

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cowes Town Council held in The Dining Room, Northwood House, Cowes on Thursday 9 June 2022 at 7pm.

Present: Councillor Bertie (Town Mayor) (Chairman)
Councillors Adams, Brown, Carter, Ellis, Jones, Nicholson, Paler, Sanders & Wardrop.

In attendance: Senad Adams, Environment Officer; Kate Gibbs, Assistant Town Clerk; PCSO Lisa Paul; one member of the public.

MEETING THE IW COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENT OFFICER, SENAD ADAMS

Senad Adams, Environment Officer for the Cowes area, gave an overview of their services for the Town Council. Their remit includes dogs off leads, playground and public convenience inspections, beaches, flytipping, flyposting, littering and graffiti. They will provide educational material for inclusion in the Town Council's newsletters.

Brunswick playpark is being targeted by the environment officers and community safety officer as there has been obscene graffiti and a large group of verbally abusive teenagers in the area. The cleanliness of the public toilets is improving; two stray dogs have been collected. A dog returned by the Environment Officer costs the owner £55. There has been flyposting in the town centre; posters should be removed within two weeks of the event.

Q Is there a direct contact number for members of the public to report incidents to the Environment Officers?

A Information may be passed via the Town Clerks direct to the Environment Officer, or by telephoning 821000. Photographic or video evidence, details such as car registration numbers or addresses of offenders will greatly assist their enquiries; all information is treated anonymously and confidentially.

The Mayor thanked Senad for attending the meeting.

8504 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fuller, Hammond, Hollis, Peacey Wilcox & Walters.

8505 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were received.

8506 REPORT FROM THE LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER

The local Safer Neighbourhood Officer did not provide a written report but attended the Town Council meeting. PCSO Paul advised Councillors that parking issues in the Love Lane area are being investigated.

Cyclists attending local schools riding down Shooters Hill, against the one-way restriction, were raised; before and after school are the main peak times. PCSO Paul will raise the issue with her sergeant.

The Police and Environment Officers are discussing vandalism issues at Northwood Recreation Ground and will attend schools to educate students.

Noisy and speeding cars along Newport Road and other areas was raised. PCSO Paul will raise this with colleagues to target the areas during their late shifts.

8507 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 5 May 2022, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8508 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The member of the public raised the issue of students from UKSA, drinking outside of the accommodation at night, causing a noise disturbance to neighbouring residents. The night supervisor does not appear to patrol outside of the premises. Environmental Health have already been contacted but the issue remains. Landlords from local public houses have also complained about the actions of staff and students from UKSA. Councillors felt that the issues should be raised with the Managing Director. It was agreed:

ACTION

The Town Clerk will write to the Managing Director of UKSA, emphasising that their good reputation is being damaged by the night-time actions of their staff and students.

8509 REPORTS FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS

Written reports focussing on local matters were received from Councillors Fuller, Nicholson & Peacey Wilcox and were circulated to all Town Councillors. Councillors Fuller and Peacey Wilcox were not in attendance and therefore unavailable to answer any questions. No questions were asked of Councillor Nicholson.

8510 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

a) Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee

The Minutes of the Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee meeting held on 24 May 2022 were received and noted. It was:

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Financial Statement as at 31 March 2022 be received, noted and approved.**
- 2. That the grant of £4,602.56 from Visit Isle of Wight, to be used for the promotion of Cowes, be received and noted.**
- 3. That a grant is not made to Citizens Advice Isle of Wight.**
- 4. That a grant be made to the Isle of Wight Community Club in the sum of £750. The Town Council will ask for this grant to be considered as sponsorship of the project and that the Town Council be recognised for their contribution.**
- 5. That a grant be made to the Cowes Open Bowls Tournament in the sum of £600. The Town Council will ask for this grant to be considered as sponsorship of the tournament and that the Town Council be recognised for their contribution.**
- 6. That Cowes Town Council writes to the British Powerboat Racing Club Event Management to ask what the requested amount of £2,000 will be used for and to re-apply for a grant with that further information.**
- 7. That a grant be made to the Footprint Trust (Warmer Cowes) in the sum of £500.**
- 8. That a grant be made to the Isle of Wight Literary Festival in the sum of £1,000. The Town Council will ask for this grant to be considered as**

sponsorship of the Festival and that the Town Council be recognised for their contribution.

