



EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6RU
Tel: (01983) 299082 Email: clerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk

Minutes of the **Facilities, Projects and Events Committee** held on **Monday 1st July 2019 at 10.00 a.m.** in the Town Hall, East Cowes to discuss the following matters set out in the agenda.

Present: Cllr Rann (Chair), Cllrs Paler, Packham, Walker, Lloyd, Love
S Chilton (Town Clerk), C Gale (Assistant Town Clerk), 2 members of the public present

Public Forum

No issues were raised during the public forum

FO137/19 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hendry who had work commitments and Cllr Webster who was on holiday.

FO138/19 Declarations of Interest

2.1 Cllr Love declared non-pecuniary interests as a member of East Cowes Business Assoc, East Cowes Community Partnership, and ward councillor for IWC. Cllr Paler declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Educational Business Partnership, Royal Agricultural Society, Isle of Wight Society and ECCP.

2.2 No written requests for dispensations were received

FO139/19 Minutes

Mayor moved a resolution to approve the minutes which were agreed.

Resolved: Minutes were approved and signed

FO140/19 Floating Bridge

4.1 The Council noted a statistical update from Mark Downer, IWC Floating Bridge Manager. Comments were made on the ongoing unreliability of the vessel. Cllr Love reported that he had attended the recent SLEP meeting where statistical data had been presented showing the bridge to be 99.4% reliable. The meeting had also been attended by the Stakeholders Group who gave a presentation. Cllr Love stated that he felt the IW Council were in denial believing the issues could be resolved. He challenged the data and assured the council that he would be continuing to pursue this matter. Cllr Paler stated he would raise this at the Cowes Harbour Commission meeting. Cllr Rann informed the council that she had attended the User Group meeting and they were still toying with ideas regarding the user cards. Concerns were raised about the numbers of staff on the bridge sometimes totalling 5. Cllr Rann also raised the issue of St Mary's Roundabout works due to start in September and the backup plans the Floating Bridge had planned to ensure a continuous service to avoid gridlock occurring. Cllr Lloyd stated that he had compared photographs of the old and new vessel with the prow down and the new one was clearly wider. Cllr Love said he would circulate a copy of his presentation to all councillors. A local resident raised concerns that traffic was going the wrong way up York Avenue. Cllr Love would take this issue forward with Island Roads re installing one-way signage. Councillors were still unhappy at the lack of consultation in respect of both the Red Funnel scheme and the IW Council pedestrian improvement scheme and proposed a letter be sent to both organisations. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Red Funnel and Peter Hayward expressing the council's disappointment at the lack of consultation.

4.2 The Council considered options of enhancements to the Floating Bridge improved pedestrian area to be constructed. Several suggestions were made including improved signage to the shops, high level planters and anything with a nautical theme. Cllr Rann proposed councillors make a site visit to get a better idea of the layout and what would be most suitable. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: Councillors to make a site visit to the improved pedestrianised area

FO141/19 CCTV

The Clerk gave the Council an update on CCTV installation. An initial site visit had been made by an engineer to gauge sight lines and communications. A further visit was being arranged with the Facilities Officer and the company representative to ascertain the plant that the Council would be installing prior to connection.

FO142/19 Town Map Update

The Clerk distributed a draft of the town map for information and Councillors made comments including which buildings were now demolished under the Red Funnel development. Questions were asked whether the map would be updated annually or not as there were so many changes occurring. Or should the council wait for developments to be finished before issuing a map. Cllr Walker said the map was needed even if amendments were made later the council should go ahead with a temporary one. Cllr Lloyd stated that the 1-way systems should be marked, and car parks emphasised. He was pleased to see that the lifeboat station was on it. It was agreed that the shopping centre and playparks be highlighted. Cllr Love questioned the cost of amending and reprinting. The Clerk stated that this information would be brought back to a future meeting. It was proposed and seconded that the map should go ahead, albeit on a temporary basis and should also appear on the website.

Resolved: To go ahead with the map and bring financial information on redrafting/reprinting to a future meeting.

FO143/19 Website

The Clerk reported that all information required by the website developer had been supplied and that they were now waiting for him to update them.

FO144/19 Council Meetings

8.1 The Council considered the continued use of Queensgate Primary School for Full Council Meetings. It was proposed and seconded that the September meeting should be held there to honour the agreed resolution and then meetings should revert to the Town Hall. This was seconded and agreed. Cllr Love suggested that the Town Council should consider live streaming of meetings should be considered as an agenda item at a future meeting.

