

YARMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF YARMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT YARMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL, MILL ROAD, YARMOUTH ON TUESDAY 5 MAY 2009 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: Councillors S Dyer (Town Mayor), S Cowley, R Goodridge, D Kennett, S Mence and S Poston.

IN ATTENDANCE: R H Blezzard (Town Clerk)

W Burt CC

P Fellows and I Fletcher (West Wight Landscape Partnership (for Minute 112/09

APOLOGIES: Councillors R Corbett and A Hollist.

104/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors Dyer, Goodridge and Kennett declared a prejudicial interest in Minutes 126/09 and 127/09 by reason of being members of Yarmouth Town Trust and withdrew from the meeting whilst these items were being discussed. Councillor Mence took the chair for these items.

Councillor Mence declared a prejudicial interest in Minute 110/09 (Foresters' Hall Licensing Application) by reason of being occupant of a neighbouring property to the application site and withdrew from the meeting whilst it was discussed.

Councillor Poston declared a personal interest in Minute 112/09 by reason of being Chair of the West Wight Landscape Partnership Advisory Committee.

105/09 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Marigold Morphy drew attention to the problem of the roadworks at the Yarmouth Bridge which involve the construction of a crossing opposite the entrance to the Yarmouth Sailing Club which will prevent the movement of dinghies from the road into the club premises. The Isle of Wight Council Engineering Services Department had advised the club to submit a planning application to provide a new entrance but this was considered unreasonable. The Harbour Commission representative advised that the Harbour Commission was not responsible for the works and fully supported the club.

RESOLVED: That a strong letter be sent to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods (with copies to the Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways) supporting the position of the Yarmouth Sailing Club.

106/09 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2009 (Part 1) be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

107/09 POLICE MATTERS

In the absence of a Police representative a written report containing recent crime figures was before the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

108/09 FINANCE

Members had before them a schedule showing a cashbook balance of £27,332.79 and a schedule of accounts for payment.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and noted and the following accounts be authorised and paid:

Cheque No	Payee	Details	Amount
			£
858	Staples (UK) Ltd	Furniture and Consumables	485.86
859	Audit Commission	External Audit Fee 2008/9	155.25
860	N Chandler	Street Furniture Maintenance	453.04
861	Island Signs (IW) Ltd	Plaque for seat	<u>51.75</u>
			1145.90

109/09 YARMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Council welcomed the members of the Yarmouth Primary School Council to the meeting including Billy Green who has been selected by the Mayor to be “Mayor for a day.” The members of the School Council introduced themselves to the Council asked a number of interesting questions.

RESOLVED: That the Yarmouth School Council be thanked for their attendance.

110/09 PLANNING ISSUES

Planning Applications

Members considered one planning application.

RESOLVED: That Yarmouth Town Council has no objection to Planning Application P/00466/09 – TCP/29576 – Extension to decking with associated access steps, posts & railings; proposed under deck woodstore; replacement of bedroom windows with doors at South Bank, Tennyson Road, Yarmouth.

Planning Decisions

Members had before them details of a recent planning decision.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

Other Planning Issues

Members were advised that permission had been granted for tree works to be carried out at The Towers, High Street Yarmouth, and also that the Isle of Wight Council Planning Enforcement section was following up breaches of planning control at Newclose Farm, Thorley.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

111/09 LICENSING ISSUES

Application to Vary Premises Licence, Forresters' Hall, Yarmouth

Members had before them an application to vary the premises licence at Forresters' Hall, High Street, Yarmouth by extending the normal licensing hours from 11pm to 12 Midnight. A number of objections had been received one of which was read out. Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr J Mence to address the meeting and explain the objections of local residents. Standing Orders were reinstated.

RESOLVED: That the Council strongly objects to the application on the grounds that the extended hours would be detrimental to the amenity of local residents and would be likely to result in customers of other licenced premises in the town visiting Forresters' Hall to continuing drinking after the other licenced premises had closed.

Applications for Street Trading Consents, Yarmouth Old Gaffers' Festival 2009

Members had before them six applications for street trading consents in St James Square and Quay Street during the Old Gaffers' Festival on behalf of Brunomart French and Continental Markets from 29 to 31 May 2009.

RESOLVED: That Yarmouth Town Council has no objection to the applications.

112/09 WEST WIGHT LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

Peter Fellows and Irene Fletcher of the West Wight Landscape Partnership gave an update on progress. £1.7M has been awarded to the Partnership by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Four programmes have been approved and seventeen individual projects identified. The Council was being asked initially for support with two projects. These are "Local Heroes," through which £11K is available to each local council in the West Wight for a statue of an important figure in the community's history. Recommendations are requested by July this year for work to commence in the Autumn. The second one is "Village Network Maps" through which councils are being asked to identify new walking routes. There will also be a grant scheme opening in June for grants to preserve the local landscape and allow public participation. The project is now based at Avenue Road, Freshwater and has two full time and two part time staff.

