

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on **Monday 13th July, 2015** at **Arreton Community Hall** at **7.30pm**.

Present: Cllrs Thirkettle, Cooper, Grisman, Orchard, E Oulton and Roome.

In attendance: Sheila Caws (Clerk) and one member of the public.

094/15 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

095/15 Questions from the public

A resident of Blackwater raised the question of the volume of traffic along Blackwater Road generated by the anaerobic digester plant. This will be dealt with under agenda item 105/15

096/15 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (8th June)

The minutes of the meeting on 8th June were confirmed and signed. Proposed Cllr Roome, seconded Cllr Grisman.

097/15 To receive regular reports

a) IWC Councillor's report

Some decisions by the IW Council are being delayed due to the lack of an overall majority by any one group. A lack of officers, particularly in Planning, is not helping the situation. The Select Committee on Highways has resurrected the Community Highways Scheme as mooted last year. There is money available but schemes need to be prioritised and town and parish councils will be asked to contribute as not only is there the initial cost of the scheme but potential accrual costs for maintenance over the life of the contract. The full Council has voted on the new waste contract.

b) Police report - the report from PCSO Keefe was distributed. There were two road traffic incidents, one in Burnt House Lane and the other at Blackwater Corner. A scooter was stolen from Arreton and there was a dispute between an employer and employee in Merstone.

c) Cemetery and churchyard matters

The annual inspection of the cemetery and churchyard took place before this meeting. See separate agenda item below.

Cllr Orchard organised a replacement sign warning of uneven ground in the cemetery.

Cllr R Oulton has received an e-mail from Helen Miles of the IW Council regarding a new agreement on the burial precept. It was agreed that the IWC must pay the arrears before negotiation on future clarification can take place and that any new arrangements should not be to our detriment. Any legal costs should be met by the IWC. It was agreed that Cllrs Thirkettle and R Oulton and the Clerk should negotiate with the IWC before a final decision by the Parish Council. Proposed – Cllr Hayden, seconded Cllr Cooper.

d) Highways and footpaths

Complaints were received about the mess that Island Roads had left behind, including piles of tarmac and chippings in the hedges, abandoned road signs and litter bins not replaced. The Clerk will contact Island Roads.

Cllr Cooper has written twice as the tarmac angles are incorrect outside his property and rainwater is running on to the grass and not down the drain.

Some remedial work has been done on the pavements.

The road sign has been replaced in Blackwater Hollow and speed measuring has taken place on Blackwater Road but not between Blackwater and Rookley.

The Clerk has not as yet received a response from Island Roads regarding the missing village sign at Arreton Cross.

Rights of Way responded regarding a blocked ditch to say that it was the landowners' responsibility and that they have been contacted.

e) IWALC report

The main concern this month was the meeting of the Training Partnership. Training has become an important issue due to the amount of work being passed on by the IW Council.

f) Clerk's report

Agenda and Minutes Record - the Clerk has contacted Island Roads regarding the unsatisfactory work on the pavements. The matter has been passed on to the Schemes Manager.

The Clerk has contacted the manager of the anaerobic digester to thank him for the recent visit of the Parish Council.

Other matters:- Cllr Thirkettle and his wife attended the IW Council's Annual Civic Service at the Minster in Newport on June 28th.

Cllr E Oulton attended the meeting on planning matters on June 19th. The IW Council was taken to task by one of the clerks for not consulting on the proposals for change before their proposed implementation. See below for a separate agenda item.

The Clerk will attend a briefing on roadworks at County Hall on July 14th.

Cllr Roome will attend the initial meeting of the South Locality Group of the My Life a Full Life scheme on July 15th.

The Clerk will attend a seminar on scams and doorstep crime at the Riverside Centre on July 22nd.

The Clerk will attend a meeting on alternative transport schemes at County Hall on August 5th.

Correspondence has been received regarding traffic to and from the anaerobic digester. See separate agenda item below.

The Clerk and the Webmaster are working on a new layout for the 'Documents' section of the website to make the Parish Council compliant with the new transparency regulations.

098/15 To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011. To give notice of any item to be raised under agenda item 107/15

Cllr Orchard declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application for Blackwater Mill Farm

099/15 Finance

The finance report for June was agreed. The balance of the current account was £13,990.92

The following payments were agreed.

1022	Vista Display (Kendal) Ltd (keys)	£40.80
1023	S Caws (salary)	£246.36
1024	S Caws (expenses)	£32.19
1025	Post Office Ltd (PAYE)	£154.60
1026	Island Wide General Builders (notice board)	£138.50
1027	P Phillips	£57.33
1028	Arreton Methodist Church	£30.00
1029	Brighstone Landscaping Ltd	£720.00
1030	Ringway Island Roads (dog waste bins contract)	£364.32
1031	J Pickett (website)	£75.00

