



The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Yarmouth Town Council held at Thorley Church Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D McCleary (Mayor), G Head (Deputy Mayor), P Cronin, A Draper, B Freshwater

IN ATTENDANCE: B Jacobs (Town Clerk), YTT Chair Martyn Collinson and 4 members of the public

36/2026 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Harbour Commissioner Tim Adams, Cllrs Peckham, Farrell and Spink

37/2026 PUBLIC FORUM:

i) YARMOUTH HARBOUR QUARTERLY REPORT

The Harbour Commissioner had asked to defer his report until next month.

ii) YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST QUARTERLY REPORT

The report from the YTT appears under Appendix 1 below.

iii) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no IW Councillor present to make a report. In response to a question from Cllr Freshwater asked if the Ward Councillor's attendance at local council meetings was obligatory, but was informed that it wasn't, though it was expected.

iv) COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

There were no Councillors reports.

v) LOCAL ISSUES

There was some discussion about a proposed shipping container at Yarmouth Sailing Club but as the notification did not appear on the agenda as presented it was agreed that Councillors would register their views by email after the meeting.

The Mayor read out an email from a Thorley resident complaining about the planters which CHOYD had placed around the rear approach to the hall in order to prevent damage to the grass from parked vehicles. This issue was considered but it was evident that Councillors and members of the public were satisfied with the planters.

Cllr Freshwater detailed a complaint he'd received about dog fouling on the Rec, in spite of a decline in this behaviour as a result of the CCTV installation. After much discussion it was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to ban dogs from the Rec and the Clerk was asked to arrange for the purchase of a public notice to this effect for each of the gates, together with a further notice explaining why this ban had been brought in. Cllrs Freshwater and Cronin agreed to mark incidents of dog fouling with spray paint.

Cllr Freshwater reported there had been no progress on the Scrape issue. The Clerk was asked to report this to the new Ward Councillor.

The Clerk was reminded to organise replacement street maps for the public display boards.

vi) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public.

38/2026 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no new interests to be recorded.

39/2026 MINUTES AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS

The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and the May monthly meeting held 5/5/26 were accepted subject to a minor amendment about Living Streets being asked to address the Future Priorities Working Group rather than the full Council.

40/2026 FINANCE

40/2026.1 Payment of Accounts

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, seconded by Cllr Draper to approve payment of the following accounts for June:

267019	P Cronin	Land Registry searches	£42.00
267020	HFC	Flags	£558.48
267021	CHOYD	Biosphere event	£84.00
267022	IGM	Ground maintenance Rec Apr	£485.00
267023	IGM	Ground maintenance Rec May	£582.00
267024	B Jacobs	Clerk's expenses 6 months	£291.20
267025	B Jacobs	Clerk's salary May	£1,032.28
267026	HRMC	Clerk's salary PAYE	£389.29
267027	YTT	Rec Ground lease	£180.00
267028	ICS	Toilets cleaning	£728.33

40/2026.2 Bank Reconciliation

The financial statement for 31/5/26 was noted.

40/2026.3 EXTERNAL AUDIT 2025/26

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, seconded by Cllr Draper to approve the following:

The Mayor to sign off the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and confirm there are no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP External auditors.

41/2026 PLANNING ISSUES

New applications:

26/00545/HOU: The Clerk to record Councillors' concerns that removal of the chimney would adversely affect the local street scene.

26/00614/RVC: Yarmouth Town Council objects on the grounds that this proposal doesn't meet the conditions of section 73, because those original conditions remain relevant and reasonable.

26/00649/FUL: It was agreed to liaise by email, since this application was omitted from the current agenda.

The following was noted:

Street Trading Applications

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Schedule 4

Application for: Street Trading Consent Street Trading Mobile Consent – Scarrots Lane Bakery FE19 WVY

42/2026 RECREATION GROUND

Committee Chairman Cllr Cronin reported that weekly inspections of the Play Area were continuing.

Cllr Cronin reported that repair of the benches in the Play Area had not yet begun, but the Clerk explained he had been in touch with West Wight Men in Sheds and it was under way.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for the notice by the Play Area gate to be renewed.

Cllr Cronin reported that he will be meeting with the RoSPA inspector when the safety inspection is carried out 3/6.

The new land drain continues to be delayed by parts awaited for the contractor's plant but should begin in 2-3 weeks, and Councillors were agreeable to the delay.

Cllr Cronin has agreed to meet a representative of IW College to discuss future use of the pitch for multiple sports.

Cllr Cronin had obtained documents from the Land Registry which referred to YTC's ownership of the land between the Rec and the Cycleway. He also produced a photograph that appeared to show fly tipping in this area from one of the houses in Heytesbury Road and the Clerk was asked to contact the householder about it [the rubbish was actually removed a day or two later without any intervention].

It was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by the Mayor and agreed unanimously to arrange for a closer on the north pedestrian gate.

