



East Cowes Town Council

Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6R
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Minutes of a meeting of **East Cowes Town Council** held at East Cowes Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes
Thursday 17th February 2022 at 6pm

Present

Chair: Cllr Reardon (Mayor)

Councillors: Packham, Lake, Palin, Hendry, Love

Clerk: S Chilton, **Assistant Clerk:** C Gale

Also present: 7 members of the public

Public Forum

- A member of the public asked what the cost of holding an election is and whether the Town Council has to pay for this. The Clerk responded that if more than one candidate comes forward the cost to the Town Council would be £1800-2000. An additional £1400 would be charged for poll cards but this has not been requested. A sum is set aside in the budget every year in case this arises.
- A member of the public asked if any provision has been made for testing the flood defence barriers for East Cowes. The Assistant Clerk explained that recent correspondence with the Environment Agency had confirmed that to date no trigger event had occurred. The barriers had failed elsewhere in the country and would not be deployed until further testing was carried out. Island Roads operatives have had training for deploying the barriers. The Town Council will be meeting soon with the relevant authorities.

Meeting opened at 6.10 p.m.

16/22 CLASSIC BOAT MUSEUM – Mark A T McNeill and Victoria Preston

The Mayor welcomed Mark McNeill and Victoria Preston from the Classic Boat museum who delivered a presentation. There has been a gallery in East Cowes for 17 years and a museum for 26 years. As the collection grew some boats were moved from the Albany Building to Cowes in 2015/16. The team at the museum would like to be located on a single site and began working on their vision for a Maritime Museum to serve the island in 2018 but this was halted by the pandemic. They want to preserve artefacts, provide facilities for youth education and training, and involve the community. A short film of what has been achieved in Newbiggin, Northumberland was shown. Recent improvements at the Classic Boat Museum include a dinghy simulator which can be booked for sessions. A grant is being sought to carry out a Jubilee project. UKSA, scouting organisations and Community Spirited are amongst the local organisations that want to be involved. The museum is also working with the Heritage Centre on an app to show local industrial and social history.

17/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Councillor Webster who was unwell.

18/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

3.1 Cllr Hendry declared a non-pecuniary interest as IW Ward Councillor.

3.2 No written requests for dispensations were received.

19/22 MINUTES

The minutes of Full Council held on 20th January 2022 were approved and signed.

Resolved: To approve the minutes of 20th January.

20/22 DEVELOPMENT LAND OFF BEATRICE AVENUE – STREET NAME APPROVAL

The Council considered a letter from Island Roads containing road names put forward for the development land off Beatrice Avenue.

Resolved: To object to the names The Lane, The Avenue and The Drive due to them being non-descript but to support the name Kingston Farm Lane.

21/22 DONATION REQUESTS

6.1 The Council considered a request from the East Cowes Esplanade & Landslip Community Project for a donation of £250 towards a plaque commemorating the project. Cllr Lake abstained from voting.

6.2 The Council considered a donation of £1000 to kick start the East Cowes Community Market project.

6.3 **Resolved:** To agree a donation of £250 towards the Esplanade and Landslip project plaque and to defer the discussions on the community market to the Facilities Projects and Events Committee.

22/22 QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE

7.1 The Council considered increasing the amount agreed for the Jubilee tree from £250 to £690 to enable a larger tree to be purchased.

7.2 The Council considered a programme of events to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

7.3 The Council considered the plan for the Jubilee Garden at the junction of Well Road and York Avenue. Quotations are awaited for clearing and planting. Island Roads have no objection to the Town Council improving this area.

7.4 **Resolved:** To agree to increase the amount to purchase a jubilee tree to £690 and to defer consideration of the Jubilee programme to the Facilities Projects and Events Committee.

23/22 FINANCE

8.1 The council considered the payments made, including by Direct Debit and BACS, as presented for January 2022.

8.2 The Council noted and approved the bank reconciliation for January 2022.

Resolved: To approve and ratify the payments including by Direct Debit and BACS, to approve the bank reconciliation.

24/22 FLOATING BRIDGE

The Clerk read out an update from Alex Minns (IWC) which stated the scheduled dates for the MCA out of the water inspection and also the mediation dates have been confirmed for the 2/3rd of March as part of the legal claim against the designers and boatbuilders.

25/22 POLICY REVIEW

10.1 The council reviewed the following GDPR policies and forms: CCTV Policy, Disposal of Documents Policy, Information Data Protection Policy, Publication Scheme, Removable Media Policy, Retention of Documents Policy, Transparency Code Compliance Policy, Email contact privacy notice, Consent to hold contact information, Privacy notice. The Clerk stated that there have been no substantial changes.

10.2 **Resolved:** To approve all the policies and forms as presented.

26/22 REPORTS

11.1 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Richard Tyldsley from Southern Vectis regarding the historical removal of the bus stop from outside the Town Hall. The Town Council would like this to be reinstated and the decision to remove it to be reviewed. An insurance claim has been made to replace the bench set fire to by the skate park. The Great British Spring Clean is to take place during March and April. Cllr Palin volunteered to lead this for the council. The Community Hub planning variation application has been submitted. Despite the alterations to the design the project will still be kept within the budget. The first fix of electrics and plumbing has taken place. There has been very positive feedback following the first community cinema evening on 12th February. The Netflix bench has been installed in Victoria Grove. The Lifeboat Inn has also donated a picnic bench to the Town Council. The Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) consultation has already received 376 responses and face to face consultation sessions will be held at the Town Hall on 24th and 25th February.

Councillor Love joined the meeting.

11.2 Mayor's report

The Clerk read out the Mayor's report.

11.3 IW Ward Councillors reports

There were no reports from the Ward Councillors.

11.4 Town Councillors reports

Cllr Lake reported that there will soon be dates for volunteers who have offered to help with the Landslip project and GKN may also be providing apprentices to assist.

27/22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve 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)).

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed:

Dated: