



EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6RU
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Minutes of the meeting of **East Cowes Town Council Meeting** held on 16th April 2026 at the Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes.

Present: Councillors: Reardon (Mayor), Pragnell, Warleigh-Lack, Brimble-Brennan

Clerk: S Chilton

Deputy Clerk: C Jones

11 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the public (AM) made a statement in respect of a statement made by an IW Councillor regarding a new floating bridge and the commitments that had been made by the IW Council regarding the replacement of the floating bridge and how the elections may impact on that. Statistical information was discussed and asked suggested inviting members of the floating bridge working group so that information could be given to the public. The Mayor responded that as information discussed by the group was confidential, it was unlikely that they would agree; but as a member of the group, she would continue to do her best to make strong representations on behalf of the community.

MD spoke about the CHC's plans for the new marina and questioned whether the group had mentioned the sewage outlet between Bells Landing and the jetty's used by Wight Shipyards and that there were regular discharges at this point. The Mayor stated that it hadn't been mentioned to date but that she was hopeful that they had taken this into account but would ensure that they were made aware of this.

AGENDA

35/26 GKN APPRENTICES – ESPLANADE SHELTER

This item was cancelled due to Kevin Downer being unable to attend. Further arrangements will be made

36/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Love, Lake Palin, Hendry

37/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

3.1 Cllr Reardon declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the East Cowes Community Partnership and East Cowes Business Association. Cllrs Warleigh-Lack and Pragnell declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of the East Cowes Sailing Club.

3.2 No written requests for dispensations were received.

38/26 MINUTES

4.1 The Council approved and signed the minutes of the Full Council held on 19th March 2026.

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the Full Council for the 19th March 2026

39/26 WATERFRONT REGENERATION UPDATE

5.1 An update was provided regarding the Albany Green works, which were progressing well. The Prom building planning application had been approved and ERMC are preparing to go out to tender for the works.

40/26 FLOATING BRIDGE

6.1 Councillors received and discussed monthly statistics.

41/26 FINANCE

7.1 Councillors considered payments as presented made by Direct Debit and BACS.

7.2 Councillors noted the bank reconciliation for March 2026

7.3 Councillors considered a request for dispensation of hall hire costs for the Royal British Legion AGM in January 2027 at a maximum cost of £138.50

Resolved: To approve and ratify the payments including by Direct Debit and BACS, as presented for March 2026, to note the bank reconciliation for March 2026.

To approve dispensation of hall hire costs for the RBL AGM in January 2027

42/26 GRANT APPLICATIONS

8.1 Councillors considered the following grant applications:

- East Cowes Crafters £135.00
- IW Story Festival £950.00
- East Cowes Carnival £1622.00
- UKSA £1260.00
- Cowes Fringe £4500.00
- East Cowes Sailing Club £2150.00
- St Johns Ambulance £300.00

Resolved: The following grants were approved:

- East Cowes Crafters £135.00
- IW Story Festival £500.00
- East Cowes Carnival £900.00 plus dispensation for use of the town hall and hub
- UKSA £1000.00
- Cowes Fringe Grant application rejected
- East Cowes Sailing Club £1000.00
- St Johns Ambulance £300.00

43/26 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Council resolved 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)).

9.1 To approve the confidential minutes of the 19th March 2026

Resolved: To exclude the press and public

Contractual matters were discussed

Meeting closed at 7.15pm