

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Projects Committee Meeting held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors Nicholson (Chair), Adams (6.18pm), Brown (6.17pm), Peacey Wilcox and Taylor (6.17pm)

In attendance: Debbie Faulkner (Town Clerk); Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk)

337. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rafferty.

338. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were received

339. MINUTES RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 9 June 2020 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and the Chairman be authorised to sign the Minutes.

340. UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

a) The Cut - Enhancements

Martin Hayles (Architect for The Cut project) was not in attendance but had provided an update on the project. Island Roads are under pressure to deliver on contractual obligations and the works at The Cut are likely to be delayed until early 2021, with completion prior to Easter 2021.

b) Tree Warden Project

Councillor Taylor advised that the trees in Seaview Road have been surveyed.

c) Ark and Dove Commemorations

Permission is being sought from the IW Council to install a new information board commemorating The Ark and The Dove story on Cowes Parade. As the information board will be located on the highway network, the asset needs to be approved by the IW Council's Highways Contract Management Team. Approval is being sought.

d) Town Signs

There was no update on this project.

e) Community Orchard

The IW Council has been asked if the recreational pathway project meets the criteria to benefit from funding from the Active Travel Scheme, which could incorporate a community orchard as part of landscaping. The IW Council have advised that they are awaiting news on a small phase 1 allocation which they hope will contain information on the criteria for phase 2 and 3 funding. It will be at this point that they will understand if projects like the recreational pathway fit the criteria of the funds. People Powered CIC have been asked to consider discussing the project again with the IW Council.

f) Additional Litter Bin – Baring Road

The Town Council received a number of requests from members of the public to provide a new litter bin along Baring Road. The IW Council has confirmed that both litter and dog

waste can be disposed of in litter bins. Following consideration, Councillors felt that the junction of Battery Road with Baring Road would be a suitable location for a new bin, to provide a disposal facility for members of the public walking along Baring Road or from the seafront to Battery Road, as well as those walking to and from the nearby primary school. Island Roads maintain the two grass verges on Battery Road and advise that the most suitable location for a new bin is on the grass verge adjacent to No. 2 Battery Road. The bin would be installed on a concrete base on the grass verge abutting the footway and would be of a sufficient distance from the boundary of No. 2 Battery Road. The cost to provide and install the bin is £370.66 ex VAT, and there will be emptying costs of £331.50 per annum, which is subject to an annual uplift. Resident engagement will need to be undertaken by the Town Council. It was

RECOMMENDED

That the Finance, Acquisition and Staffing Committee considers the cost of up to £400 for the supply and installation of a new litter bin, and ongoing emptying costs (currently £331.50 per bin per annum), with the cost to be met from the 'Dog and litter bin emptying' budget heading.

It was agreed

ACTION:

Subject to the agreement of the above recommendation, the Town Clerk will write to the owners of No. 2 Battery Road to advise of the Town Council's intentions to provide a new litter bin at the junction of Battery Road / Baring Road.

341. NEW PROJECTS

a) **Rope Walk**

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Projects Committee.

b) **VJ Day 2020**

VJ Day 2020 falls on 15th August 2020. The Mayor is discussing ways to mark the occasion with Reverend Poppe. An outside service of commemoration at the War Memorial and / or church service is being considered. The provision of refreshments can be discussed with Northwood House once further details are known.

c) **Fastnet Race 2021**

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Projects Committee.

d) **The Great Tour Cycle Event**

Day one of The Great Tour commenced in Ryde on Saturday 4 July with an 88.1km lap of the Isle of Wight from Ryde to Cowes completed in blustery conditions. The 64 day event is due to finish back on the Isle of Wight, completing the section from Cowes back to Ryde, on Saturday 5 September.

e) **Christmas Trees in the town**

Councillors discussed the number and location of Christmas trees in the town for 2020. They felt that one dressed Christmas tree should be provided by the Town Council and sited in Francki Place at a cost of up to £800. It was

RECOMMENDED

That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers providing one dressed Christmas Tree to be located in Francki Place, at a cost of up to £800, with the cost to be met from the 'Civic – Xmas trees/festive lights/bunting' budget heading.

f) **Festive Lights**

Councillors felt that the Festive Lights were a great success in 2019 and that no changes are necessary for the 2020 season. It was

RECOMMENDED

That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers approving the installation, maintenance and subsequent removal of the Festive Lights at a cost of up to £14,500, with the cost to be met from the 'Civic – Xmas trees/festive lights/bunting' budget heading.

342. MAINTENANCE ISSUES WITH EXISTING PROJECTS

a) **Street Furniture**

The Tourist Information Point has relocated to the High Street and the finger arms have been adjusted appropriately. The broken Yacht Haven finger arm has been replaced outside the Vectis. The new Sea front / Parade finger arm is on order and will be fitted to the finger post outside the Vectis.

b) **Northwood Recreation Ground**

Annual RoSPA safety inspections of the Skate Park, MUGA and Outdoor Gym areas at Northwood Recreation Ground identified a number of maintenance issues. Councillor Taylor has repaired the chipped paint on the Double Air Walker. Quotations have been received for relaying a section of path and returfing at the side entrance of the Skate Park and around the Shelter, and for the repainting of the Shelter. The contractor advises that a scaffolding enclosure should be erected during the repairs to prevent children disturbing the surfaces while they harden. Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

1. **That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers the cost of £335, excluding VAT, for relaying a section of path and returfing at the side entrance to the Skate Park and around the Shelter, with the cost to be met from the 'Northwood Rec - Skate Park / MUGA / Outdoor Gym Maintenance' budget heading.**
2. **That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers the cost of £590, excluding VAT, to redecorate the Shelter, with the cost to be met from the 'Northwood Rec - Skate Park / MUGA / Outdoor Gym Maintenance' budget heading.**
3. **That the Finance, Acquisitions and Staffing Committee considers the cost of £200, excluding VAT, to provide a scaffolding enclosure around the area during the repairs, with the cost to be met from the 'Northwood Rec - Skate Park / MUGA / Outdoor Gym Maintenance' budget heading.**

343. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items raised for inclusion on future agendas.

The proceedings terminated at 6.44pm

CHAIRMAN