RESOLVED: That Mr Fellows and Ms Fletcher be thanked for their report.

113/09 COMMUNITY PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Members had before them a report of the Yarmouth and Thorley Community Plan Steering Committee which was added to verbally by Councillor Mence in her capacity as Secretary of the Steering Committee. The adult questionnaire resulted in a 42% response and Mr Peter Branscombe is being contracted to help with the design of the Plan. The timetable is for the Council to approve the Plan on 8 September 2009 and it was suggested that a special meeting be held on 14 July 2009 to review the plan.

RESOLVED: That the report be approved and adopted and a special Council meeting be held on 14 July 2009 to review the plan.

114/09 ROADWORKS, YARMOUTH TOWN CENTRE AND BRIDGE

A discussion took place following the many complaints received, mainly from local traders about the disruption and loss of business arising from the bridge closure and the footway improvements in the town. A meeting had taken place between the Yarmouth Business Association and the Head of Engineering Services at the Isle of Wight Council when it had been agreed to delay the closure of Hill Lane until the Autumn and to provide free parking in Pier Square for two hours during the roadworks. In addition parking restrictions on the west side of the bridge have been suspended during the bridge closure. It was reported that a notice has been issued of works proposed to be carried out 10 Basketts Lane in 2010. Finally it was reported that the rebuilding of the Bridge Road public conveniences has been put on hold and may not proceed at all because the Isle of Wight Council is reviewing the existing provision in the town. The Head of Environment and Waste Service had offered to attend the next meeting to fully explain the new situation.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the Head of Environment and Waste Management, Isle of Wight Council be invited to attend the next meeting to explain the situation regarding the Bridge Road public conveniences.

115/09 MEMBER'S ITEM – DISTURBANCE OF BADGERS, THORLEY

This item was on the agenda at the request of Councillor Cowley. As it is the subject of an ongoing Police investigation it was not debated.

116/09 CORRESPONDENCE

Members had before them a list of correspondence.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

118/09 THORLEY ISSUES

Attention was drawn to the fact that the road at Thorley is still prone to flooding.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

119/09 YARMOUTH ISSUES

Attention was drawn to the closure of the Tourist Information Office over Easter. Concern was expressed with regard to the Old Gaffers' Festival that not only has the Isle of Wight Council withdrawn the £5K grant but also that it is charging the Gaffers £650 for the use of Cottage Green, another £200 for early entry on the Thursday and £75 per stall licence fee. Risk assessments have also to be prepared by all stallholders.

RESOLVED: That letters of complaint be sent to the Isle of Wight Council about the closure of the TIC over Easter and the charges being levied on the Old Gaffers' Festival.

120/09 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

W Burt CC reported that he will take up the issue of charges being levied on the Old Gaffers' Festival. He further reported that the Bridge work is ahead of schedule and that funding has been applied for the Bouldnor Road improvements.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and noted.

121/09 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk reported on the following matters:

- 1. Council Office** – The office arrangements were working well and the facility was being well used by the public
- 2. Allotments** – The Town Trust had advised that the land at the south side of the recreation ground was unsuitable for use as allotments.
- 3. Insurance** – The renewal notice had been received and the schedule would need to be amended in the light of the Council's new office arrangements.
- 4. Cycle Racks** – The Isle of Wight Council had cycle racks available and was asking for suggestions of sites in the town.
- 5. Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service** – A letter was read out from the Chief Fire Officer in response to the Council's letter of concern about the likely closure of Yarmouth Fire Station. The letter stated that it was likely that Yarmouth Fire Station will close and the appliance moved to Freshwater, this being the reason why the Fire Service is not recruiting personnel in the Yarmouth area. In addition it is intended to move away from retained to full time personnel with three full time stations at Newport, Sandown and Ryde.

RESOLVED: (a) That the report be received and noted;

(b) That the Isle of Wight Council be informed that additional cycle racks would not be welcomed in the Town Centre area but that the main Bridge Street car park may be a suitable site and;

(c) That a letter be sent to the Cabinet Member responsible for the Fire Service strongly objecting to the proposed closure of Yarmouth Fire Station.

122/09 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the following be agenda items at the next meeting: Baskets Lane Roadworks; Bridge Road Toilets.

123/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held at Thorley Parish Church on Tuesday 25 May 2009 at 6.30pm.

124/09 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

Signed..... (Town Mayor) Date.....01

