

Minutes of a meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018** at **Arreton Methodist Hall** at **7.30pm**.

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

In attendance: IWC Cllr Mosdell and Sheila Caws (Clerk) and eight members of the public

**053/18 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Dovey (prior engagement) and Cllr Watterson (unwell)

**054/18 Questions from the public**

There were no questions at this point

**055/18 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (12<sup>th</sup> March)**

The minutes of the meeting held on March 12<sup>th</sup> were confirmed and signed – proposed Cllr Kimber, seconded Cllr Calloway.

**056/18 To receive regular reports**

- (a) IWC Councillor – IWC Cllr Mosdell had nothing further to add to her report to the Annual Parish Meeting. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.
- (b) Cemetery and Churchyard matters – Cllr Orchard requested that the drain in the layby be unblocked again.
- (c) Highways and footpaths – IWC Cllr Mosdell reported that she was working with Rights of Way to sort out gaps between cycleways. Cllr Orchard requested that bridleways also be considered and asked that the footpath A29 between the cycletrack and a bridleway at Stone Farm be upgraded to a bridleway as that horses and riders did not have to use the busy main road. Island Roads have agreed to change the pattern of the traffic lights at Downend but have not yet done so.
- (d) IWALC/Chairman's report – the Chairman attended the presentation by the Boundary Commission on the proposal to make changes to ward boundaries in order to even up the numbers of electors in each ward. Parish and town boundaries will not change and so some councils may find themselves dealing with more than one ward councillor. If that were the case then separate wards would be established within the town or parish.  
The Chairman attended a meeting between the local councils and the IW Council. One of the issues discussed was that Planning enforcement is so understaffed that it was suggested that town and parish councils might take it on. However, one problem would be that councils do not have the right of access.  
The Community Highways Fund was also discussed and it was agreed that the local councils would be sent lists of requests that might happen and those that will not. It was noted that local councils might contribute but could never obtain costings.  
At the recent IWALC meeting, the former High Sheriff, Robin Courage, outlined plans for the next Isle of Wight Day in September, when he would like representatives of every town and parish to walk behind their banner. It was thought that the School might like to be involved but the Chairman would obtain more information first.  
A review of the Fire Service is under way and there are concerns that the Island is too dependent on getting help from the mainland.  
Concerns have been raised that HALC is poaching members from other area associations but that those members would not be entitled to a full service.
- (e) Clerk's report – Agenda and Minutes Record: following contact with Southern Housing, the hedges at Park Cottages have been trimmed back at Southern Housing's expense.

The Clerk has contacted Mrs Toyne at Age Concern IW to suggest a multi-community report. Mrs Toyne responded but nothing further has been heard since.

The Clerk has contacted Southern Vectis regarding a hardstanding at one of the bus stops in Merstone but has not as yet received a response.

Other matters: The planning application for an extension at Spreets Rew has been approved.

Most other matters are on the agenda.

Training: Cllr Kimber attended a session on the Code of Conduct run but the IW Council through IWALC.

The Clerk hopes to attend a session on the new Data Protection Regulations organised by IWALC later in the month.

**057/18 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 069/18**

None requested.

**058/18 Finance**

The finance report for March was unavailable as the Clerk had not received the bank statement.

The following payments were agreed:-

Staff costs	£526.05
Brighstone Landscaping (grounds maintenance)	£342.00
Perry Signs (cemetery and churchyard signs)	£280.00
Ringway Island Roads Ltd (dog bins)	£338.40
HMRC (PAYE)	£124.00

**059/18 Planning and Appeals**

To consider any applications recently received:-

Application No	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">TCP/21356/A - P/00150/18</a>	land south of Newclose Cricket Grounds, Blackwater Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30	Proposed glamping pods, reception and ablution block, amenity ponds and associated car parking

After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should recommend refusal of this application on the following grounds:-

- i) There is no mention of infrastructure, especially lighting. Even at night there would have to be low-level safety lighting which could compromise the area's dark skies.
- ii) The parking is inadequate with less spaces than the number of yurts, especially as cars are the only viable means of transport. The bus stops are too far away on a busy road with no footpaths and there is no obvious access from the cycle track by the river.
- iii) The toilet and shower facilities are also inadequate for the potential number of visitors.
- iv) There is also little detail on the arrangements for waste disposal and sewage discharge.
- v) There is no detail as to the construction of the yurts for either design or materials other than a reference to canvas as being an option.
- vi) There do not appear to be any cooking or washing-up facilities and barbeques should not be encouraged, given the flammable nature of the tree cover.
- vii) There is a time limit on the nearby cricket club of 11pm, which could be more difficult to enforce on a site such as this proposal requests. The siting of a marquee at the cricket club is already causing a noise nuisance to nearby residents. This proposal could add to the problem, especially as the lack of cooking facilities would encourage most visitors to go off-site in the evenings, with inevitable noise on their return.

- viii) Given the nature of the site, the members of the Parish Council would have liked to have seen a tree survey/report.
- ix) There is no indication as to whether the site will be seasonal or year-round.
- x) The site may have been used in the past for the sale of Christmas trees but certainly not in recent years, when the site has been used purely for growing the trees. Local memory is that trees grown on this site were sent to the retail operation at Shide to be sold there. There would therefore have been little traffic in and out of the site, even around Christmas.
- xi) There is also insufficient detail on the ponds. How deep would they be, what construction would be used, what safety precautions would be taken, how would the spoil be treated?

#### **060/18 Review of Local Government Ethical Standards**

It was agreed that councillors should look at the paperwork and send suggestions to the Clerk before the next meeting so that a response could be compiled.

#### **061/18 Table top tombs**

The Chairman has contacted the PCC regarding attending their next meeting but has not as yet received a response.

#### **062/18 Cemetery works**

It was noted that none of the work requested to be undertaken in Gore Cemetery had in fact happened in 2017. It was agreed not to proceed with a hardstanding inside the gate as water appeared to be running off satisfactorily without it. It was agreed to write to the appointed contractor for the railings to ask if he was able to undertake the work, otherwise we would go elsewhere.

#### **063/18 New Data Protection Regulations**

IWALC have discussed the matter and suggested that either Clerks have reciprocal arrangements with other councils to be their Data Protection Officer or that expertise is paid for collectively. The latter idea is likely to be the most likely solution.

#### **064/18 Bus hardstanding**

The Clerk has written to Southern Vectis but had not yet received a response.

#### **065/18 Battle of Britain Memorial Stone**

A meeting that had been arranged between Island Roads, the landowner and ourselves failed to materialise. The Clerk will contact Island Roads to see if any progress has been made towards arranging a new date.

#### **066/18 Fun Day and other events**

It was agreed that a Fun Day would not happen this year but that it could be considered for 2019. However, it would need the permission of the Cricket Club to take place in their grounds, even if they were unable to participate.

#### **067/18 World War I centenary**

Cllr Dovey offered to paint a mural in the Community Hall. Cllr Calloway suggested a street party in the Community Hall with suitable displays. The Clerk suggested that Cllr Thirkettle produce a file of the biographies that he has compiled of all the men named on the War Memorial.

#### **068/18 To note the date of the next meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

The Chairman reminded everyone that this meeting will be the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council. He also announced that he will be willing to stand for Chairman once more but would stand down next year. Anyone who would like to be considered for the position was

welcome to stand as Vice-Chairman this year if they wished to shadow him and were also willing to stand in the elections in 2021.

**069/18 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only**

Nothing was raised.

The meeting concluded 9.10pm

**Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council**

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13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

..... Chairman

..... Date