

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

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

**Minutes of the 282nd meeting (Annual General Meeting) held on
Wednesday 21 May 2025, at 7.00pm, in the New Room of Orford Town Hall**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs I Thornton (Chairman), N Addy, V Dunlop, M Green, J Howard, M Iliff, A Macro, S Moss, S Stoker and G Wingrove. Clerk in attendance.

1. Election of Chairman for 2025-26

Cllr J Howard proposed Cllr I Thornton for Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr N Addy and agreed unanimously.

Election of Vice Chairman for 2025-26

Cllr V Dunlop proposed Cllr M Iliff for Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr S Stoker and agreed unanimously.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs C Ambury (work commitment) and A Greenwell.

3. Acceptance of Apologies

The above apologies were accepted by the Trustee.

4. Declarations of interest

Cllr N Addy: 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 A Macro: allotment holder, supplier to Orford Country Market, Chairman of the Recreation Ground Charity, Chairman of the Orford Good Neighbour Scheme; Cllr S Moss: has a relative who lives in the Bakers Lane cottages; Cllr S Stoker: allotment holder; Cllr I Thornton: river user; Cllr G Wingrove: married to an allotment holder.

5. Minutes of the 281st meeting held on 16 April 2025

After one amendment (add to declarations of interest 'Cllr S Stoker: allotment holder') these were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

6. Matters arising from the 281st meeting held on 16 April 2025

- The Clerk reported that she had contacted Billy Dodwell to accept the quote to remove the unused toilet from a room at Orford Primary School, and that he was liaising with the School about a time to carry out the work.
- The Clerk reported that a quote had been received from a local carpenter to make and fit a new frame and door for the boiler room at the school. It was agreed to obtain another quote before agreeing anything. The Chairman will try to contact another local carpenter about this.
- The Clerk reported that JJS had come back with an amended quote for the concrete slab at the top of the slipway, to include sulphate resistant cement. It was agreed to go back to them to get a price for removing the spoil, and to see if a third quote could be obtained.
- The Chairman reported that he, the Harbour Master and the Clerk had had a Teams

meeting with representatives from IFCA. They are not able to enforce anything with regards to NOTT's Rules and Regulations. They are currently doing an assessment of the Alde and Ore and were very interested to hear about our issues with the trawler and will include this as part of their assessment. It may be that when the assessment is completed they are able to do something about enforcement on conservation grounds.

- The Chairman reported that the electrical work on the Quay had been carried out on Monday, and that a photo cell had been put on the lamp so that the lights come on automatically at dusk.
- Re social housing, the Clerk confirmed that NOTT is not a registered provider, though it could choose to apply to become one if the charity's governing document was amended to list that as a specific aim or objective. The Clerk will look into this further.
- New photocopier: in hand.
- The Chairman reported that letters had been written to the two docking licence holders.

7. Treasurer's report

- Cheques and balances from 1 to 30 April 2025
These were accepted and signed by the trustee.

8. Committee reports

- No Estates/Highways meeting: the Clerk reported that the new carpet had been laid in the Town Hall office.
- No Riverside meeting

9. General Trust business

- Request from City Fibre for Wayleave relating to Quay Street car park: the Clerk was asked to contact City Fibre to ask what cabling etc is in place between the two points marked on the plan, ask if there is an existing duct, and check at what depth the cables will be buried (in case this might affect any future resurfacing works) before agreeing to anything.
- Alde and Ore Society – water testing funding: The Alde and Ore Society had asked in January if NOTT would consider contributing to funding for water testing. Aldeburgh Town Council are contributing £600 for 2025, and one smaller parish is also giving some money. The Trustee agreed to contribute £600 for 2025.
- Village Voice – editor: the Clerk reported that James Kennedy wishes to give up co-editing Village Voice after a number of years. After discussion about whether the Parish Clerk should take on this role and look through items submitted for inclusion or whether someone external should be sought, it was agreed that the Parish Clerk would take on part of this role, with the NOTT Clerk continuing to put the newsletter together.
- Progress with Village Fund purchases for Orford School: the Clerk reported that the decking outside the teaching kitchen is almost complete, with the contractor just waiting for some final additional items to come into stock at Nelson Potter. It was suggested that NOTT might fund regular maintenance on the decking, but after discussion it was agreed that the School should look after it as part of their maintenance plan.
- River wall on NOTT land: the Clerk had brought down the Land Registry map to show the Trustee the exact location of the river wall on NOTT land – this stretches from Quay Street along to the Pavillion. The Chairman commented that one of the weakest points in Orford was the hump in Quay Street close to the Quay (which does not belong to NOTT and is part of the highway). The Chairman understood that after the flood in 1953 the pond adjacent to the car park was dug out, with the river wall being reinforced. The Chairman suggested that it would be good to know the height of the river wall on NOTT land compared to that of other parts of the wall. There is a group of people from Orford which is looking to see if there is a solution to protect Orford from potential flooding as the Alde and Ore Estuary plan as currently agreed seems unlikely to happen for financial

reasons.

10. Correspondence

- Electric charging points in Quay Street car park: the Clerk had received an email from Anglia Car Charging offering a number of options for installation of rapid charging points in Quay Street car park, ranging from no cost (with a small annual income for NOTT) to NOTT paying the cost in full and receiving 100% of the income from charging. The Clerk reported that she was still waiting for a proposal from Connected Kerb and the Trustee agreed to wait until this had been received before considering both proposals.

11. Items for next meeting: year-end accounts to 31 March 2025, applications for money from the Village Fund

The meeting closed at 8.11pm

12. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18 June 2025, at 7pm