The Yarmouth Isle of Wight Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE OF YARMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT CHOYD ON 30/9/26

Present: Cllr Peter Cronin, Martyn Collinson, Mark Holmes

In attendance: Brian Jacobs

1. **Apologies**
   Apologies were received from Sheila McCleary.

2. **Minutes of the meeting 22/7/26**
   The above minutes were agreed.

3. **Matters arising from the last minutes**
   All matters were dealt with below.

4. **Play Area**
   West Wight Menin Sheds have renovated several benches in the Rec, apart from the one on the south side of the Play Area which is in a very poor state. Cllr Cronin asked the Clerk to investigate the possibility of asking Cllr Freshwater's neighbour to carry out the work.
   The southern gate closer has not yet been ordered.
   The new bearing has been installed on the carousel and the drainage laid.
   It was decided to take no further action with regard to the rubber surface, until such time as RoSPA raises it as an issue, because of the huge price in replacing it.
   Cllr Cronin reported that the condition of the Board Rider had further deteriorated, but occasional use was still being made of it. Mark had not yet found out its scrap value.
   Cllr Cronin reported on the unevenness of the ground in the play area and suggested rolling it when rain had softened up the ground sufficiently.

Mark referred to grants for sports developments available from Tesco and he has been in contact with them and will pursue this line of funding and Cllr Cronin will enlist the help of Cllr Draper with regard to completing paperwork.

5. **Football Team**

Cllr Cronin reported that he had had no further contact with IW College but would pursue this issue.

Cllr Cronin reported that IWC had increased its charges for pitch usage, and advised that Government legislation on village greens precluded charges for local residents, though any donations can be accepted. Charging non-residents for use of a village green is permitted.

6. **Ball Nets**

Ball nets have now started to be installed, and it was proving to be an arduous task doing it manually. The Clerk was asked to contact Ross Davidson, who laid the land drain, or Luke Gustar, if either had the equipment to dig the holes and fill them with cement.

7. **Land drain**

The land drain has now been completed and this item can be removed from future agendas.

8. **Dog Ban**

Cllr Cronin has been reviewing the Government rules and regulations covering village and town greens and concluded that recreational pursuits like dog walking are legally permitted in such areas, so the YTC ban on dogs is not enforceable.

He also referred to a suggestion put forward by a Yarmouth Councillor to make part of the Rec into a wild flower meadow, which has been considered before but abandoned due to the high cost of maintenance.

There was some discussion about an additional litter bin and notices reminding dog owners that poo bags can be deposited in such bins.

9. **Registration of land between Rec and Cycleway**

The land search documents had been passed to Cllr Spink who will advise on a way forward but there was no update on progress.

10. **Natural England Survey**

Natural England wishes to carry out a survey on the Common and Rec but is being handled by YTT as it concerns mainly the Common.

11. **Next meeting**

4/11/26 11am

12. **Any Other Business**

Cllr Cronin asked the Clerk to amend the details on the Yarmouth page of Pitchfinder.org.uk.

Cllr Cronin referred to the effects of the drought on the southern part of the Rec adjacent to the big macrocarpa trees.