



## EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Facilities, Projects and Events Committee** held on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023** in The East Side Curve, York Avenue, East Cowes to discuss the following matters set out in the agenda.

Present: Cllr Reardon (Chair), Cllrs Lake, Webster, Priddle, Palin, Love  
Cllr Webster left prior to the meeting due to a medical emergency, Cllr Love joined at 18.45pm, Cllr Priddle left the meeting at 18.50pm  
S Chilton (Clerk) John Cattle, Wight Trash, 2 members of the public.

### Public Forum

- Questions from the public included litter in Clarence Rd outside GKN which appears to have been swept out of the factory. The Clerk to contact GKN and the local EHO.
- The Covid sign on the marina north gate needs to be removed, Clerk will action.
- Beach Clean Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm. Will be advertised on ECTC Facebook and website.

### FO37/23 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

- 1.1 Cllr Palin nominated Cllr Reardon for Chair, seconded by Cllr Priddle. Cllr Priddle nominated Cllr Palin for Deputy Chair, seconded by Cllr Lake. All agreed.
- 1.2 Cllr Reardon was duly elected as Chair, Cllr Palin was duly elected as Deputy Chair.

### FO38/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hendry, who had a IWC meeting, Cllr Packham, who had a medical appointment.

### FO39/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Cllr Reardon declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the East Cowes Business Association and East Cowes Community Partnership, Cllr Priddle declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the East Cowes Business Association
- 2.2 No written requests for dispensations were received.

### FO40/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed and signed.  
**Resolved:** To agree the minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### FO41/23 FACILITIES REPORT

The Council noted the Facilities Report. Cllr Palin agreed to attend the first league match of the Youth Football Team in Victoria Grove. There was some discussion about the quality of the sound system at the Onam event and that it kept cutting out. Cllr Priddle said he would discuss this with the Facilities Officer. Cllr Reardon stated that she was pleased that there had been no issues with the paddling pool, and that the paddling pool is currently working better on 2 skimmers rather than 4. The Clerk showed Councillors a bag full of detritus that children had placed in the skimmers. Cllr Reardon asked if the skimmers could be screwed closed to stop this happening. The Events Proforma was noted.

## FO42/23 SKATE PARK

6.1 John Cattle (JC), Wight Trash attended to give an update on the skatepark. He talked about a creative partnership that he hoped would enable the council to achieve its plans for a regenerated skatepark. Zoe Thompson would be sending through the details on the partnership which would be circulated to Councillors. There will be onsite visits with local builders, and it would be helpful if councillors could be in attendance. JC said he would find out how long it would take to build a new park. Some further discussion took place on the potential of reopening the old BMX track, situated on the cemetery extension land. This is owned by the IW Council and the Clerk advised that there were talks already in progress about if the Council could lease this area. JC stated that it would be a great addition to the skatepark if this could be reopened.

## FO43/23 BUDGET CONSULTATION

7.1 The council discussed the potential dates/times for the public consultation on next year's budget and a rota for councillors attending the sessions. The dates/times were agreed. Cllrs Reardon and Lake agreed to attend on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October between 9 -1, Cllr Palin agreed to attend Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October between 4 – 6pm and Cllr Reardon said she would also attend on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> between 5 -6pm. The Clerk will ask other councillors if they can attend on the vacant slots.

The draft questionnaire was discussed, and the following suggestions made, remove question 6 and add an option on question 7 for “no rise” together with the implications of that, and also to explain how much funding would be raised by increasing pro-rata.

**Resolved:** To agree the dates/times for the consultation and to agree the questionnaire with the additions/deletions discussed.

Cllr Love joined the meeting

Cllr Priddle left the meeting

## FO44/23 SEA EAGLE ART PROJECT

8.1 The request for funding the Sea Eagle Art Project had been negated as funding had now been identified through the artist. Councillors agreed that the siting of the mural was probably best at the Columbine Building but that was a matter for the IWC to agree as they owned the building.

## FO45/23 BELLS LANDING MAINTENANCE

9.1 The Council considered the request by the IW Council to fund the annual cost of cleaning the slipway following its resurfacing, totalling £1600.00. There was some discussion about public liability responsibility and if the slipway was safe; Cllr Love stated that once it had been resurfaced it would be safe and that, if agreed, this arrangement would be entered into in the same way as the Grounds Maintenance contract with the IWC. Councillors stated that on the proviso that the council see a copy of the IWC Public Liability insurance and that this would be guaranteed for the life of the resurfacing they would agree to fund.

**Resolved:** To agree to fund the annual cleaning costs of the slipway with the agreed proviso.

## FO46/23 D-DAY BEACON

10.1 The Council discussed the purchase of a replacement top for the Beacon for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day commemorations in June 2024 at a cost of £235.00

**Resolved:** To purchase a replacement top for the Beacon

## FO47/23 AMENITY LAND HIRE FEES

11.1 The Council considered adopting the charging schedule for Amenity Land Hire and suggested that for large events the suggested charge should be replaced with POA.

**Resolved:** To adopt the Amenity Land Hire Charge schedule with the agreed amendment

FO48/23 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 matters were discussed.

Meeting Closed at 7.45pm

Signed:

Dated: