

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Projects Committee Meeting held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Monday 25 November 2019 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors Nicholson (Chair), Bertie, Brown, Bustin, Peacey Wilcox and Taylor

In attendance: Councillor Wardrop (Non-Voting); Martin Hayles (Architect for The Cut project); Debbie Faulkner (Town Clerk), Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk)

304. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Adams, Fuller and Rafferty.

305. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) No declarations of interests were received
- b) No written requests for dispensation were received.

306. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 29 October 2019 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

307. THE CUT - ENHANCEMENTS

Martin Hayles (Architect for The Cut project) was in attendance and provided an update on the final project costings for the enhancements at The Cut. The project network maintenance cost to the end of the PFI contract in 2038 has reduced due to the drainage channels being altered to a less labour-intensive maintenance method. The cost of the enhancements, less Island Roads' costs allocated through the PFI contract for The Cut, are £51,627.47; following completion of the enhancements, the project network maintenance cost to the end of the PFI contract in 2038 is £11,348.30, bringing the total project cost to £62,975.77. The costs exclude ongoing maintenance of the street furniture in The Cut, which would be the responsibility of Cowes Town Council. Councillors fully discussed the project and costings. The project will provide an amenity space for the town which, if approved, can be used for a number of purposes. The majority of the costs will be covered by S.106 monies of £62,338.00 which are currently being held for this project by the Isle of Wight Council; S.106 money comes from developers' contributions. Cowes Town Council's contribution for the project will be the balance of £637.77. Councillors felt that a contingency sum of £2,000.00 should be set aside for the project. It was

RECOMMENDED:

- 1. That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers approval of Island Roads' cost of the enhancement project, including maintenance to the end of the PFI contract, of £62,975.77, subject to the Isle of Wight Council releasing S.106 monies of £62,338.00, with the balance of £637.77 to be met from monies held by Cowes Town Council for The Cut project.**
- 2. That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers approval of a contingency sum of £2,000.00 for The Cut project, to be met from monies held by Cowes Town Council for The Cut project.**

Martin Hayles left the meeting at 6.50pm.

308. COWES / GURNARD / NORTHWOOD AREA PLACE PLAN

A background paper on a Place Plan for the Cowes area had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Chairman outlined the purpose of a Place Plan, that being to consult with local

people, businesses and organisations about what they think are the most important things that need to change in their area. Results are then analysed and a document produced, detailing the agreed, evidenced needs of the area. A Place Plan provides evidence-backed confirmation which will assist with applying for funding from third parties.

A Place Plan for the Cowes area will cost an estimated £15,000 to produce, with the costs proposed to be shared between local councils, local stakeholders and business groups and the Isle of Wight Council. Councillors discussed the benefits of having the evidence to support the community's priorities and felt a commitment from the Town Council to contribute up to £2,000 will enable this project to move forward. Once all the other funding for the Plan is identified, the process will take 4 – 5 months to complete. It was

RECOMMENDED: That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers the cost of up to £2,000 for the creation of a Place Plan for the Cowes area, with the cost to be met from the 'Discretionary Services Contingency' budget for 2020-2021.

309. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items raised for inclusion on future agendas.

The proceedings terminated at 7.08pm

CHAIRMAN