 5G network and are asking Town and Parish Councils on the Island to take a lead in requesting that the IW Council undertake a full investigation, using independent research, to look into the possible health risks associated with the 5G network. Councillors were urged to be extra vigilant about the installation of a 5G network in Cowes.

The issue of Hamlet Court, Queens Road, was also raised. It is considered to be a lovely house and it needs restoring.

**7959 REPORTS FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS**

Written reports focussing on local matters were received from Councillors Bertie, Fuller, Nicholson & Peacey Wilcox. Councillors were available for questions but none were raised. Councillor Bertie advised Councillors that he had now found a product suitable for use on the bollards in the High Street. He will bring a sample to the next Town Council meeting.

**7960 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS**

a) Planning & Licensing Committee

The Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 29 May 2019 were received and noted.

b) Parking Strategy Working Group

The Minutes of the Parking Strategy Working Group meeting held on 21 May 2019 were received and noted.

c) Visitor Cowes Working Group

The Minutes of the Visitor Cowes Working Group meeting held on 4 June 2019 were received and noted.

d) Cowes Town Council & Police Meeting

The Notes of the informal meeting between Cowes Town Council and the Police held on 16 May 2019 were received and noted. Councillors commented that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme does not appear to be supported by the Police.

ACTION

The subject of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme will be raised at the next Cowes Town Council / Police meeting.

- e) IWALC Executive Committee  
The draft Minutes of the IWALC Executive Committee meeting held on 16 May 2019 were received and noted.
- f) Isle of Wight Town & Parish Council Seminar  
The Minutes of the Isle of Wight Town & Parish Council Seminar held on 29 April 2019 were received and noted.
- g) Cowes Big Lunch  
The Notes of the Cowes Big Lunch meeting held on 22 May 2019 were received and noted.
- h) Cowes Harbour Advisory Committee  
The Minutes of the Cowes Harbour Advisory Committee meeting held on 2 May 2019 were received and noted.

**7961 COWES – DEAUVILLE ASSOCIATION – VISITE AU DEAUVILLE 10 – 14 MAY 2019**

Councillor Wardrop prepared a report for Councillors regarding her recent visit to Deauville with the Cowes Deauville Twinning Association which was received and noted.

**7962 CHEQUE AND PETTY CASH PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2019**

The Town Clerk presented Councillors with details of cheque and petty cash payments for the month of May 2019. Cheque payments totalled £60,188.88; petty cash payments totalled £10.00. It was:

**RESOLVED**

**That the cheque payments of £60,188.88 and petty cash payments of £10.00 be received, noted and approved.**

**7963 REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FINANCE, ACQUISITIONS & STAFFING COMMITTEE, PLANNING & LICENSING COMMITTEE AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

At the Annual Town Council meeting on 9 May 2019 it was agreed to increase the number of members on each of the Town Council's Committees by one Councillor. The Terms of Reference for each Committee need to be amended to reflect this increase. It was:

**RESOLVED**

**That the Terms of Reference for the Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee, Planning & Licensing Committee and Projects Committee be amended to increase the number of members to seven plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.**

**7964 REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AGE FRIENDLY ISLAND WORKING GROUP, PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP, PUBLIC CONVENIENCES WORKING GROUP AND VISITOR COWES WORKING GROUP**

At the Annual Town Council meeting on 9 May 2019 it was agreed to increase the number of members on each of the Town Council's Working Groups by one Councillor. The Terms of Reference for each Working Group need to be amended to reflect this increase. As a result of the increase in members the quorum for the Parking Strategy Working Group and Public Conveniences Working Group needs to be increased to three members. It was:

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Terms of Reference for the Age Friendly Island Working Group and Visitor Cowes Working Group be amended to increase the number of members to five.**
- 2. That the Terms of Reference for the Parking Strategy Working Group and Public Conveniences Working Group be amended to increase the number of members to seven.**
- 3. That the quorum for the Parking Strategy Working Group and Public Conveniences Working Group be increased to three members.**

**7965 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS**

At the Town Council meeting on 7 March 2019 it was agreed to appoint a representative and deputy representative to attend East Cowes Town Council meetings and act as a liaison point for the two Town Councils. These appointments were omitted from the list of 'Other Bodies' appointments at the Annual Town Council meeting on 9 May 2019. It was:

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That Councillor Bustin be appointed as Cowes Town Council's representative to attend East Cowes Town Council's meetings and act as a liaison point for the two Town Councils.**
- 2. That Councillor Gilpin be appointed as Deputy Representative.**

**7966 APPOINTMENT OF A TREE WARDEN**

Following the resignation of Councillor Jones a vacancy for a Tree Warden was sought from the Town Council. It was:

**RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Gilpin be appointed as Tree Warden.**

**7967 COWES TOWN COUNCIL'S MEMBERSHIP OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT SPORTS FOUNDATION**

Cowes Town Council have been asked to consider renewing their membership for 2019 with the Isle of Wight Sports Foundation for the annual sum of £6. It was:

**RESOLVED**

**That Cowes Town Council renews its membership with the Isle of Wight Sports Foundation for the annual sum of £6 for 2019.**

**7968 UPDATE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER**

A spreadsheet outlining the activities of the Environment Officer in Cowes was circulated to all Town Councillors. Actions taken included playground inspections; toilet inspections; beach inspections; business and domestic waste issues; patrolling for dogs off leads and dog fouling in Cowes. In view of the number of issues at Northwood Recreation Ground over the past few weeks with large numbers of youths gathering after dark it was agreed:

**ACTION**

The Town Council will issue a press release highlighting the continued problems of vandalism at Northwood Recreation Ground with a request for the public to come forward and report any issues that have been observed.

**7969 MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Details of miscellaneous publications and correspondence received were circulated to all Town Councillors.

**7970 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS**

- The Mayoral Chain – Councillor Peacey Wilcox
- Cowes Week 2019 arrangements – Councillor Fuller

The proceedings terminated at 7.48pm

**CHAIRMAN**