

# Arreton Parish Council Newsletter

June 2021

The last newsletter was in the spring but now it is definitely summer, although the weather isn't exactly co-operating at the moment. The original intention was to publish the Newsletter on an irregular basis, as and when news demanded. As there was so much going on with COVID last year, two editions became a regular monthly feature. The 'COVID and Council' issue will now disappear and any such news will be in the single edition. The irregularity has already started! However, e-mails will be sent if the information is important or time-sensitive.

## **Arreton Gardens' Open Day - 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Seven gardens in Arreton, including Arreton Manor and Haseley Manor, will be open to raise money for WightDASH/WOW and the Scouts on the Island on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 12 noon to 4.30pm. There will be a Plant Stall and Cream Teas at Haseley Manor and £5.00 gains entry to all gardens, which will be signed on the day - children free. Parking free at Haseley and the Community Car Park to the right of the White Lion Pub. The no.8 bus goes through the village. Buy tickets at the first garden you go to or at the Post Office on 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> July. Do come along and enjoy the beautiful gardens.



WightDASH is a charity (no 1108138) that supports women who have or are experiencing difficult times and WOW is the Centre in Newport where courses and sessions are run to help and support women. The Scouts have, of course, suffered from a lack of income due to COVID 19.

Vivian Roberts 07768 091370 for any enquiries

## **Parish Council news**

### Elections

The 'new' Parish Council was duly elected with a distinctly familiar look as all but one of the existing councillors were returned. However, there is still one vacancy and we are looking to co-opt. Should you be interested, please contact the Clerk for details - [arretonpc@outlook.com](mailto:arretonpc@outlook.com) or 07587 008183. A poster at the end of this newsletter gives details of the necessary requirements or the official notices can be found on our notice boards and the website -

<https://www.arreton.org.uk/notice-board/co-option-of-a-new-councillor/>



### Meetings

After May 7<sup>th</sup>, town and parish councils no longer had the option of virtual meetings and had to revert to face-to-face, although how we sit is anything but. These meetings are currently taking place in Haseley Manor Barn and our thanks to Cllr Roberts for organising these. Our July meeting takes place before the proposed end of lockdown on the 19<sup>th</sup> and there is not usually a meeting in August. However, we hope that come September we can resume our meetings in the Community Centre.

### Merstone Lane

The Parish Council have received complaints and comments about speeding in Merstone Lane and also its use by tractors as a shortcut to the anaerobic digester, despite the width restriction

in place along the full length of the Lane. We have contacted the Police, who are taking action with regard to the tractors and hopefully also the speeding.

If you have any such issues anywhere in the Parish then please do get in touch and we will do our best to help.

### Litter

The Great British Litter Pick, organised by the Keep Britain Tidy Group has recently finished. The members of the Parish Council considered getting involved but there were two problems. One is that most of the roads in the Parish do not have pavements, which makes litter picking a dangerous activity. The other is that, when we investigated, there was not really enough litter to warrant organising such an event.

This latter is very good news but I cannot let the occasion pass without saying that the members of the Parish Council are very grateful to a couple who regularly pick up litter when they are out and about. There are no doubt more of you out there who do the same and so our thanks to you too. However, it is interesting to note that it would appear that most of the litter is caused by people throwing it out of cars as they drive through. The other hot spot is by the bus shelters at Arreton Barns, where some of the visitors are less than tidy whilst waiting for a bus. Litter bins may be the answer but consideration has to be given as to how they can be emptied safely.



Whilst on the subject of bins, we are intending to install another dog waste bin in Heasley Lane, near to the start of footpath A14 by Haseley Manor gates.

### Fly tipping

Still on a related subject, there have been instances of fly tipping in the Parish, particularly up on St Georges Down. Should any such rubbish be spotted, please contact the Parish Council (details at the end of this Newsletter).

### Beavers



The Hampshire and IW Wildlife's project to introduce beavers into the eastern Yar in Newchurch is still ongoing. A Project Officer has yet to be appointed but we have been promised that we will be kept informed as there are implications in being upstream of the proposed site.

### Hedges

The birdnesting season is generally considered to run from March to the end of July and so residents are respectfully reminded to dust off their hedgetrimmers, shears or whatever fairly soon. Those who live on the main road adjoining the pavement may like to inspect their hedges for nests now and consider a cut before the new growth becomes a potential obstacle to pedestrians, particularly for parents with pushchairs and small children going up to the School.

### Island Roads

Island Roads have recently circulated Factsheets on hedges and verges, street cleansing and the Highways Safety and Improvement Register. These have been sent with this Newsletter.

## Isle of Wight Council

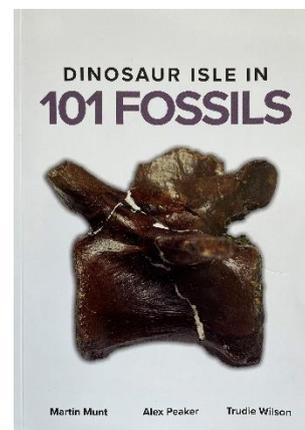
### Dinosaur Isle Museum

#### [New guidebook to Dinosaur Isle Museum and Isle of Wight fossils](#)

To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the opening of Dinosaur Isle Museum at Sandown and 200 years since the foundation of the collection, the Museum has published a new guidebook to the Island's fossils. Alongside their work providing support to other essential services during the pandemic, staff at the museum have worked with local fine and palaeo artist Trudie Wilson to produce the 230-page book.