Resolved: To hold the September Full Council meeting at Queensgate Primary School and then to revert to the Town Hall for future meetings.

8.2 The Council discussed the current frequency and timing of the Facilities, Projects and Events Committee and Cllr Paler proposed that they should be bi-monthly and held in the mornings. Cllr Love said that he felt mornings inhibited attendance by the public and that the meetings should be held in the evenings. He also felt that the decision on the frequency depended on the outcome of item 12. Some discussion took place on this and it was proposed and seconded to deal with item 12 and defer item 8. This was agreed.

Resolved: To deal with item 12 and come back to item 8 for resolution

FO145/19 Arts & Culture Events in East Cowes

12.1 The Mayor read out the options for planning and managing the Arts & Culture Events in East Cowes

a) To use the East Cowes Community Partnership and the agreed ECTC representatives and to agree an approval of projects and funding mechanism.

b) To form a working group, to include 2 nominated councillors. Membership to include representation from groups/organisations likely to be involved. The group to request approval and funding of projects as/when required.

c) The Council to plan a calendar of events and delegate with appropriate funding to the appropriate group/organisation.

d) Any other proposals

Councillor Paler stated that the current arrangement (option a) had proved successful in the past. Cllr Walker agreed and proposed that the Council should stick with a winning formula. This was seconded. Cllr Rann said that it should be made clear that this money should be used to pump prime projects and funding should be sought from elsewhere too. She said that other groups may wish to hold an event and that the process needed to be seen to be inclusive. The Chairman of the ECCP stated that all meetings were open to the public and that wherever possible they would like to involve staff of the Council. Cllr Lloyd said that when he was an ECTC rep on the ECCP a regular report was a standing item. How events were agreed and funded was further discussed and it was agreed that a list of potential projects, which the ECCP required funding for, together with all anticipated project costs and any potential match funding be put before Council for consideration and approval. Following successful implementation of each project the Council should receive a financial report setting out evidence of spend against their project funding grant. Nominated Councillors would provide regular updates on projects at each meeting of the Facilities, Projects and Events Committee, and any publicity for the Council funded events should include the Town Council. Cllr Rann read out the proposal which was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: 1. To use the East Cowes Community Partnership and the agreed ECTC representatives as the lead group for the Arts and Culture events in East Cowes.

2. That a list of potential projects, which the ECCP required funding for, together with all anticipated project costs and any potential match funding be put before Council for consideration and approval. Following successful implementation of each project the Council should receive a financial report setting out evidence of spend against their project funding grant. Nominated Councillors to provide regular updates on projects to F, P&E Committee. Any publicity for Council funded events must include the Town Council.

FO146/19 Council Meetings

8.2 Cllr Love proposed that meetings of the Facilities, Events and Project Committee be changed to bi-monthly beginning September and should be held in the evening. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To hold the meeting of the Facilities, Projects and Events Committee on a bi-monthly basis beginning in September and that they should start at 7 p.m.

FO147/19 Amy White Theatre

9.1 The Council considered the draft grant agreement with the Amy White Theatre which formalised the current arrangement, to award an annual grant on a declining basis to enable the group to become self-sufficient.

9.2 The agreement was proposed, seconded and agreed

Resolved: To adopt the agreement

FO148/19 Grant Applications

10.1 The Council considered a grant application for £600 from the Community Spirited Café and queried whether it was a Community Interest Company or a private business. Councillors also discussed other groups that provide a similar service but are unable to apply for a grant because they are religious groups. Councillors asked for further clarification on the status this group and to defer this to Full Council. Councillors requested that the question of grant funding to religious organisations also be clarified. This was seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To request further information from the applicant and bring to Full Council and to investigate the legal position of grants to religious bodies.

10.2 The Council considered a grant application for £100 from Hampshire and IW Victim Support. The application was carefully considered and had full support from all councillors. It was proposed, seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To award a grant of £100 to Victim Support

FO149/19 Town Hall Redecoration

The Council considered an appropriate colour scheme for the redecoration of the main hall and decided that it should be a combination of white with light and dark grey accenting to appropriate features of walls and ceilings.

Councillors also felt that any other “tidying up” around the walls and ceilings should be done at this time, including any electrical upgrading. Councillors proposed, seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To decorate the hall in white with light and dark grey accenting. To “tidy up” electrical and other areas of the walls at the same time.

FO150/19 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

A motion 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)), was duly moved, seconded and agreed.

Resolved: To exclude the press and public for the next item

Contractual Matters

The Council considered two contractual quotes and awarded contracts based on the most economically advantageous quotes.

Meeting Closed at 12 noon.