

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

The Town Hall, Market Hill, ORFORD, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2NZ

**Minutes of the 237th meeting of the New Orford Town Trust held on
Wednesday 21 October 2020, at 6.30pm, via Zoom**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs I Thornton (Chairman), C Ambury, F Barnwell, J Howard, M Iliff, R Mallett, P Smith, M Smy, G Wingrove. Treasurer and Clerk in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Backhouse and M Green (work commitments), and A Macro.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr C Ambury: mooring holder, plot holder and river user; Cllr F Barnwell: member of Orford Sailing Club, mooring holder and river user, allotment holder; Cllr J Howard: member of Orford Sailing Club, plot holder, mooring holder and river user; Cllr M Iliff: member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr R Mallett: relative of an allotment holder; Cllr P Smith: river user and member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr M Smy: allotment holder, plot holder, mooring holder; Cllr I Thornton: boatyard user and river user; Cllr G Wingrove: boatyard user, river user, and married to an allotment holder.

3. Minutes of the 236th meeting held on 16 September 2020

These were agreed by the Trustee.

4. Matters arising from the 236th meeting held on 16 September 2020

There were no matters arising.

5. Treasurer's report

- Cheques and balances from 1-30 September 2020
These were agreed and accepted by the Trustee.

6. Committee reports

- No Estates meeting
- Minutes of a Riverside meeting held on 15 October 2020
 - It was reported that Mark Thacker would be carrying out work to put a drain on the Quay this week.
 - Cllr M Smy brought to the Trustee's attention the news that, after the designation of an area off the Norfolk coast as a Marine Conservation Zone, Natural England are considering moves which would mean the closure of the Cromer crab fishery. Only a couple of years ago, NOTT and others fought to prevent the Alde and Ore Estuary being designated as an MCZ.
 - It was reported that Chantry's shelter has been put up and is looking good. The Chairman expressed NOTT's thanks to the Riverside Chairman and members of the Trustee and volunteers who had helped with this.

7. General Trust business

- Update on the village stocks: the Clerk reminded the Trustee that a couple of years ago NOTT had paid Mr Murphy to carry out some restoration work on the stocks, which are owned by NOTT. The stocks had previously been on display in the Church, and the Clerk

had been told that the Church would be happy for them to go back there once work was completed. However, the PCC has now confirmed that they cannot go back there. This is very disappointing, but Elizabeth Spinney (Orford Museum) has approached English Heritage to see if they might be able to be displayed in the Castle. She has arranged a meeting on Thursday morning. If English Heritage are happy for them to be displayed, then there may be some financial outlay for moving the stocks and/or getting a display case for them if needed. The Trustee agreed that in principal they would consider some money for this to enable an important village asset to be on display.

- Electric car charging points in Quay Street car park: after an email from Cllr G Wingrove, the Parish Clerk had forwarded on to the Trust Clerk some information from County Counillor Andrew Reid about this. The Clerk has submitted an Expression of Interest on NOTT's behalf, to see if it can get some funding for the installation of charging points in the Quay Street car park. There is no obligation to proceed at this point, and the Clerk will keep the Trustee updated on progress.

8. Correspondence

- Letter from parishioner re purchase of 25 Town Farm Estate. As previously circulated, a parishioner had written to say how happy he was to see that NOTT had purchased the bungalow to let out to local people at a reasonable rent, and to act as a good investment of NOTT funds.
- Email from Orford Primary School asking when applications for the Village Fund would next be considered. The Treasurer confirmed that there was currently around £8,000 in the fund. NOTT's income has reduced dramatically with the pandemic, and after discussion Cllr I Thornton proposed that the Trustee should suspend applications from the fund until the next financial year so that the Trustee can see the full impact the pandemic has had on its finances. This was seconded by Cllr P Smith and agreed unanimously. NOTT will look at this again in May 2021 once the year-end accounts are available.
- Usually smaller donations would be considered at this time of year, but it was agreed that, as with the Village Fund, these should not be considered until next financial year.

9. Items for next meeting

Usual items.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm.

10. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 25 November, at 6.30pm.