

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST  
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

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

**Minutes of the 279th meeting held on  
Wednesday 19 February 2025, at 6.30pm, in the New Room of Orford Town Hall**

**MINUTES**

Present: Cllrs I Thornton (Chairman), N Addy, C Ambury, V Dunlop, M Iliff, A Macro, S Stoker and G Wingrove. Treasurer and Clerk in attendance.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Greenwell and J Howard.

**2. Acceptance of Apologies**

The above apologies were accepted by the Trustee.

**3. Declarations of interest**

Cllr N Addy: river user; Cllr C Ambury: mooring holder, plot holder, member of Orford Sailing Club and river user; Cllr M Iliff: member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr A Macro: allotment holder, supplier to Orford Country Market, Chairman of the Recreation Ground Charity, Chairman of the Orford Good Neighbour Scheme; Cllr S Stoker: allotment holder; Cllr I Thornton: river user; Cllr G Wingrove: boatyard user, river user, and married to an allotment holder.

**4. Minutes of the 278th meeting held on 15 January 2025**

These were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

**5. Matters arising from the 278th meeting held on 15 January 2025**

- The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with the Alde and Ore Association who are asking Orford Town Council to consider some funding towards water testing at their meeting on 10 March 2025.

**6. Treasurer's report**

- Cheques and balances from 1 to 31 January 2025  
These were accepted and signed by the Trustee.

**7. Committee reports**

- Minutes of an Estates/Highways meeting held on 5 February 2025
  - The Clerk reported that she had spoken with NOTT's allotment advisor and agreed to reduce the number of visits made by the pest controller to three times per annum as the cost of bait has increased hugely.
- Minutes of a Riverside meeting held on 5 February 2025
  - The Clerk reported that the shingle for the foreshore had been ordered and delivered and that it was being spread by the Harbour Master.
  - There was a query about the drain on the corner of the quay which keeps blocking. The Chairman will look at this with the Quay Warden.
  - The Clerk is looking into how to get a bye law to stop commercial trawling in the river, for conservation reasons.
  - The Clerk had received quotes from Curles for work on the Quay. To convert the two existing lamp posts (only one of which is currently working) to use LED bulbs: £1360.98 plus VAT. Other work to put a new electric supply into NOTT's shed to provide a light and a double socket (including all wiring etc and underground cabling): £1423.64. Additionally, to disconnect an old halogen floodlight on the shed and replace with a new floodlight and waterproof connection box: £227.23 plus VAT. The Trustee agreed that the work to the lamp posts was most urgent and the Clerk will send out details asap to another couple of contractors to get

quotes from them. The Trustee agreed that once other quotes have been received they would be happy to make a decision on this via email.

- Re concreting at the top of the slipway. The Clerk reported that EFM had sent someone out to look at the area with a view to quoting. They are coming back to Orford on Friday to go through the quotes with the Harbour Master. They will quote for different options including concreting with steel mesh. The Clerk has also contacted Kerway who have agreed to discuss this with the Harbour Master.
- The Clerk had received the insurance renewal quote for Chantry from Yachtmaster. This comes in at £561.22 plus £24 for marine legal protection. The Committee agreed to accept this.

## **8. General Trust business**

- Start time of monthly NOTT meetings: the Chairman suggested moving the start time of NOTT meetings to 7pm, the same time as meetings for OGPC. It was agreed that this new start time should begin in April, with March's meeting still at 6.30pm.
- Information regarding lease of electric charging points: after the last meeting the Clerk had obtained information about the leasing of charging points from Anglia Car Charging. The Clerk had contacted Anglia Car Charging to ask if they thought that the charge by UK Power Networks to provide a connection would rise significantly if the Trustee agreed to delay the project. Mr Drinkell thought that this would probably not be the case unless UKPN changed their policy, but there was no guarantee of this. After lengthy discussion about possible usage and the time it might take for NOTT to recoup its initial financial outlay, Cllr S Stoker proposed that the Trustee should not proceed with the charging points at this time. This was seconded by N Addy and agreed with 7 votes for and 1 abstention.

## **9. Correspondence**

- Letter from member of the public/National Trust re provision of electric charging points: presented above as part of the discussion re charging points.
- Email from parishioner re Quay Street car park: the Chairman reported that a parishioner had asked for permission to display a brand new boat on a trailer in a prominent position in the Quay Street car park as he had become the UK agent for this vessel. The Trustee discussed where this might be sited and agreed that the bottom area of the green opposite the Jolly Sailor (where the ice cream van used to park) might be a better place than in the car park itself, where it would take up valuable spaces in summer and possibly cause safety issues with people looking at it being in the way of parked or moving cars. After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the parishioner to see if he could move it to Orford on the green opposite the Jolly Sailor for a few days so that the Trustee could see what it would look like in situ before making a final decision about it. If the Trustee were to go ahead, then the annual charge would be discussed, but it would be a 4-figure sum.
- Letter from Mr and Mrs Cooper of flaxland.co.uk. They are visiting the village and emailed the Clerk about the possibility of holding a natural fibre net-making competition at Orford Quay, possibly integrating it with an existing Orford event. After discussion the Trustee agreed that as there are no local fishermen working from Orford any more, and there are no existing events Orford that it might be able to work with, this might be an event more suited to somewhere like Woodbridge where the Longshed is building a replica of the Sutton Hoo longship.

## **10. Items for next meeting: NOTT insurance for 2025-26**

The meeting closed at 7.42pm.

## **11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19 March at 6.30pm.**