

EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **East Cowes Town Council** held on **Thursday 20th June 2019 at 6.30 p.m.** at Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes to discuss the following matters set out in the agenda.

Present:

Mayor: Cllr Jane Rann

Councillors: Lloyd, Paler, Webster, Packham, Love, Hendry

Town Clerk: S Chilton

Also present: James Brewer (Savills), Graham Barnetson (Red Funnel), Peter Hayward (IHTC), Cllrs Gilpin and Bustin (Cowes TC) 9 members of the public

66.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Walker who was attending an IWALC meeting.

67.19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

2.1 Declarations of non-pecuniary interests were received from Cllr Love in Items as an IW Councillor, Member of East Cowes Community Partnership and East Cowes Business Association

2.2 No written requests for dispensations were received

68.19 EAST COWES HIGHWAY LAYOUTS

3.1 Peter Hayward, Island Highway & Transport Consultant gave information on the Ferry Rd, East Cowes and Medina Rd, West Cowes proposed footway and junction improvements. He highlighted the areas of danger to pedestrians when HGV's are turning and described the improvements to the pedestrianised area that was being constructed. These would include a bin, bench and ticket machine. He also said that there was enough area spare should the Town Council wish to add any enhancements.

He then explained the changes that would be made to the West Cowes side which would include a bigger pedestrian area and a safe waiting area. Vehicles waiting to load would be further back than at present. Construction is due to start on Monday 24th June. He apologised that there had been some confusion over consultation on the scheme with the Town Council. Details of the scheme are attached.

3.2 James Brewer (Savills) gave a presentation regarding the highway layout in relation to the Red Funnel scheme. Planning permission was granted in 2017 and a sec 106 agreement signed with the IW Council. Island Roads must approve the detailed design and Red Funnel are now nearing agreement with IR on the detailed design of the works. Suggestions were put forward for the inclusion of a cycle lane and good signage for vehicles exiting the ferry. JB explained that there would be signage around East Cowes for the new system and that there would be a signalised junction with traffic bearing right as they enter East Cowes. Councillors pointed out that the scheme could provide difficulties to pedestrians. JB said that the traffic lights would be controlled by pedestrians. Councillors said that they could foresee gridlock with the introduction of such traffic lights. JB said that the lights would be able to "talk" to each other to prevent this. Councillors were very upset that there had been no consultation with the Town Council and that it seemed that it was now too late for questions and suggestions they are simply being told this is what is going to happen.

A member of the public stated that the scheme does what has been asked in that it splits the ferry and town traffic. Questions were put about the parking spaces opposite the town hall and JB said that these spaces and most of the parking on Ferry Rd would remain. There could be a bus stop outside the Town Hall as the design does not preclude this.

Councillors asked when ferries were cancelled what plans were there to stop gridlock occurring. JB stated that signage would be placed well before vehicles got to the Town informing of cancellations and that the holding yard has greater capacity. He said that he was happy to come back to a future meeting as soon as Island Roads had approved the scheme and take comments back. The timetable for works was still to be approved. A proposal was put by Council for a public consultation meeting to be held which was seconded and agreed. JB explained that there were restrictions on when the works could take place and that would not be in the next 2 months and he would advise the best date for the meeting to go ahead. A further proposal was then put for the Town Council to meet

with Savills, Island Roads and Red Funnel to enable input prior to the final scheme approval. This was seconded and agreed. GB from Red Funnel apologised to the Council for the lack of consultation and that he would be happy to attend a meeting. Details of the presentation slides area attached.

Resolved: To arrange a meeting to include the Town Council, Island Roads, Red Funnel and Savills, followed by a public meeting for input on the scheme by the public.

69.19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application No: 19/00289/HOU, Location: 46 Old Rd, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO326AP, Proposed decking to replace existing patio. Councillors discussed the application and had no issues with it.

Resolved: No objections to the application

70.19 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2019 were agreed and signed

71.19 REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Councillors reviewed and returned their Registers of Interests

72.19 COUNCIL POLICIES

The Council considered the revised Code of Conduct, which now included Clause 12, referring to a breach of the Code and sanctions stated in Standing Orders that could be applied. A proposal to adopt was made, this was seconded and was agreed.

