

Minutes of a meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2017** at **Arreton Community Hall** at **7pm**.

**Present:** Cllrs Thirkettle, Calloway, Cooper, Dovey, Hayden and Kimber

In attendance: IWC Cllr Mosdell and Sheila Caws (Clerk)

**128/17 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Orchard (unwell)

**129/17 Questions from the public**

No members of the public were present

**130/17 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meetings (10<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> August)**

The minutes of the meetings on July 10<sup>th</sup> and August 9<sup>th</sup> were confirmed and signed – proposed Cllr Cooper, seconded Cllr Dovey

**131/17 To receive regular reports**

- a) IWC Councillor – IWC Cllr Mosdell reported that August was quiet apart from the fixed-link debate. The town and parish councils may be consulted at some point regarding a feasibility study. In response to a question from Cllr Calloway about the call centre in County Hall, IWC Cllr Mosdell said that extra staff were being recruited.
- b) Cemetery and churchyard matters – nothing to report. The Clerk will check the wobbly headstone with Pat Phillips. It was noted during the annual inspection.
- c) Highways and footpaths – Cllr Kimber has offered, as a member of the public, to be a footpaths officer for the Ramblers. Cllr Cooper asked about trees that obscured the view when exiting the Downend chalk pit. However, they are not the responsibility of the chalk pit owners, being to the south of their site.
- d) IWALC and Chairman's report – Cllr Thirkettle reported that he had not attended the IWALC AGM as he was unwell. The new Chairman was Peter Whiteman from Newport PC and the Vice-Chairman is now Helena Hewetson from Shalfleet PC. Cllr Thirkettle is still a member of the Training Partnership. He also reported that the IW Access Forum will be looking at lost rights of way and will offer training on how to go about it. The permissive path across Newclose Cricket Club has been closed and, as part of the estate is up for sale, the permission will lapse if the land is sold. Still on Rights of Way, it is difficult to get wheelchairs and bikes through the old railway crossing at Newchurch, let alone horses. Discussions are ongoing.
- e) Agenda and Minutes Record - Brighstone Landscaping were contacted regarding work on the tombs in the Churchyard and care of the area around the Burma Star graves. As everyone was either on leave or going on leave, it was agreed to set up a meeting in September. A date has not yet been arranged.

Other matters - the Clerk has transferred the mobile phone service to O<sup>2</sup> and purchased a new phone.

Planning permission has been granted for the barn at Padan Aran, the pellet boiler at Rew Valley Dairy, the new building and other matters at Vesses Farm, the radio mast at the Golf Club and the alterations at Glencoe (Merstone). However, the application for parking at 1 Park Cottages has been refused but an appeal will be forthcoming. The Planning Committee refused the application at Mole Country Stores.

The Pension Declaration for automatic enrolment has been completed and acknowledged.

Once again, no further work has been completed in the Cemetery despite promises.

The Clerk received an e-mail from a resident at Merstone regarding four apparently abandoned cars at Merstone Station. A conversation with Natural England and Gift to Nature ensued. Co-incidentally, the IW Council approved their policy on abandoned cars and one of the offending vehicles was subsequently removed in very short order. Another one disappeared of its own accord, which leaves two others to be dealt with at some point. As they have been reported by the resident, there is no further involvement required from the Parish Council at this stage.

The Clerk has been notified by Lloyds Bank of impending changes to our business account. Those most likely to affect us involve the removal of a counter service from some branches and the ability to use the Post Office to pay in. The Clerk has no comment to make on the chances of a branch with no counter service having a full Post Office service in the immediate area.

The Clerk was contacted by the external auditors owing to a mistake in the annual return. Their report has not, as yet, been received.

Cllr Hayden attended the annual Civic Ceremony and Cllr Kimber hopes to attend the Best Kept Village Awards evening.

**132/17 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 149/17**

There were no declarations of interest

**133/17 Finance**

The finance report for June was agreed. The balance in the current account was £17,364.99. The following payments were agreed:-

Staff costs	£320.02
Brighstone Landscaping (grounds maintenance)	£882.00
JMC Plant Hire (Fun Day expenses)	£120.00
Citizens' Advice IW (donation)	£100.00
IWALC (training)	£50.00
IW Council (election recharge)	£30.16
Ringway Island Roads Ltd (dog bins)	£372.24
D A Betteridge (bench)	£673.20

**134/17 Planning and Appeals**

Application No	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">TCP/33021 - P/00216/17</a>	Downend Chalk Pit Downend Road Newport Isle Of Wight PO30	The restoration of Downend Chalk Pit to chalk downland through the utilisation of suitable inert material extraction of chalk to 93m AOD operation of aggregates recycling facility construction of workshop building installation of ancillary infrastructure (wheelwash and weighbridge) creation of public car park creation of pocket park and permissive footpath (revised description) (readvertised)(revised plans relating to parking area and pocket park and landscaping. Additional information relating to heritage assets ecological landscape impact)

The Parish Council agreed that there was no objection to this application. The Chairman and Clerk have already visited the site but a visit could possibly be arranged for anyone else who is interested. The hedgerow to the south has already been mentioned and may belong to the Hampshire and IW Wildlife Trust.

**135/17 Island Core Strategy**

The Parish Council declined to comment on the Strategy, due to lack of time.

**136/17 Risk Assessment**

The risk assessment was passed.

**137/17 Code of Conduct**

The draft of the new sections of the Code of Conduct were agreed and it will be signed off at the next meeting.

**138/17 Standing orders**

Two further changes were noted. One was an extra word and the other related to 10.15 and two members speaking at the same time.

**139/17 Bank signatories**

It was agreed that Cllrs Calloway, Dovey and Watterson should be added to the mandate. Proposed Cllr Hayden and seconded Cllr Cooper.

**140/17 Arreton Cross**

It has been noted that various banners and posters have been put up at Arreton Cross. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Gift to Nature asking if this can be discouraged as the junction is busy enough without added distractions. It was also noted that the hare is regularly dressed but sometimes the outfits remain for a long time. Some materials are detrimental to the wood and so the Clerk will also ask if Gift to Nature has any objection to their removal if they have been there for too long.

**141/17 HMRC payments**

The Clerk produced a form that would authorise BACS payments instead of cheques, initially just for HMRC. This was approved.

**142/17 Cemetery notice**

Cllr Calloway had seen a very polite notice in Gatcombe churchyard, outlining the burial regulations with regard to flowers etc. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Revd Bagg asking if the wording could be used for our own notice.

**143/17 "Florrie's bench"**

The new bench is now in place. The Clerk will enquire as to recovering the costs on the driver's insurance.

**144/17 Donations**

A donation of £150.00 to the High Sheriff's Fund was agreed as a recognition of his opening the Fun Day.

**145/17 Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

No comment was made on the proposals.

**146/17 Fun Day 2017**

The Clerk presented the accounts, which were agreed. A meeting of the working party will be held as soon as possible to clear up this year's event and look toward next year.

**147/17 "Growing a rural community"**

This item was deferred to the next meeting

**148/17 To note the date of the next meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in the Community Hall.**

**149/17 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only**

Nothing was raised

The meeting concluded at 9.10pm

**Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council**

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25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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Chairman

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Date