

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2017** at **Arreton Community Hall** at **7pm**.

**Present:** Cllrs Thirkettle, Hayden, Orchard, E Oulton and R Oulton

In attendance: Sheila Caws (Clerk)

**015/17 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Cooper (on holiday) and Cllr Roome (unwell)

**016/17 Questions from the public**

Although no members of the public were present, Cllr Thirkettle raised a point that residents had come to him to say that the school fields and playground were apparently going to be closed at weekends and in the holidays. This is in contrast to previous years, when residents have been able to take their children there. Cllr R Oulton replied to say that the playground would be out of bounds until building work on the new classroom was completed but he would enquire as to the fields. It was assumed that access would still be available for the defibrillator but he would confirm this.

Arreton Community Theatre used to keep their staging, which was bought for community use, in the Church, as this was where it was used most. It is now in the Coach House, which is locked most of the time. There is no room in the Community Hall and so Cllr E Oulton will enquire as to whether it can go back in the Church.

**017/17 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (9<sup>th</sup> January)**

The minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January were confirmed and signed. Proposed Cllr E Oulton, seconded Cllr Hayden.

**018/17 To receive regular reports**

- a) Cemetery and churchyard matters – Cllr Orchard reported that the seat is now back in the Cemetery and looking very smart. He was concerned as to its security and has locked it in place. The Clerk will buy some padlocks to replace his. The bench will also be photographed for insurance purposes. The hedges have been trimmed and look much nicer.
- b) Highways and footpaths – the village sign at Arreton Cross has finally been replaced by Island Roads. The sign is fine but the posts are not square. The Clerk will follow this up. The cycle track near Reynolds and Read in Blackwater is flooded again and needs improving. The Clerk will contact Rights of Way.
- ci) IWALC and Chairman's report – the Treasurer gave a report on NALC's suggestions as to two new funding methods. Neither makes much difference to Arreton. Cllr Thirkettle proposed that the pay of the Secretary should rise in line with that of the Clerks. IWALC have tidied up their constitution and have retained the one-parish, one-vote system. Cllr Jones-Evans is pushing for an IW Council policy on "20's plenty". If town and parish councils are prepared to go 50/50 on signage costs, then suitable roads can be suggested. Town and parish councils have also been asked to make sure that all poultry in their area is under cover until further notice.
- cii) Cllrs Thirkettle and Hayden attended an NHS Sustainability Forum. The main problem is still a lack of aftercare for elderly residents. People are being encouraged to take responsibility for their own health but much of the information and advice is on-line and is only useful if it is brought to anyone's attention. Three hubs are proposed in the West Wight, Ryde and Sandown but funding and staffing are likely to be problems.
- ciii) The Chairman and Clerk visited Down End Quarry to view the site and be shown plans for landfill with inert waste, with a view to returning the area to chalk downland in years to come.
- civ) The Chairman and immediate Past-Chairman attended the funeral of IWC Cllr Colin Richards. Cllr E Oulton noted that he had served the community well in many capacities. Cllr Hayden also attended.

- d) Clerk's report - **Agenda** and Minutes Record: the Clerk met with Derek Mills (builder) regarding work at the Cemetery gate – see agenda item

Other matters: the Clerk has sent a card to the family of IWC Cllr Richards.

The Clerk has invoiced the IW Council for the burial precept for the remainder of 2016.

Lesley Wilcox (Arreton CC) has proposed Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> for this year's Fun Day. The Clerk is setting up a meeting of the organising group.

The Clerk has received the annual letter from the IW Council regarding the Council Tax Support Grant, which has reduced from £291.00 to £187.00.

The Chairman and the Clerk met with Kevin Coghlan and Tony Flower to look at the proposals for the Down End Chalk Pit. A planning application will be put forward soon. If other councillors wish to look at the area, a visit can be arranged.

The planning application for a craft unit at Arreton Barns has been approved.

Training: Unfortunately, the Clerk has not passed all the elements of CiLCA. All new material has to be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – along with a fee.

The Clerk attended a training day on transparency regulations and council websites.

**019/17 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 014/17**

None

**020/17 Finance**

The finance reports for December and January were agreed and the following payments approved.

Arreton Methodist Church (Xmas tree)	£15.00
Staff costs	£291.46
Not issued	
IWALC (subscription)	£175.43
Ringway Island Roads Ltd (dog bins)	£331.20

The balance in the current account was £10,388.59.

**021/17 Planning and Appeals**

Application No	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">TCP/27904/B - P/00055/17</a>	Garretts Farm St. Georges Lane Newport Isle Of Wight PO303BA	Proposed winning and working of sand and gravel and restoration to agriculture temporary diversion of a public footpath alterations to vehicular access
<a href="#">TCP/08694/K - P/01579/16</a>	Arreton Garden and Aquatic Centre Hale Common Newport Isle Of Wight PO303AR	Demolition of glass house and outbuildings construction of new tourist attraction based on Godshill Cider and Chocolate Island parking and landscaping (revised plans)(readvertised)

The application for the Garden and Aquatic Centre was a re-advertisement due to a technicality and so it was agreed that no further comment was necessary.

The application for Garretts Farm was a re-application for a permission that had lapsed. The Parish Council had not objected to the original application and agreed that there was no reason to do so now.

**022/17 Budget 2017/18**

The budget for 2017/18 was agreed and the precept set at £8,400, a rise of £292.00 or 3.475%. Proposed Cllr R Oulton, seconded Cllr Orchard.

**023/17 Telephone boxes**

Following on from previous discussions regarding a stone to commemorate the death of a Battle of Britain pilot near the village of Arreton, the Chairman proposed that the site of an old telephone box on the main road might be an appropriate site as there was more room there than other suggested sites. Cllr R Oulton offered to make initial enquiries as to who to contact regarding the ownership of the site.

A telephone box in Blackwater is due to be taken out of service soon and the Chairman suggested it as a site for a defibrillator – see next agenda item.

**024/17 Defibrillators**

The British Heart Foundation are looking to place more defibrillators in the community and so the Chairman suggested the telephone box in Blackwater as one possible site and the porch of the Methodist Church as another. The Clerk will contact BT and the Chairman will speak to the Methodists.

**025/17 Calendar 2017**

The May meeting will be moved to May 15<sup>th</sup> to allow enough time to convene a meeting after the elections on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**026/17 Cemetery maintenance**

The Clerk met with a local builder to obtain a second quote for work at the Cemetery gate but has not as yet received a figure.

**027/17 Burial fees**

The burial fees have not been reviewed for two years and so it was agreed to increase the fees for parishioners by £5 and for non-inhabitants by £10. The exception to both is that there will be no increase in the burial fee for a child under £12.

**028/17 To note the date of the next meeting, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**029/17 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only**

Nothing was raised.

The meeting concluded at 8.25pm

**Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council**

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15<sup>th</sup> February 2017

..... Chairman

..... Date