

Minutes of a meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 10th February, 2020** at **Arreton Community Hall** at **7.00pm**.

Present: Cllrs Kimber, Calloway, Dodson, Healy, Roberts and Verey.

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

021/20 Apologies for Absence

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

022/20 Hare and Hounds junction

David Evans (Strategic Manager – Highways and Transportation) gave a brief presentation on potential plans from the IW Council to deal with traffic problems in the area from Lynbottom tip to Arreton Cross and including the Hare and Hounds junction, as there is not enough capacity in the area. The IW Council intends to apply to the Department for Transport for funding from their Transport Pinch Point Fund, which supports capacity issues not funded from the usual sources. This is a two-stage process with an expression of interest followed by a full business case if the first stage is successful. The intention is to ask for between £6m and £9.5m, depending on which of two schemes is selected. The prohibitive cost in the past has been the presence of an 18" gas main somewhere in the vicinity of the Hare and Hounds junction, the exact location of which is not known.

There are a number of options being considered but the current thinking is the scheme would comprise:-

- i) A roundabout at Arreton Cross:
- ii) An extension to the existing filter lane at the entrance to the tip, to provide more capacity for traffic to queue prior to entering the tip; and either:
- iii) Option 1 – to extend and enlarge the right-turn lane (coming from Arreton) at the traffic lights; or
Option 2 – to create a gyratory system to include the Robin Hill roundabout and the traffic lights (both of which would go). This is the most expensive option as it would involve locating and avoiding the gas main. New bus stops would be included and the ancient hedgerow in the immediate vicinity would be retained as much as possible. Street lighting may be included. If the bid is successful, construction would take about ten months and would be unlikely to begin before spring 2021.

Questions included whether it was possible to reverse the traffic flow within Lynbottom, which would provide more waiting capacity within the site, and whether a temporary scheme to create a right-hand lane at the Hare and Hound could be implemented, providing more capacity for traffic coming from Arreton Cross. The Clerk will send an e-mail regarding the questions.

Mr Evans was thanked for taking the time to meet the Parish Council.

023/20 Questions from the public

None

024/20 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (13th January 2020)

The minutes of the meeting held on January 13th were amended to include a question on climate change raised by Cllr Verey. They were then confirmed and signed – proposed Cllr Healy, seconded Cllr Verey.

025/20 To receive regular reports

- (a) IWC Councillor – IWC Cllr Mosdell reported that the IW Council budget will go to Scrutiny on Tuesday 11th, Cabinet on Thursday and full Council at the end of the month. The proposed extra charges are to support other budgets such as those supporting vulnerable people.

IWC Cllr Mosdell and nine other members will be attending the Conservative Councillors Conference, which will also be attended by Government ministers.

IWC Cllr Mosdell also mentioned a shared funding project to put in a footbridge in Newchurch from the pavement to Norah Boswell's path.

- (b) Cemetery and Churchyard – nothing to report.
- (c) Highways and footpaths – there has been quite extensive flooding in the road in the vicinity of Pyle Cottages and there have been six accidents in two months, mainly owing to aquaplaning. The ditch in the field nearby is not sufficient and the Clerk will contact Island Roads.

There was a query as to who owns School Lane as it is not on the PFI maps. It may be the IWC Education Department. IWC Cllr Mosdell will investigate.

There has been no progress with the Stickworth trees although IWC Cllr Mosdell has left a message with the land agent and will now speak to Darryl Clark of Rights of Way to see if the work can be carried out and the bill sent to Stickworth Hall.

The IW Council is undertaking a survey of Island footpaths.

- (d) IWALC/Chairman's report – The Chairman reported that some personal issues meant that he could not attend the IWALC meeting. However, the following significant issues arose at the January meeting:

- Potential for remote 'attendance' at IWALC meetings using internet (video conferencing) is being investigated – together with trying to understand why some councils do not attend. A working party was established to investigate. The introduction of such a scheme could affect contributions for councils if the cost is significant.
- An Infrastructure Workshop held on Friday January 24th 2020. It was reported that overall, the Workshop had been seen as very successful. Feedback received included that some questions were parochial, the panel was too large, the room lay-out (and microphones which only worked intermittently) made it difficult to hear what was being said. Island Roads was not represented. Too many questions were asked with some submitted questions not being answered, a suggestion that smaller, more focussed meetings might be more beneficial.
- it was agreed to arrange a meeting with Bob Seely MP to raise concerns about rural bus services, responsibility for the financing of Island bus services, that the question of devolution within England may arise again together with concerns that the Island may be tacked on to Hampshire. It was felt that money 'promised' to the Island before the General Election might now be diverted elsewhere.

The circular requesting e-mail addresses has finally been distributed – thanks to the Clerk for copying and to everyone else for input and distributing.

Highways are undertaking surveys on footpaths and bridleways across the Island. Any volunteers to assist with this should contact Jennine Gardener at Rights of Way.

