



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Minutes of the Cowes Town Council **Town Council Meeting** held in the Dining Room, Northwood House, Cowes on **Thursday 01 October** 2026 at 7pm.

Present

Councillor Ellis (Town Mayor) (Chair).

Councillors Barney, Hollis, Marriott, Moore, Nicholson, Paler, Peacey-Wilcox, Reen, Southwell and Walters

In Attendance

Patrick Jolin (Town Clerk), Tracy Jones (Deputy Town Clerk), Richard Shaul (Responsible Financial Officer)(8.17pm) and Kayleigh Richter (IWC Transport Strategy Officer).

Prior to the start of the meeting, a presentation was received from the IWC Transport Strategy Officer (Kayleigh Richter) on the IWC proposal for a Pop-Up Mobility Hub & Community Space at The Cut in Cowes. A hard copy of the report was distributed to all Councillors.

Councillor Walters asked whether the Isle of Wight Council would be funding the proposal. Kayleigh explained that a contribution would be required from the Town Council alongside monies provided via alternative funding streams that she is currently investigating and which could increase the IWC contribution. There is a possibility that the project could be phased to fit around the receipt of funding contributions.

Kayleigh talked about the proactive approach of her team and about the other projects she is involved with in the Cowes area such as the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which has been fully designed and is awaiting funding.

Councillor Nicholson put on record that Kayleigh is the right person to lead this project.

ACTION

- For the Town Clerk to take the IWC proposal to the CTC Projects Committee for further consideration and that Kayleigh should attend with costings when available.

9443 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9444 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

9445 REPORT FROM THE LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER

A verbal report from PC Manning was received.

The legalities of E Bike and Scooter ownership and use were discussed following questions from Councillors. It was proposed that PC Mannings team produce a poster of the legalities which the CTC Communications Manager will share on social media.

The Mayor raised the high level of speeding along Mill Hill Road and the need for more patrols. PC Manning confirmed that there will be a speed gun and ticketing exercise held there on the 22 October 2026.

Councillor Barney raised the danger of too many parked cars on Baring Road which affects traffic flow and visibility from the Roundhouse roundabout. PC Manning suggested the Town Council request no waiting cones from Island Roads.

Councillor Moore asked PC Manning if he was aware of an increase in public urination since the closure of public conveniences at night. PC Manning noted that there has been a general increase in crime and antisocial behaviour which has been the result, in some part, of people being given travel passes by the Council to come into Cowes for various reasons. PC Manning will be looking into this further.

Following these discussions, it was agreed:

ACTION

- That the Town Clerk contact Island Roads to request a speed limit reduction in that area from 30 to 20mph.

9446 MINUTES

RESOLVED

Minutes of the 03 September 2026 Town Council meeting were taken as read and approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9447 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None received.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9448 REPORTS FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS

Written reports focussing on local matters and Isle of Wight Council activities were received from Councillors Fuller, Peacey Wilcox and Rafferty.

9449 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

a) Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee

The Minutes of the Finance, Acquisitions & Staffing Committee meeting held on 22 September 2026 were received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

- i. Regarding Minute number **1214** (Application for Grants), it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council donates £1,500 to the Isle of Wight Literary Festival and the applicant is informed that for future years it would be more appropriate for this to be treated a sponsorship and the application should be made earlier in the year to allow for planning.

Councillor Peacey-Wilcox declared a non-pecuniary interest and confirmed that she will speak to the organisers about ensuring the application for funding is made by August at the latest next year.

- ii. Regarding Minute number **1216** (Cowes West By Election IWC Costs), it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council approves the invoice for the costs of £3,801.70 and ongoing yearly maintenance costs for payment.

b) Planning & Licensing Committee

The Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 30 September 2026 were received and noted.

c) Projects Committee

The Minutes of the Projects Committee meeting held on 08 September 2026 were received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

- i. Regarding minute **759** (Permanent Flagpole in Northwood Park), after discussions it was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council approves a final budget of £3k for the installation.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

d) Events Working Group

An update from the Events Working Group meeting held on 30 September 2026 was received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That the Christmas Lights Switch on be held on Saturday 28th November between 4pm and 5pm and that the Cowes Dickensian Parade be held on Saturday 5th December between 12pm and 5pm.

