

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

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

**Minutes of the 269th meeting held on
Wednesday 17 January 2024, at 6.30pm, in the New Room of Orford Town Hall**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs I Thornton (Chairman), C Ambury, M Green, A Greenwell, J Howard, M Iliff, K King, A Macro and G Wingrove. Treasurer in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs N Addy (away) and Richard Mallett (unwell), and the Clerk (unwell).

2. Acceptance of Apologies

The above apologies were accepted by the Trustee.

3. Declarations of interest

Cllr C Ambury: mooring holder, plot holder and river user; Cllr M Green: allotment holder, supplier to Orford Country Market; Cllr J Howard: member of Orford Sailing Club, plot holder, mooring holder and river user; Cllr M Iliff: member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr K King: plot holder, dinghy licence holder and river user; Cllr A Macro: allotment holder, supplier to Orford Country Market, Chairman of the Recreation Ground Charity, Chairman of the Orford Good Neighbour Scheme, and married to a quay user (fisherman); Cllr I Thornton: river user; Cllr G Wingrove: boat yard user, river user and married to an allotment holder.

4. Minutes of the 268th meeting held on 15 November 2023

These were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising from the 268th meeting held on 15 November 2023

There were no matters arising.

6. Treasurer's report

- Cheques and balances from 1 November-31 December 2023
Cllr Ambury queried credit card charges and the Chairman asked the Treasurer if she could do a print out of how much was taken and the charges over a 3-month period and what the costs were. The cheques and balances were agreed and signed.

7. Committee reports

- No Estates/Highways meeting: it was reported that a tree had fallen over during high winds at New Year, blocking Quay Street car park entrance. J Backhouse has sorted this out.
- No Riverside meeting: it was reported that two limbs had fallen off a tree from NOTT land at the pond over onto the path from the car park to Orford Sailing Club. J Backhouse has cleared this. The Clerk met with Tim Will (Tree Climber) to look at the willow tree which lost limbs. He suggested that as a limb is now missing water could get into the body of the tree and cause decay. He is happy that the tree is safe at the moment, but suggested removal. Another nearby willow has a limb which splits into two and is touching the telephone cable from a telegraph pole to OSC. Mr Will suggests removing the limb. The Riverside committee has agreed by email that Clerk should submit an application to East Suffolk Council for this work, which is not urgent.

8. General Trust business

Pontoon: It has emerged that further to conversations between the Quay Warden and Andy Moore regarding the proposed pontoon that the piles alone would cost around £11,000 plus VAT. Additional charges could include hiring a hammer to hammer them in at an additional expense of £6,000 plus VAT, as there may be a chalk stream under running close to the Quay, thus complicating the work and incurring more expense. In addition, NOTT would have to get licences from the MMO (Marine Management Organisation) as well as planning permission from East Suffolk Council. The Trustee was concerned the whole project could easily go over budget and end up spiralling out of control. It was agreed to shelve the idea but that perhaps the NOTT could approach the Sailing Club to ask if they might be able to have an extension on their pontoon which the NOTT could pay for.

9. Correspondence

- Consultation letter from Five Estuaries Offshore Windfarm re proposed habitat improvement measures near Orford: it was agreed that the improvement measures would be unlikely to have no direct impact on NOTT. They might want to source their own barge rather than use Guinevere in which case there would be a charge and it was agreed that NOTT should write to remind them of this.
- Letter from parishioner re the habitat improvement measures (above): it was agreed that the matter was out of NOTT's hands, but the parishioner has copied in the RSPB and other relevant parties so that they are aware of his concerns.
- Email of thanks from Orford Recreation Ground Charity for donation from NOTT: noted.

10. Items for next meeting: budgets, applications for grants from the Village Fund.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.

11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21 February at 6.30pm.