UKOG – the Chairman noted that there had been publicity on lampposts in Arreton. There is also a UKOG environmental screening report on the FrackfreeIOW website, which he had assumed had been obtained off the UKOG site. However, he could not find this report on their website. The report appears to conclude that no Environmental Impact Assessment is required.

- (e) Meeting reports – nothing to report.
- (f) Clerk's report – Agenda and Minutes Record: there were no actions from the previous meeting that do not appear on the agenda for this meeting.

Other matters: the Clerk attended the IWALC workshop on January 24th. It was reasonably well-attended with a large panel – maybe too large as one lady waited ages to be asked a question and then it was not her area of responsibility. The order of questions could have been better prepared beforehand and printed out in the order of asking. As always, we will wait to see if any action follows.

The Clerk has received the annual return from Roach Pittis for the WG Wyld Trust. The VAT return has been sent off and an invoice has gone to the IW Council for the annual precept for the Churchyard.

Nothing further has been heard about the tombs which require renovation and so the Clerk will contact the Churchwarden to see if any further progress has been made by the Diocese in respect of getting approval for the works.

Although external printing of the flyers regarding parish communications had been considered, it was easier to produce them in-house for the cost of a ream of paper and an ink cartridge. This was duly done, the flyers were distributed amongst the councillors and most have now been delivered or posted (about 10%). This, inevitably took up a fair amount of the Clerk’s time and one or two other items have slipped as a consequence.

Cllr Calloway will be attending the AGM of the AoNB Partnership in March.

Training

Cllr Healy will be attending an IWALC training session on the Code of Conduct at the Riverside Centre on March 17th.

026/20 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 042/20 – no items were raised.

027/20 Finance

The finance report for January was received and the balance in the current account was noted as being £8,486.70 at the end of January. The following payments were agreed:-

Staff costs	£372.49
V Roberts (event expenses)	£30.00
IWALC (subscription)	£190.03

028/20 Planning and Appeals

To consider any applications recently received:-

Reference	19/01652/HOU
Alternative Reference	PP-08386711
Application Received	Mon 23 Dec 2019
Address	Frensham Arreton Street Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3AD
Proposal	Proposed alterations and single storey rear extension; raised patio area
Reference	20/00094/HOU
Alternative Reference	PP-08434465

Application Received	Mon 20 Jan 2020
Address	South Cottage Blackwater Road Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3BE
Proposal	Proposed single storey rear extension

It was agreed that there was no objection to the application for an extension at Frensham. It was noted that there was a lack of detail such as dimensions and also that it is visible from the public bridleway behind the property.

It was agreed that there was no objection to the application for an extension to South Cottage. It was noted that there was a lack of detail such as dimensions and it would have been good to see a design statement and an ecological report.

029/20 Cemetery bench

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

030/20 Cemetery fence

The Chairman and the Clerk met the preferred contractor to discuss extra work such as filling in the rabbit holes but as yet no further details have been received. It was agreed to award the contract to JR Fencing and allow further expenditure of up to £500 for any extra work.

031/20 Pest control

This was put on hold to await further details from the contractor – see item above.

032/20 Landowner agreement

The wording of the document regarding access for the fencing work was agreed.

033/20 Budget

The proposed budget was agreed with an increase of £1,100 (11.83%) to £10,400, mainly due to the cost of the new rabbit-proof fence at Gore Cemetery. It is anticipated that the precept will be reduced next year.

034/20 Parish communication

As noted in the Clerk's Report, most of the flyers have been delivered or posted. It was agreed that events or meetings being held by others can be advertised but not if they contain overt political or religious content or subject matter that could compromise the impartiality of the Parish Council. There will be a six-month trial of the scheme.

035/20 Burial fees 2020

It was agreed not to increase the burial fees this year and to review them again in 12 months' time.

036/20 Data Protection Policies

The Chairman will make some suggested corrections in consultation with Cllr Healy and the Clerk before consideration at the next meeting.

037/20 Police

Speed limits and enforcement would be brought up at the quarterly Police meeting later this week. A suspicious white van which has been seen in the area recently will also be mentioned.

038/20 Speedwatch

It is possible that the Speedwatch campaign could be resurrected. It was agreed that the Parish Council might be interested but would like more detail first. The Clerk will investigate.

039/20 Litter picking and the Great British Spring Clean

The Clerk contacted Island Roads about regular litter picking in the Parish but received an unsatisfactory response and has had no reply to a further e-mail. No decision was made about participation in the Great British Spring Clean.

040/20 VE Day 2020

It was agreed to consider the possibility of an event on May 8th. The Community Hall has been booked.

041/20 To note the date of the next meeting, 9th March 2020

042/19 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only

Cllr Verey requested an agenda item on climate change.

The Clerk has two tickets for events at the Music, Dance and Drama Festival. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Clerk.

IW Cllr Mosdell was thanked for sorting out some of the confusion caused by the 'Road Closed' signs for Bow Bridge in Godshill that have been placed on various roads in the Parish.

There being nothing else raised, the meeting concluded at 9.10pm.

Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council

16th February 2020

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..... Chairman

..... Date