

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present: Councillors Nicholson (Chair), Adams, Brown, Bustin, Fuller and Taylor

In attendance: Kate Gibbs (Assistant Town Clerk); two members of the public

357. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peacey Wilcox.

358. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were received

359. MINUTES RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 8 September 2020 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and the Chairman be authorised to sign the Minutes.

360. 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. He continues to provide information requested by Island Roads and is awaiting their final package of documents including schedule of works and payment structure. He has requested the Planning Permission documentation from the IW Council and hopes to provide the Town Council with this shortly. Once all documentation has been received by the Town Council, Martin will attend a Projects Committee meeting to answer any questions Town Councillors have regarding the project.

b) **Tree Warden Project**

The tree wardens have completed their survey of Baring Road and its side roads. Surveys have ceased until next year as autumn leaf fall impinges on the ability to identify trees. Councillor Taylor provided the Clerks with an updated Survey of Trees On Open Land spreadsheet. The Chairman thanked Councillor Taylor and the other tree wardens for their ongoing work and suggested that information could be shared as part of the Place Plan.

c) **Ark and Dove Commemorations**

Councillors discussed the draft wording and images compiled by Mr G Banks BEM and considered them to be a good starting point for the board's content; they wished to pass on their thanks to Mr Banks BEM. Councillors felt that the content should engage with audiences of all ages and could incorporate information on the history of Cowes; they suggested that the Town Council approaches Cowes Heritage to discuss the inclusion of interesting points from Cowes' history into the design.

Sight for Wight provided costs to include a QR code in the information board content, which will enable those with sight problems to listen to an audio description of the content.

Councillors felt that further research into QR codes is required.

It was agreed:

ACTIONS

1. The Assistant Town Clerk will pass on Councillors' thanks to Mr Banks BEM for the draft content for the information board.

2. The Assistant Town Clerk will contact Cowes Heritage to discuss the inclusion of interesting points from Cowes' history into the design.
3. Councillor Nicholson will research QR codes and report back to a future meeting.

d) **Community Orchard**

At the previous meeting Councillors felt that the IW Council should consider creating the recreational pathway, incorporating a community orchard, as part of their Active Travel programme. A meeting has been requested with the IW Council's Active Travel Team.

e) **Cycling in Cowes High Street**

At the previous meeting Councillors felt that alternatives to make the High Street safer for all users should be explored and will request the IW Council consider pop up measures to aid safer walking and cycling in Cowes High Street, linking to the Floating Bridge and Cowes-Newport cycle path, as part of their Active Travel programme. A meeting has been requested with the IW Council's Active Travel Team.

f) **Additional Litter Bin – Baring Road**

A resident from Battery Road attended for this item to raise their concerns regarding the installation of a litter bin at the junction of Baring Road / Battery Road. They felt that there isn't a need for a litter bin in the area as there isn't a problem with litter or dog waste and the costs outweigh the benefit. They advised that nearby residents are in agreement to the bin not being required. Following discussion, Councillors considered that the resolution made at the Town Council meeting on 3 September 2020 to install a new litter bin at the junction of Baring Road and Battery Road should not proceed after taking into account residents' objections.

Councillor Fuller offered to discuss locating a dual use litter bin at the top of Woodvale Road with Gurnard Parish Council which, if agreed, could see the dog waste bin at Cow Lane being removed. He will also include an article in his next newsletter asking residents to suggest a suitable location for a dual use litter bin along Baring Road. It was agreed:

ACTIONS

1. Councillor Fuller will ask Gurnard Parish Council to consider installing a dual use litter bin at the top of Woodvale Road.
2. Councillor Fuller will include an article in his next newsletter asking residents to suggest a suitable location for a dual use litter bin along Baring Road.

One member of the public left after this item.

361. MAINTENANCE ISSUES WITH EXISTING PROJECTS

a) **Street Furniture**

The Assistant Town Clerk advised that a repair is required to the flagpole at Francki Place as the halyard has snapped and the lock casing is broken. A repair is being sourced.

The 'Cowes' signs at the Floating Bridge and Cowes Seafront are to be repainted shortly.

b) **Northwood Recreation Ground**

No issues were raised.

362. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- No Cold Calling signs – Councillor Fuller.

The proceedings terminated at 6.50pm

CHAIRMAN