It was noted that the late-night shopping evening will be held on Thursday 03 December 2026.

e) IWALC Executive

The draft Minutes of the IWALC Executive meeting held on the 26 July 2026 were received and noted.

f) IWALC Treasurers Report

The IWALC Treasurers report of 18 September 2026 was received and noted.

g) IWBRUG

The Minutes of the IWBRUG meeting on 19 September 2026 were received and noted.

h) IWC Public Realm and Coastal Group

The Minutes of the IWC Public Realm and Coastal meeting held for September 2026 were not received.

i) Experience Cowes

The Minutes of the Experience Cowes meeting held on 11 September 2026 and the Experience Cowes Changes to Articles and the Experience Cowes Social report for August 2026 were received and noted.

Councillor Walters asked who the Chairman now was and whether the Town Council has contributed to Experience Cowes. It was confirmed that Peter Bull was Chairman and that the Town Council had through agreed resolution contributed £15,000 in this financial year. It was confirmed that BAE systems are the headline sponsors.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

j) **Supporters of Cowes Library**

The Minutes of the SOCL meeting held on 22 August 2026 were received and noted.

9450 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLORS

a) **Mayor's Report**

A written report was received and noted from the Mayor. He confirmed that he had met with Victoria Preston regarding the proposed Maritime Hub and that their committee would like a letter of support from the Town Council. A copy of their vision booklet is available to be viewed in the Council office and an electronic copy can be made available if required.

b) **Local Area Transport Plan Proposals**

A written report was received and noted from Councillor Nicholson.

c) **Connecting Cowes Report**

A written report was received and noted from Councillor Nicholson. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That agenda items 8b and 8c were discussed together and that it was agreed the Place Plan should be refreshed and brought in line with current standards before being re-presented to the Council after which the LATPP will be considered alongside schools, police, IW Council and any other relevant agencies.

d) **Councillor Resignations Follow Up**

A written report was received and noted from Councillor Barney. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk should send an anonymous, voluntary survey to all current and recently resigned Councillors and from which recommendations can be made to the Council regarding future strategy.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

e) Northwood House Meeting Update

A verbal report was received and noted from Councillor Barney. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

- That there should be a monthly meeting held between Northwood House Trustees and the Council to improve communication and to move forward positively. It will be held the week before Town Council meetings for a report to be provided to the Chamber.
- That the existing Northwood House Working Group be disbanded.

f) Cowes Traders Meeting

A written report was received and noted from Councillor Reen. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That Councillor Reen should join the Place Plan Working Group as feedback from the Traders Meeting will inform strategy.

9451 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE RFO

a) Cheque, Debit Card, Bank Transfer and Petty Cash Payments

The Responsible Financial Officer's cheque, debit card, bank transfers and petty cash report for September 2026 was received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That payments for September 2026 by cheque of £31,429.03 and debit card of £3,346.35 and petty cash of £58.97 were approved.

b) Mornington Road CCTV Proposal

The Mornington Road Public Conveniences CCTV proposal and costs were received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That the proposal hardware and installation one-off costs of £3,444.90 and associated yearly maintenance subscription costs were approved.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

c) Remembrance Sunday Commemorations

The Remembrance Sunday Commemorations financial assistance requests were received and noted. Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

That a donation payment of £200 for a wreath and a contribution of £200 (an increase of £100) towards the event programme costs and the cost of £432 for the event PA hire were approved.

9452 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN CLERK

a) Councillor Selection for Cowes South Ward

Following the resignation of Councillor Sanders on 08 September 2026, a written update on the resulting Cowes South Ward replacement Councillor selection process was received and noted from the Town Clerk and confirming that no signatures had been received requesting an election prior to the Town Council meeting and that if that remains the situation by midnight of the Town Council meeting, arrangements for the Council co-option process will be made. Following discussions, it was agreed:

ACTION

- **That Town Clerk starts the co-option process for the Cowes South Ward if there is not to be an IWC managed election.**

The Responsible Financial Officer left the meeting at 8.17pm.

b) Town Incidents

A written report on a recent Town Incident was received from the Town Clerk and noted.

Due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public were asked to leave the meeting for the following confidential items as the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

These Minutes are marked as Private and Confidential because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED

1. That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.
2. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
3. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
4. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
5. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
6. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
7. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**
8. **This item has been redacted as it is private and confidential.**

c) Town Office Activities and Achievements

A written report on the CTC Town Office achievements and operational projects for September 2026 was received from the Town Clerk and noted.

d) Public Realm Officer Activities

A report of the Public Realm Officer activities for September 2026 was not received.

e) Miscellaneous Publications and Correspondence

Miscellaneous Publications and Correspondence for September 2026 were received and noted.

9453 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

No items were received.

The proceedings terminated at 8.25pm.

CHAIR