43/2026 TREE WARDEN/WIGHT NATURE REPORT

Steve Cowley reminded that there would be a display at CHOYD on 4/7 to celebrate Biosphere Day, and thanked YTC for funding the hire of CHOYD. There will be a red squirrel stand and guided walks for adults and children.

He also reported that Wight Nature volunteers, including IW College students, had been clearing wood and building natural structures in Mill Copse.

Tribute was paid to local resident and naturalist Mike Adams who has just died and left Wight Nature all his nature diaries.

44/2026 SCHOOL SITE HOUSING AND SCOUTS & GUIDES RELOCATION

The was no reported progress on this issue as YTC is waiting for the Scouts & Guides to provide more information about what they require from YTC.

45/2026 FUTURE PRIORITIES

Cllr Freshwater reported that he had been in touch with Living Streets and hoped to have a meeting with them soon.

46/2026 CHANGE OF WEBSITE

It was decided that this could be removed from the website for the time being.

47/2026 GRANTS

It was proposed by Cllr Freshwater, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed unanimously to award West Wight Sports Centre £9637.

It was proposed by The Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to suspend Standing Orders and grant Yarmouth Carnival Committee £1500 towards the costs of staging 'Picnic on the Pier'.

48/2026 VANDALISM OF HEROES ORCHARD

It was pointed out by Jill Cowley that the trees in the Orchard which had not been vandalised were doing very well.

It was proposed by The Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and agreed unanimously to install CCTV in this area.

49/2026 LAND OUTSIDE CHOYD

Cllr Cronin produced Land Registry documents which shows that the land in question was owned by IWC and Southern Water. It was decided to remove this item from future agendas.

50/2026 CLERK'S REPORT

There was no Clerk's Report for June

51/2026 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received since the last meeting was noted:

21-May-26 IWC
22-Jun-26 Shalfleet PC

National Gallery expert says 'special' Isle of Wight is perfect place for art trail
Bouldnor Viewpoint – A Ward Priority That Needs Your Help

52/2026 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Heroes' Orchard
Scouts & Guides relocation
Solar Farm

53/2026 MEETING VENUES

CHOYD was confirmed as the venue for the June monthly meeting on 7/7/26 starting 18:30.

Signed..... (Town Mayor)

Date.....

Appendix 1: YARMOUTH TOWN TRUST INFORMATION UPDATE June 2nd, 2026

1) Town Hall

The snib on the lock leading to the upstairs of the Town Hall was accidentally left down in April requiring a locksmith to drill the centre out and install a new one. The other locks have been looked at to see if the same thing could happen. This has never occurred before to our knowledge.

The Annual Risk assessment was carried out on the 27th of April by Kevin Taylor & Denise Cronin. The 5-year PAT testing is scheduled for the 8th of June.

The first of the quarterly alarm test was carried out in April by Kevin Taylor, Denise Needham and Martyn Colinson. Full instructions are now complete for future testing.

A double electric socket has been installed downstairs for the use of people using and hiring the Town Hall.

The Trustees have thanked Colin for his hard work on beautifully restoring an old display cabinet, he has fitted lights and filled the cabinet with items of interest and it now sits proudly in the upstairs at the Hall.

2) The Common:

The new Scots pine trees have been and are being watered during dry spells and will continue to be until they are settled in and more mature. Our thanks to Colin for making a bowser water arrangement on a trolley that allows all ten to be done in one session.

The Trust continues to communicate with the IOW Council regarding closing the East end of the Common for repairs to the steps and for work to be carried out to the path going East towards Bouldnor (IOW Council land). The Council have sent an Agreement to the Trustees which is currently being reviewed by Eldridges at their expense.

3) Mill Terrace Cottages

Renovation of No 9 are now completed.

After much debate and consideration of all the options going forward the Trustees decided that the Cottages were not sustainable in the medium to long term and that, over time, it was in the best interests to move to properties that were more suitable to today's needs. The decision only affects No 9. No current tenant will be asked to move. Each cottage may only be sold as and when it becomes vacant.

Colin has advised that he has read a consultation document relating to further laws which will be coming into force within the next 3 years regarding EPC ratings which could cause potential issues for the cottages.

4) Graveyard Copse

Andrew Wallis is now undertaking the grass cutting and general garden maintenance on a regular basis. The gravel path needs weeding; it was agreed to spray weed killer.

New shrubs are to be planted; a soil testing kit will be bought to determine the type of soil in order to purchase the most suitable shrubs.

5) **The Recreation Ground**

The CCTV Cameras have been a success, greatly improving the dog fouling problem.

The issues with drainage on the East side is on-going and the Town Council can best report when work will start.

The football teams hoping to make use of the rec ground have all fallen through, it was agreed to explore other options that would attract families.

6) **St James' Day** is Saturday 25th July, arrangements to be made at the next meeting, the weekend has been left clear from any hiring at the Town Hall.

7) **Next Trustee Meeting:** The next Trust meeting is being held on July 23rd

Martyn

Collinson