



EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6RU
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Minutes of the **Facilities, Projects and Events Committee** held remotely by Zoom on **Thursday 4th March** to discuss the following matters set out in the agenda.

Present: Cllr Rann (Chair), Cllrs Walker, Love, Webster, Hendry, Lloyd, Packham, Palin S Chilton (Clerk), C Gale (Assistant Town Clerk), A Thomas (Facilities Officer), Martha James (Plan Research Ltd)

Also present 4 members of the public.

Public Forum

- A member of the public thanked the Facilities Officer for the report on bathing water testing.
- A member of the public asked for an update on when the Esplanade signage for dogs on leads will be ready. The IWC is dealing with this and they will be put up as soon as they are ready.

FO14/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Hendry who was attending an IWC meeting.

FO15/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Cllr Love declared non-pecuniary interests as a member of East Cowes Business Assoc, East Cowes Community Partnership and as Ward Councillor for IWC. Cllr Palin declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Floating Bridge Stakeholders and Engineers Group.

2.2 No written requests for dispensations were received.

FO16/21 COVID VACCINATION UPDATE

Michael Paler reported that 95% of the over 65s in East cowes have now been vaccinated. The Westridge site begins delivering the second vaccine from next week.

FO17/21 MINUTES

The Mayor moved a resolution to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2021 which were agreed.

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting on 14th January were approved and signed.

FO18/21 BROWNFIELD SITES

The Council welcomed Martha James. Martha explained the criteria for brownfield sites to be put forward for entry on the IWC register. The Council discussed possible sites in the town. The Albany Factory site was identified.

Resolved: It was agreed that Martha James will complete the form on behalf of the council by the 19th March deadline putting forward the Albany Factory site.

FO19/21 SEA WATER SAMPLING

6.1 The Facilities Officer presented his findings on how sea water sampling is conducted. Further information is awaited about the logistics and cost.

6.2 **Resolved:** To defer the matter of sea water sampling until further information is available.

FO20/21 WATER POINT SCHEME

The Assistant Clerk presented information about the Waterpoint Scheme. There is a short deadline for applying for the grant which would only cover part of the purchase cost of a unit. The location, permission, full cost and technical requirements for installation are yet to be ascertained. It was noted that there is an existing drinking water tap outside the Esplanade toilets and the Shoreside Café may be amenable to joining the Refill scheme.

Resolved: To defer the matter of waterpoints to when the overall plans for the seafront are clearer.

FO21/21 SPEEDWATCH

8.1 & 8.2 The Clerk advised that Cllr Hendry had reported only York Avenue has been identified so far as a possible location for the Speedwatch project and the police will be resuming operation of their mobile camera here anyway. It is currently under consideration whether the Saunders Way link road fits the criteria. The Council will consider this further when more information is available.

FO22/21 FLOWER BOAT

Cllr Hendry joined the meeting. The Facilities Officer explained the boat would be sited on a turf mound. A map was presented showing the suggested location on the landward side of the Esplanade in front of the first few coastguard cottages. An alternative site behind the flagpole at the base of Cambridge Road was put forward.

Resolved: To site the flower boat on the green at the base of Cambridge Road behind the flagpole.

FO23/21 SEAFRONT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

10.1 The Clerk presented a report on the East Cowes Seafront Improvement. This took account of ideas that had come forward during the 2019 Public Consultation as well as ideas that had gained general support at a meeting attended by Town Councillors, Chris Ashman (IWC Director of Regeneration), Sharon Lake (East Cowes regeneration Group) and Daniel James (Project Officer for the Town Plan) on 10th February. The Council considered the provision of junior outdoor gym equipment for the Esplanade play area, signage, a replacement shelter to match the other one installed most recently, picnic benches and a boules pitch. Further information and costings are needed for the shelter and boules pitch.

10.2 **Resolved:** To purchase 10 brown picnic benches from British Recycled Plastics and to install junior gym equipment for the Esplanade play area.

FO24/21 RURAL VERGES

11.1 The Clerk presented a spreadsheet of charges for the cost of cutting of A2 grass areas and rural verge cutting for the coming year. Last year the Town Council paid for 1 additional cut for rural verges (bringing the annual total to 3) and 4 additional cuts to A2 verges (bringing the annual total to 9).

11.2 **Resolved:** To agree to 1 additional cut for rural verges and 4 additional cuts to class A2 verges.

FO25/21 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.

Legal matters were considered.

Meeting Closed at 7.32pm

Signed

Dated