Councillors said that the Member/Officer protocol set out what should be expected. A proposal was made to adopt, which was seconded and agreed.

Revised Standing Orders were considered, and a proposal was put forward that a Councillor who had been Mayor could not be re-elected to that position for a period of two years rather than four years, this was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To adopt the revised Code of Conduct, the Member/Officer Protocol and revised Standing Orders with the amendment to Standing Order 5J to read two years.

73.19 CROSSWAYS DEVELOPMENT

Councillors were advised that the Clerk was still awaiting a date from Whippingham Council and so no date could be set at present for a joint meeting with Whippingham Parish Council about the Crossways Development.

Councillors asked that a date be pursued in time for the next Facilities, Projects & Events Committee.

Resolved: To contact the Whippingham Clerk regarding a date

74.19 RECISSION OF RESOLUTION AND MOTION FOR AWARD OF GRANT

9.1 The Council considered rescinding the resolution FO135/19 – “To award a grant of £700 on condition that the name “Wight Trash” is not used in any publicity for the event”, passed at the meeting held on the 3rd June 2019. A proposal was made to rescind the resolution, this was seconded and agreed.

9.2 The Council considered a motion “That the Council award a grant of £700 to John Cattle’s Skate Club, for the provision of 5 x 2-hour School Holiday Skateboard sessions over a 5-week period during the summer holiday break for the children of East Cowes. The grant to include all equipment and a Coaching Assistant present at all sessions”. An amendment to the proposal was made that the company be requested to report back on the take-up of the sessions. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: That the Council award a grant of £700 to John Cattle’s Skate Club, for the provision of 5 x 2-hour School Holiday Skateboard sessions over a 5-week period during the summer holiday break for the children of East Cowes. The grant to include all equipment and a Coaching Assistant present at all sessions. The company to provide information on the take-up of the sessions.

75.19 ARTS & CULTURE IN EAST COWES

The Council considered the formation of a working group for the development of an Arts & Culture event/s in East Cowes and it was pointed out that the East Cowes Community Partnership was already in place for this purpose. There was further discussion on what the event was intended to achieve, and it became clear that further

discussion was required. It was proposed that this item be deferred and brought back to a meeting of the Facilities, Events & Projects Committee. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To defer this item to a meeting of the Facilities, Projects & Events Committee.

76.19 FINANCES

11.1 Councillors considered the payments as presented and queried payments to a local computer company. It was explained that they had been called in to deal with an emergency. It was suggested to number items in future. It was proposed and seconded to agree the payment list as presented. This was agreed.

Resolved: To agree the payments and to number the payment list in future

11.2 To ratify payments made by Direct Debit and BACS

Resolved: To agree that ratified payments

77.19 REPORTS

12.1 The Clerk read out thankyou letters from organisations that had received grants from the council.

12.2 The Mayors Report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached.

12.3 IW Councillor Report

Cllr Love reported on a letter received from the Hovercraft Museum setting out the terms of loan for the propeller. It was agreed that this should be checked out by a solicitor.

Resolved: To forward the letter to a solicitor for comment.

Cllr Love said that he had asked about money from the IWC for East Cowes landslip and had been told there was none available. He explained about the local resurfacing programme that was due to begin. He stated that he would be attending the SLEP meeting on the 26th June with the Floating Bridge Stakeholders group. He advised the Council that there were plans for another housing development in addition to Crossways in Millfield Rd. And that discussions were under way. Cllr Love thanked everyone who had been involved in the bi-centennial events.

12.4 Town Councillor's Reports

Cllr Lloyd gave the Clerk further information on the Bells Landing recreational area. This would be sent to the IW Council legal officer.

Cllr Webster requesting an item for inclusion on the next agenda to consider a stitching group, to include comfort muffs, to be held at the Town Hall.

Cllr Rann handed a book on the Romanov's, that she had been presented with at the Civic Reception, to the Clerk for display and anyone wishing to see it.

78.19 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Mayor moved that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that it is in the public interest that the press and public are excluded. (1960 Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act s1 (2)). Public duly left the meeting.

Contractual matters were discussed.

Cllr Webster gave apologies for the next F,P& E meeting as she would be on holiday

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.