100/15 Planning and Appeals

Application No	Location	Proposal	Dates
TCP/22898/W - P/00785/15	Wight Salads Ltd and associated nurseries Hale Common Newport Isle Of Wight PO30	Proposed replacement CHP units and associated infrastructure	Comments Due By: 24/07/2015
TCP/30030/F - P/00744/15	Arreton Barns Main Road Arreton Newport Isle Of Wight PO30	Proposed retention of existing temporary access off Downend Road	Comments Due By: 24/07/2015
TCP/19745/Y - P/00578/15	Blackwater Mill Farm Blackwater Newport Isle Of Wight PO303BJ	Proposed detached dwelling with parking	Comments Due By: 17/07/2015
TCP/22898/V - P/00702/15	Wightsalad Ltd Hale Common Newport Isle Of Wight PO303AR	Proposed vehicular access	Comments Due By: 17/07/2015
A/02645/A - P/00646/15	Scats Countrystore Blackwater Road Newport Isle Of Wight PO303BG	Advertisement Consent Application Proposed illumination of existing totem sign	Comments Due By: 10/07/2015

The Parish Council had no objections to the two applications from Wight Salads. With regard to the sign outside SCATS, there was no objection provided that the sign was only illuminated during opening hours.

The Parish Council objected to the retention of the access at Arreton Barns as it was felt that the entrance was too close to the junction and that traffic accelerating up the hill would be a problem with slow-moving agricultural traffic emerging from the exit.

The Parish Council did not object to the principal of a new dwelling at Blackwater Mill Farm but there were several concerns that prevented them from supporting it as it stands. There is no mains drainage on the site and the water supply to neighbouring properties passes across the field. The house is not a 'generous distance' from the neighbouring property, as stated in the application and the Parish Council would like to see the building moved further in to the plot. The application also mentions the height of the hedges and the Parish Council would like to see a condition put on site to retain the hedges at that height. A paragraph in the Heritage Statement referred to 'commercial floorspace' and development of the Bay area. This was felt to be an example of a rather sloppy application that contained other contradictions.

101/15 Community events

Arrangements for the Fun Day are proceeding. Cllr Roome will run the barbeque during the afternoon and the hog roast in the evening.

102/15 Cemetery and churchyard inspection

There is evidence of a rabbit warren in the south west corner of the cemetery. Cllr Roome will arrange for the necessary pest control measures to be undertaken.

A new sign is needed for the cemetery gate. The Clerk will obtain quotes. The gates are in need of repainting so the Clerk will investigate the possibility of community volunteers undertaking the work.

Some items of work are necessary on the wall in the churchyard. The Clerk will arrange for quotes.

103/15 Newsletter advertising

It was agreed to keep the cost of adverts as per the old prices for the time being. Proposed - Cllr R Oulton, seconded - Cllr Hayden. All the agreed prices are for six issues – back page £220, a whole inside page £190, half page £95 and a third of a page £65. Cllr Grisman will investigate printing costs.

104/15 IWC Planning

The IW Council proposes to stop sending out paper copies for all but the largest applications. It has been suggested that the town and parish councils use a digital projector to enlarge the applications that are rather small on the internet. The Parish Council agreed to investigate the cost of purchasing a projector and also the possibility of sharing with Godshill, Newchurch and Rookley councils.

105/15 Anaerobic Digester

There was considerable discussion on the problems currently being experienced by residents on the generation of excess traffic to the site of the anaerobic digester and the material being blown off the top of uncovered loads. With regard to the latter, there are regulations on the safe covering of loads issued by the Department of Transport but these appear to relate to lorries and not agricultural vehicles. There are also problems with trailers carrying inappropriate registration plates or none at all but it should be noted that a tractor and trailer can carry different registration plates from each other provided that both vehicles belong to the same operator.

The volume of traffic has been excessive on some days and on Blackwater Road, where residents are used to heavy traffic, the noise has been very noticeable, as have the tailbacks in the traffic. One local resident has been keeping a log of the movements at various times as they have been so disruptive. The amount of traffic has been way in excess of that predicted in the Traffic Management Plan for the site. They have also been working at the plant until late into the night; beyond midnight on some occasions. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Planning Office with regard to the TMP and conditions placed on the site, including the monitoring thereof.

Complaints have also been received about the smell, which is noticeable in some parts of Arreton village. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the site manager, outlining the various points, as he had asked to be kept informed of any complaints.

106/15 To note the date of the next meeting, 14th September 2015

The Clerk will be away - Mrs Pat Phillips will take her place.

107/15 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only

There were no matters for discussion

108/15 To pass a resolution to exclude the public and press under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss staff matters

- i) Mrs P Phillips is willing to continue as the Burial Registrar under the existing terms and conditions for another year.
- ii) The Clerk raised the question of the potential for the extra work required should the IW Council stop sending out paper copies of plans (see above – item 104/15). As there are some months when no applications are received, it was agreed that such work would be done on an overtime basis. Proposed – Cllr Roome, seconded Cllr E Oulton.
- iii) The Clerk presented a report requesting training on several subjects – viz. contracts and tendering, the new pension arrangements and the management of burial grounds. The first two are likely to be provided by the local Training Partnership but the latter would have to be provided by the SLCC at a current cost of £125 plus VAT. This was agreed – proposed Cllr I Roome, seconded Cllr R Oulton.

The meeting concluded at 9.48pm

Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council

Hillis Side, Rew Street, Gurnard, Isle of Wight PO31 8NW
E-mail: arretonpc@gmail.com Telephone: 07587 008183

20th June 2015

..... Chairman

..... Date