- b) Place Plan Working Group
The Minutes of the Place Plan Working Group meeting held on 17 May 2022 were received and noted.
- c) Supporters of Cowes Library
The Minutes of the Supporters of Cowes Library meeting held on 25 April 2022 were received and noted.
- d) IWALC Topic Meeting
The presentations from the IWALC Topic meeting held on 28 April 2022 were received and noted.
- e) Environment & Sustainability Forum
The Minutes from the Environment & Sustainability Forum held on 24 May 2022 were received and noted.

8511 SPEED AND NOISE

Councillors discussed the issue of noisy cars and motorcycles throughout the town which are a disturbance, especially late at night. Noise pollution is a national issue. Speed limits are regularly exceeded and drivers are putting local residents at risk. It was agreed:

ACTION

The Town Clerk will register our concerns with the Police, IW Council's Environment Officers and the Island's MP.

8512 CHEQUE PAYMENTS AND PETTY CASH PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2022

The Town Clerk presented Councillors with details of cheque and petty cash payments for the month of May 2022. Cheque payments totalled £15,400.68; petty cash payments totalled £12.98. It was:

RESOLVED

That the cheque payments of £15,400.68 and petty cash payments of £12.98 be received, noted and approved.

8513 APPOINTMENT TO THE PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Following the Annual Town Council meeting held on 5 May 2022, there remains one vacancy on the Projects Committee. It was:

RESOLVED

That the vacancy remains on the Projects Committee.

8514 APPOINTMENT TO THE LAND AT MARKET HILL WORKING GROUP

Following the Annual Town Council meeting held on 5 May 2022, there remains one vacancy on the Land at Market Hill Working Group. It was:

RESOLVED

That the vacancy remains on the Land at Market Hill Working Group.

8515 CONSIDER REINSTATEMENT OF PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

At the Town Council meeting on 7 October 2021, it was Resolved that the Planning & Licensing Committee will only meet if a Planning Application or Licensing Application is called in by a Town Councillor (Minute No 8365d4 refers). A number of Councillors have requested that regular meetings of this Committee are reinstated to ensure that full consideration is given to each application. As more than six months have passed since this Resolution was made the decision can be reversed (Standing Order 10.1 refers). It was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council reinstates the Planning & Licensing Committee meetings forthwith.

8516 APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES

Following the Annual Town Council meeting held on 5 May 2022, there remains a number of vacancies on Other Bodies. It was:

RESOLVED

That the following representatives be appointed to serve on the following other bodies:

Age Friendly Island Project

Inactive, to be removed from the list.

Cowes Harbour Commission Advisory Committee

Deputy – Councillor M. Paler

Environment & Sustainability Forum

Deputy - Vacancy

Floating Bridge User Group

Councillor A. Adams

Isle of Wight Against Scams Partnership (IWASP)

Deputy – Councillor A. Carter

Member Internal Financial Reviewers – Town Council Accounts

Vacancy

Northwood House Charitable Trust Co Ltd – Park Forum

Deputy – Councillor A. Carter

Picnic in the Park

Deputy – Councillor A. Carter

Tree Warden

Councillor P. Sanders

8517 WIGHT IN BLOOM 2022

Councillors were asked to consider whether to take part in the Wight In Bloom 2022 competition, the deadline for entries being 12 June 2022. Councillors discussed which, if any, category could be entered. It was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council enters Wight In Bloom 2022 with the High Street area under the Pride of Place Floral Project category.

8518 UPDATE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

The Environment Officers did not provide a written report but attended the Town Council meeting; a verbal update was provided at the start of the meeting.

8519 MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

A letter of thanks had been received from The Friends of the ORP Blyskawica Society for the support and financial assistance the Town Council provided for the Society's events held in commemoration of the blitz on Cowes of 4/5 May 1942, 2022 being the 80th Anniversary.

8520 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- Tour of Britain – Councillor Paler

The proceedings terminated at 7.58pm.

CHAIRMAN