



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 on **Thursday 1st September 2022** in the Town Hall, East Cowes to discuss the following matters set out in the agenda.

Present: Cllr Reardon (Chair), Cllrs Packham, Palin, Lake, Love, Walker
S Chilton (Clerk)

Public Forum – no members of the public were present. The Clerk read out a notice regarding the community autumn beach clean on Sunday 23rd October at 3 p.m. Esplanade carpark.

FO37/22 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Webster who was unwell and Cllr Hendry who was attending an IWC meeting.

FO38/22 Declarations of Interest

2.1 Cllr Packham declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 as a past employee he gets free tickets on the railway.

2.2 No written requests for dispensations were received.

FO39/22 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 7th July 2022 were agreed and signed.

Resolved: To agree the minutes of 7th July.

FO40/22 Sustainable Green Transport

The Council noted the report from Cllrs Palin and Lake and discussed the potential of staff using electric bikes in conjunction with council business to promote a greener mode of transport. Cllr Palin said that grants were available to help with the cost which is approximately £12,500 per vehicle. Cllr Love said that insurance and staff willingness to use them would need to be determined. It was felt that recharging and storage could be accommodated. It may also be possible to allow local businesses to hire them. Cllr Lake suggested exploring sponsorship and whether they could be purchased 2nd hand. Cllr Palin agreed to investigate grants and the Clerk would test the idea with staff and report back.

Resolved: To explore further and report back to a future meeting

FO41/22 Wet Wheels Foundation Donation

The council discussed a donation for the Wet Wheels Foundation in lieu of entry fees to the Jubilee Celebration. Councillors felt that this was a worthy cause, and that information should be provided regarding possible future grants.

Resolved: To make a £500 donation to the Wet Wheels Foundation and to provide information about the Council's grant scheme

FO42/22 Land Church Path

The council considered a condition and maintenance report from the IWC Tree Officer and advice on chancel repair liability received from the council's solicitor in connection with the adjacent church foundations. The tree report suggested an initial figure of £10,000 would need to be spent plus ongoing maintenance costs. Following local information regarding the poor condition of the foundations of the local church, legal advice outlined that the land could be subject to chancel repair liability, whereby the church could ask local landowners to contribute toward cost. This could prove to be quite substantial. Cllr Reardon stated that, in view of the report and the legal advice she did not feel it would be right for the council to take this on. Councillors agreed that ongoing costs to the council could be considerable and that there could be more demanding priorities on the council's budget. was
Resolved: To reject Barratts offer to take over the land.

FO43/22 Yarborough Rd

The council considered whether to take on an attachment licence from Island Roads for the notice board erected by the Heritage Centre in the flower bed on the corner of Yarborough Rd.

Resolved: To agree to enter an attachment licence and to confirm that the Heritage Centre will maintain the notice board.

FO44/22 Banners

The council discussed Cllr Palin's idea to purchase some sponsorship banners which could be used at events the council had funded/partly funded.

Resolved: To purchase two small and 1 large sponsorship banners

FO45/22 Southwest Railway Improvement Grant

The council considered whether the SW Railway Improvement grant might be appropriate for various future council projects including the redevelopment of the skatepark, Bells Landing and the landslip. Discussion centred on whether a feasibility study for the landslip, redevelopment of the skatepark and improvement of Bells Landing would meet the criteria. It was suggested that further advice be sought from SW Railways and information be brought back to council.

Resolved: To seek information from SW Railways re the three projects outlined.

FO46/22 IW Day

The Mayor discussed whether the council wanted to hold any events to support IW Day in conjunction with the next indoor market on the 17th.

Resolved: To place bunting around the hall but not to hold any special IW Day events

FO47/22 East Cowes Indoor Market

The Council discussed whether they should continue with the current arrangements with Market Days to administer the indoor market, or whether to take on management of the market locally. Councillors were generally disappointed with Market Days performance so far and stated that stall holders had remarked that they would not attend events arranged by Market Days in future. It was felt that previous marketing of the markets had been poor and that there had been too many clashes with other major island events. Interest had been shown by a local resident to undertake the arrangement of future markets. It was agreed that enquiries should be made to Market Days to confirm how many stallholders had signed up for the next three markets before deciding on future arrangements.

Resolved: The Clerk to make enquiries regarding the next three markets and report back to Full Council for a resolution on future arrangements.

FO48/22 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)).

Contractual and staffing matters were discussed.

Meeting Closed at 7.55pm

Signed:

Dated: