



Yarmouth Isle of Wight Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at CHOYD Tuesday 7th November at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D McCleary (Mayor), G Head (Deputy Mayor), S Cowley, A Ingram, T Cowley, P Cronin, P Farrell, P Spink.

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), Jade Lennett (IWC Strategic Development Officer) and 17 members of the public

Jade Kennett, IWC Strategic Development Officer, explained the Section 77 consultation regarding Yarmouth School playing field which IWC is statutorily obliged to carry out. The following questions were tabled:

Q: Will this delay the school site sale process?

A: No, because this is a statutory requirement of the sale process.

Q: What comments should the public make, eg should it be emphasised that the proposed scout hall needs a recreational element?

A: Yes, this would be a relevant comment.

Q: Can relevant documentation be put up on the YTC website?

A: Yes, it will be forwarded for the Clerk to put up on the YTC website and noticeboards.

Q: How many scouts are currently using the existing hall?

A: 18 scouts, 16 cubs and 8 beavers. The proposed new site will enjoy better facilities and be much more inclusive.

Q: Why does a Section 77 need to be carried out on the playing fields - what other purposes could it be used for anyway?

A: The survey is a statutory requirement.

Mayor McCleary asked for a show of hands of those who wish the playing fields to be retained for educational purposes, and the result indicated universal agreement. Jade Kennett's report appears as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

108/2023 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Tim Adams (Harbour Commissioner) and Martyn Collinson.

109/2023 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) HARBOUR ISSUES

There was no report from the Harbour Commissioner

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST

The YTT Chairman tendered the following report by email:

1) The current Town Clerk (Sue Clark) is leaving to take up more work with one of her other clients.

2) After the usual process of advertising and interviews the Trustees have appointed Anne Dines as her replacement. The handover is taking place over the next two weeks.

3) The Town Hall windows are still scheduled for refurbishment 19th to 29th November weather permitting.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Spink presented the following report:

1. I have written to the IoW Council requesting that they monitor parking on Coastguard's Green. I will of course keep the TC updated re 'progress'.

2. I note that progress on the Yarmouth Neighbourhood Plan is to be discussed at tonight's meeting (item 116/23). The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (Royal Assent now granted) introduces 'neighbourhood priorities statements'. This is said to be a simpler (and presumably cheaper) way for parish and town councils to set out their preferences and priorities for their area. I am more than happy to research this further should the TC wish.

3. A number of residents have asked me what is happening re the planning application to renovate the pier and build 5 market value houses on land close to Fort Victoria. The statutory decision date expired in May 2022 and the extended decision date in Sept 23. In addition my request that this matter be heard by planning committee has yet to be decided. I had a meeting with the case officer recently and am in regular communication with her. I have made it clear to her that in my view this application should be determined as soon as possible.

4. As the TC is aware both FPC and YTC meet on the first Tuesday of the month as does the IoW Council's Corporate Scrutiny Committee, of which I am Vice Chair. It is often difficult, if not impossible, for me to fulfil my duty by attending all of these meetings. It would help me enormously if the YTC would consider moving its meetings to another Tuesday in the month, and I ask please that consideration is given to this.

Cllr Spink also recorded his relief that Yarmouth had escaped serious flooding in the recent storms. Sylvia Mence commented that this was the first time in her memory that Yarmouth had been at risk from rain rather than tide. Cllr S Cowley reported that the Cycleway had been closed due to tidal surge, and River Yar Boatyard had been flooded. Cllr Ingram reported that the bridge at Thorley Road had been flooded but no signs had been put out.

iv) LOCAL ISSUES

Mayor McCleary thanked Yarmouth Carnival Committee for an excellent fireworks display on 5/11.

Cllr Ingram reported that the speed signs at the eastern boundary of Thorley had been restored.

Cllr T Cowley reported that the removal of the culvert in Hill Place Lane had resulted in no flooding.

v) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public requested that Thorley sites be considered when discussing item 118/2023.

Another member of the public repeated his complaints about parking in Yarmouth, mainly in Pier Square, claiming that it was spoiling the town.

Concern was expressed about inadequate street cleansing in Yarmouth, causing unacceptable litter and weed growth throughout the town. Cllr T Cowley informed that this was the result of government-imposed austerity cuts at IWC. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the IWC Environmental Officer, and to request Island Roads to furnish the street cleansing rota for Yarmouth.

A member of the public asked if railings could be provided for the short flight of steps between the road and the Mount. Cllr Spink agreed to enquire at the IWC and the Clerk undertook to find a suitable local tradesman.

The Clerk was asked to bring to the attention of Island Roads the poor visibility for cars exiting Basketts Lane onto Tennyson Road.

Concern was once again expressed about the landslip along Bouldnor Road and Cllr Spink was asked to raise this issue with the Cabinet Member for transport.

110/2023 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Personal	Pecuniary
G Head	British Horse Society RSPB	National Trust Bowcombe Estate
A Ingram	Shalfleet PC	
D McCleary		The Piano Bar
S Cowley	Yarmouth Town Trust Shalfleet PC Wight Nature Fund CHOYD	Lee Farm Item 112/2023.1
T Cowley	Shalfleet PC Wight Nature Fund	Camp Wight Item 112/2023.1

111/2023 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

It was proposed by Cllr T Cowley, seconded by Deputy Mayor Head and unanimously agreed to take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the September monthly meeting held 3/10/23.

112/2023 FINANCE

Cllrs T Cowley and S Cowley withdrew from the meeting due to a pecuniary interest in item 112/2023.1.

112/2023.1 Payment of Accounts

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Head and agreed unanimously to approve payment of the following accounts for November:

BACS234068	Yarmouth Carnival Committee	Contribution to Corontation expenses	£600.00
BACS234069	Thomas Cowley	Remedial work Yarmouth Rec	£4,300.00
BACS234070	Brian Jacobs	Clerk's salary Oct 23	£901.77
BACS234071	Brighstone Landscaping	Grounds maintenance	£1,160.89
BACS234072	IWC	Renvironmental Officer	£296.00
BACS234073	WW Town & Parish Assoc	Subscription	£76.00
BACS234075	CHOYD	Room hire 2024	£135.00
DD	Everflow	Water public toilets	£114.05
DEB	Amazon	CHOYD print cartridges	£78.22
DEB	Hillbans	Mole control	£50.00
DEB	HMRC	Clerk's PAYE Oct	£276.51
DEB	Post Office	Office post	£15.60
DEB	Pay by Phone	Car park charges	£12.35
DEB	Microsoft	Office 365	£2.76
DEB	GiffGaff	Office phone	£6.00

Cllrs T Cowley and S Cowley rejoined the meeting.

112/2023.2 Bank Reconciliation

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Cllr Farrell and agreed unanimously to approve the financial statement for 31/10/23.

112/2023.3 2024/25 BUDGET

The first pass of the next Budget was considered. The following recommendations were made in respect of the issues highlighted by the Clerk:

- Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr T Cowley suggested a nominal provision of £5K for 2024/25.
- Yarmouth School site acquisition: Cllr S Cowley suggested provision of £3K for 2024/25.
- West Wight Planning Enforcement Officer: West Wight Town & Parish Councils Association had shown little enthusiasm at its November meeting. The Clerk was asked to contact IWC and obtain details of the time spent by enforcement staff in recent years on issues relating to Yarmouth and Thorley.
- 'Trim-trail' at the Rec: it was agreed to postpone this until after 2024/25. A suggestion was made that this could be funded by voluntary contributions from local sources.

13/2023 PLANNING ISSUES

No objections were raised to the following applications:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
23/01693/HOU	7 Heytesbury Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0QS	Demolition of single storey extension; proposed two storey rear extension with balcony at first floor level; alterations including porch overhang and cladding	3/11/23
23/01736/HOU	6 The Mount Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0RB	Proposed balcony at first floor level, pergola and alterations	10/11/23

The following was noted:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comments
23/01354/FUL	Big Cattle Shed East Thorley Manor Farm Thorley Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0SJ	Proposed replacement roof to south elevation roof plane of barn and proposed roof mounted solar panels	No objection

114/2023 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

The IWC proposals to fund a local Planning Enforcement Officer had already been discussed in item 112/2023 above.

115/2023 YARMOUTH SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET

Cllr S Cowley reported an apology received from IWC for delays in this process.

In response to a reiteration by Cllr Farrell of a request for more information from the School Site Steering group, Mayor McCleary suggested he listed his questions in writing for submission to the Group. In response to a question from Cllr S Cowley, Cllr Farrell did agree that he supported the YTC bid. In response to a suggestion by Cllr Spink that Cllr Farrell be allowed to attend a meeting of the Steering Group, Mayor McCleary ruled that this would be discussed by Councillors at the December meeting.

116/2023 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The following steering group members have been identified:

Sheila McCleary, Nigel Hawkes, June Ring, Cllr Peter Cronin, Cllr Thomas Cowley, Cllr Steve Cowley, Cllr Farrell.

Cllr S Cowley suggested that a further 3 members be appointed from local businesses. The Clerk will draw up suitable terms of reference and present them to the next YTC meeting. A date for the inaugural meeting of the steering group will then be set.

117/2023 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2024/25

The calendar of meetings was approved with the exception of moving the 5/11/24 meeting to Thorley Church

118/2023 HYP PROJECT PLAQUES

The Mayor reported that she had been in contact with Kevin Shae about extending the system of historic plaques throughout Yarmouth and Thorley. Standing Orders were suspended to allow for the following recommendations:

Yarmouth:

The George
Refuge Lane

Thorley:

The old church
Thorley Manor
Thorley port
Tide Mill

It was acknowledged that permission of the owners of these locations will need to be sought, as well as planning permission. The Clerk was asked to ascertain the costs of the latter, and to email Kevin Shaw for suggested designs and texts.

Sylvia Mence suggested that, based on her previous experience with the original plaques, a co-ordinator will be need, and Cllr Farrell agreed to do this in conjunction with Mayor McCleary. Deputy Mayor Head agreed to research Thorley old church.

119/2023 RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Cronin took Councillors through the minutes of the last Committee meeting. The Mayor thanked Cllr T Cowley for his work in re-seeding the football pitch.

Cllr Cowley retired from the meeting.

120/2023 COUNCILLOR TRAINING COURSE

There had been no progress on this as Cllr S Cowley had been on holiday.

121/2022 CLERK'S REPORT

121/2023.1 CLERK'S TIMESHEET QUARTER 2

The Clerk's timesheet was noted.

121/2023.2 YARMOUTH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

The Mayor began by commending the Carnival Committee on its excellent fireworks display on 5/11.

Councillors discussed YTC's relationship with the YCC, and Cllr Farrell suggested an informal meeting YCC after he had had spoken informally with Jamie Allen and Anne Pas-Kyle of YCC. Cllr Spink further suggested that future projects could be identified at this meeting together with likely costs. It was suggested restoring the YTC representative for YCC and perhaps Cllr Farrell would like to take up this post.

121/2023.3 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications:

No objections were raised to the following application:

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
23/01885/HOU	Mckinley Victoria Road Yarmouth Isle Of Wight PO41 0QW	Proposed internal reconfiguration; removal of existing conservatory & replacement with extension following same footprint; removal of roof to rear elevation and replacement w/ flat roof w/ parapet; replacement of existing windows 'like-for-like' to white UPVC	1/12/23

It was noted that following application had been granted:

Application No	Location	Proposal	YTC Comments
22/01776/RVC	Tapnell Farm Newport Road Freshwater Isle Of Wight PO41 0YJ	Variation of condition 2 on 20/01245/FUL to allow retention of small kitchen extension and larger bathroom facilities	No objections

122/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

123/2022 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Neighbourhood Plan steering group

Budget 2024/25
School Site Steering Group attendance
Historic plaques

124/2022 MEETING VENUES

The venue for the next meeting was confirmed: Town Hall 5/12/23.

Signed..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....

Appendix 1: ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

SECTION 77 OF THE SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK ACT 1998 (AS AMENDED)

Disposal or change of use of former school playing fields

Proposal:- Disposal of former school playing field

Application site:- Former Yarmouth CE Primary School
site, Mill Road,
Yarmouth, Isle of Wight P041 ORA

Following the relocation of Yarmouth CE Primary School to a new site the Isle of Wight Council is seeking to dispose of 0.65 hectares of land at the former Yarmouth CE Primary School site, Mill Road, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight P041 ORA

The Council does not believe that there are any viable alternative education uses for the former Yarmouth CE Primary School land nor do local Schools have a need for additional playing field provision. However, before continuing with the disposal, the Council wishes to consult the local community to ascertain their views regarding the proposed disposal.

Please note that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 and or the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your written comments will be available for any member of public to see on demand and an analysis of comments received will be forwarded to the Secretary of State as part of the Council's application for consent to the proposal.

A copy of this statement and a plan of the site can be obtained in writing from the undersigned or alternatively, this may be accessed on the Internet at [Schools and Learning \(iow.gov.uk\)](http://Schools and Learning (iow.gov.uk)). If you wish to comment on the proposed disposal, please email: SandLBusinessSupport@IOW.gov.uk or submit your comments in writing to the undersigned. All comments to be received by midday Friday 1st December 2023.

Jade Kennett
Strategic Development Officer, County Hall, High Street,
Newport, Isle of Wight, P030 IUD

20 October 2023