The book is more than a guide to the museum displays, as it showcases many other fossils, spectacular and common, found on the Island. The new book is called *Dinosaur Isle in 101 Fossils* and has been written by assistant community learning officer Alex Peaker and Museum General Manager and Curator, Dr Martin Munt. Trudie Wilson designed and brought the work together into an attractive and accessible format. Rather than describing the individual fossils, the book uses them to tell the 125-million-year geological story of the Island, along with what the fossils tell us about ancient environments. Mixed in are anecdotes about the people who discovered them and places they were found.

Dr Munt said: "This book has only been possible because of 200 years of fossil collectors, Museum staff and volunteers supporting the Museum and believing that our world class fossil heritage should stay here where it belongs on the Island. The book has been written for the general reader, and we provide a glossary of the technical terms to help with understanding."



### FREE bus travel offer for young people

The Isle of Wight Council has teamed up with Southern Vectis to encourage younger people to use bus travel across the Island. The council's Connect2Work Programme has launched a brand-new bus offer in partnership with Southern Vectis, aimed at potential new bus users aged between 16 – 19 years old. A limited number of complimentary Multi-Day tickets are available, allowing 15 days of unlimited bus travel on the Island. Aimed at non-bus users, an objective of the scheme is to understand how younger islanders perceive bus travel, and to encourage a new generation of regular bus users.

To take part in the scheme, eligible applicants are required to complete a short online survey designed to capture perceptions on bus travel, and then download the new improved Southern Vectis Mobile app, which has a variety of innovative features including real journey time tracking and a journey planner.



Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management, Councillor Jonathan Bacon, said: "We know that resident travel patterns will have changed as a result of the pandemic. This initiative will help us find out how behaviour has altered and at the same time provide a great opportunity to introduce a new younger audience to bus travel."

To find out more information on the bus travel offer and to fill in the short survey, please visit: [www.connect2work.info/busoffer](http://www.connect2work.info/busoffer)

The aim of the Connect2Work Programme is to change commuters' behaviour and travel habits to increase the long-term use of active and sustainable travel modes to reduce congestion, pollution and promote health and well-being. The Connect2Work Programme is delivered by the Isle of Wight Council and funded by the Department for Transport.

### [Privilege seat applications welcomed](#)

The application process for school transport 'privilege seats' is now open.

Parents of children that are not eligible for a local authority funded seat on contracted school bus transport can apply for a privilege seat up until 4pm on Friday 9 July 2021.

For details on how to apply, please visit: <https://www.iow.gov.uk/privilegeseats>

Privilege seats are spare seats sold to parents who choose to send their child to a school other than their nearest school.

As was the case last year, a privilege seat costs £390 — the equivalent of around £2 a day over the academic year — which can be paid in termly or in half termly instalments. There is also an option to apply for a privilege seat for only the morning or afternoon journey.

Cabinet member for children's services, Councillor Debbie Andre, said: "I would urge parents to apply as soon as they can for a seat as the time frame to apply for this is limited. We have also been able to keep the costs the same as last year.



"Due to fewer private services selling seats, spaces are limited and so some parents will be disappointed, which we understand. For those who are unable to buy a privilege seat, we hope that local transport services are able to accommodate them as they did last year, so that parents can plan for September."

Applications are for the 2021/22 academic year and must be made during the online application window and seats will be allocated after the closing date. The process will select successful applicants randomly.

Every year, the council spends more than £3 million transporting children to school under its statutory obligations.

### **UKOG drilling application**

Don't forget that comments on UKOG's application for a proposed new well site to explore and appraise hydrocarbon minerals must be with the Environment Agency by midnight on Friday 9 July 2021. Details have been sent out previously but the relevant pdf has been sent out with this Newsletter in case anyone needs a reminder.

### PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Chairman: Cllr Martin Kimber – [martinkimberapc@gmail.com](mailto:martinkimberapc@gmail.com)

Clerk: Mrs Sheila Caws - [arretonpc@outlook.com](mailto:arretonpc@outlook.com) 07587 008183

See below for details on becoming a Parish Councillor

# INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

## FANCY HAVING A SAY IN HOW THINGS ARE RUN?

Parish and town councils form the bedrock of local government, and provide an important link between the Island's individuals and the Isle of Wight Council.

**Arreton Parish Council is to consider co-opting one person to serve on the Council, which covers the Arreton, Merstone and Blackwater areas.**

If you think you have something to offer, are eligible, and wish to be considered to serve as a Parish Councillor, please notify the Parish Clerk in writing under your own signature by July 5, 2021. Prospective candidates may be asked to make a short presentation to the Parish Council on how they can contribute to the council and the community of Arreton.

The address is:

**Sheila Caws, Parish Clerk, Hillis Side, Rew St, Gurnard, Isle of Wight, PO31 8NW**

Eligibility:

A local councillor must be 18 years of age or over and a British subject or qualifying Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland or a citizen of another Member State of the European Community.

He/she must also fulfil at least one of the following criteria

- during the whole of the 12 months before nomination, occupied land or premises as owner or tenant in the parish area
- during the same period resided in the Parish or within 4.8 km thereof
- at the time of nomination be registered as a local government elector for the administrative area of the Parish.

The person should not be disqualified from being elected by reason of any disqualification set out in Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972, or any decision made under section 79 of the Local Government Act 2000.