

Minutes of a meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at **7pm** in **Arreton Community Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Gurney-Champion, Cooper, Healy, Roberts and Verey  
In attendance: Sheila Caws (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

**217/22 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Orchard (family commitment) and IWC Cllr Ellis (unwell).

**226/22 Casual vacancies**

The Chairman brought this item forward.

An application to return to the Parish Council was received from Simon Dodson and the decision to co-opt him was unanimous.

**218/22 Questions from the public**

None received.

**219/22 To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011.**

Cllr Verey declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application for Budbridge Lodge.

**220/22 To give notice of any item to be raised under agenda item 235/22**

One item was raised.

**221/22 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (14<sup>th</sup> November 2022)**

The minutes of the meeting held on November 14<sup>th</sup> were confirmed and signed – proposed Cllr Healy, seconded Cllr Roberts.

**222/22 To receive regular reports**

a) IW Councillor – in the absence of IW Cllr Ellis, her report was read out.

Autumn and Early winter have unfortunately seen IWC Cllr Ellis with limited capacity due to ongoing complex health issues but she has continued to address ward and IWC work to the best of her abilities.

Ward work for Arreton has centred around enquiries on planning applications and planning enforcement, and she has recently met with the applicants/planning agent at Hale Common (former Aquatic and Garden Centre) to discuss their plans for live/work units - 22/01477/OUT. The developers would be happy to come along to a public meeting to answer concerns the parish council/residents have regarding the suitability of this development at this site.

IWC Cllr Ellis met with IWC Cllr Medland, chair of the Planning Committee, and Ollie Boulter and Russell Chick (from the Planning Department) to discuss the four applications at Broadfields Park. The planning officer who was working on these applications is leaving the council at the end of January and the applications will be reassigned, possibly to Mr Chick. She was told that the three current applications will need to be readvertised (the fourth is still 'in the pipeline') to allow for a noise report and new designs for access to the site (in order to prevent/deter vehicles using the Broadfields site from using Chapel Lane.) Once Planning have both sets of information, they will commence a new public consultation to seek the views of local people.

She has also met with the landowners on site at Broadfields; it was useful to be able to have a look around the site and gain a better understanding of the applications and to be able to raise residents' concerns with them. They have agreed to a meeting with planners, herself

and a representative of the local residents – this will take place early in the New Year and a member of the Parish Council would be very welcome to attend.

IWC Cllr Ellis will be interested to see how IWALC respond to the IW Council's suggestion that Town and Parish Councils' may wish to fund/part fund their own enforcement officer and have suggested that a provision needs to be made for smaller parish councils that may struggle to fund this, despite often having enforcement issues that would benefit from such an approach, I am hopeful that various options to make this scheme accessible to those councils with smaller precepts will be included.

IWC Cllr Ellis has attended IW Council meetings and briefings where able and was pleased to be able to take part in the Remembrance Day Service at St Georges. She went along to Island Roads' winter service briefing for Councillors, which was both informative and enjoyable – it was reassuring to see what plans they had in place for the cold snaps we are now experiencing, and a got to have a ride in a gritting lorry!

IWC Cllr Ellis hopes to be able to attend Parish Council meetings in the New Year (but will be away over the Christmas period), until then please do feel free to contact her by email/ telephone if there is anything whatsoever she can help with.

A discussion on the enforcement proposals then followed. It was noted that the recent peer review of the Planning Department had highlighted weakness in the enforcement service. Given the lack of detail available, it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the IW Council regarding the proposals.

b) Cemetery and Churchyard – nothing to report.

c) Highways and footpaths – nothing to report.

d) IWALC/Chairman's report – Cllr Roberts was unable to attend but the minutes from the last meeting have been circulated.

The Chairman noted that he had not had any other duties last month other than preparation for this meeting.

e) Meeting reports – Cllr Verey reported that she had attended a meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Forum, where one of the subjects under discussion was ash die-back. In the opinion of some of those present, including the IWC's Tree Officer, it was preferable to let the trees die naturally and fall over rather than fell them. There was a suggestion that the wood from any felled trees should be made available for community use. There was no particular agreement on replacing them.

f) Tree project – Cllr Dodson offered to contact the landowner who had offered land at Merstone for trees to see if the offer still stood?

g) Clerk's report - Agenda and Minutes Record: the Clerk followed up the point raised regarding parking at the Methodist Church. The Parish Council was originally contacted by the members of the Methodist Church to request support regarding the parking issues. This was offered but ultimately the members of the Church decided not to pursue any further action for the time being.

**Other matters:** the planning application for Pragnells, Chapel Lane has been granted.

The Clerk attended the workshop on cultural and heritage activities in the mainly Central Rural ward area arranged by Island Collection. However, as the session became a more general discussion on Island-wide activities, the Clerk took on her local history persona instead. Unfortunately, there were only about ten attendees including the Clerk and IWC Cllr Ellis. Of the other eight, the majority came from Arreton Barns.

All other matters are covered in agenda items.

## **223/22 Finance**

The finance report for November was received and the balance in the current account was noted as being £6,428.80 at the end of November. The following payments were agreed:

Staff costs (salaries etc.)	£380.18
Brighstone Landscaping Ltd (magnolia prop)	£72.00
Information Commissioner (data protection)	£40.00
S Caws (computer security)	£33.43
Foundation Multimedia (website)	£150.00

### **224/22 Planning and appeals**

Reference	22/01944/FUL
Alternative Reference	PP-11647622
Application Received	Thu 27 Oct 2022
Address	Budbridge Lodge Budbridge Lane Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3DH
Proposal	Demolition of existing bungalow; proposed replacement eco dwelling with attached garage (revised scheme)
Reference	22/02127/HOU
Alternative Reference	Not Available
Application Received	Fri 25 Nov 2022
Address	Rowan Tree Arreton Street Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3AD
Proposal	Demolition of garage; proposed two/single storey extension; alterations; driveway alterations and turning area

The application for Rowan Tree has not yet appeared in the Press List and will be discussed at the next meeting.

The application for Budbridge Lodge was a revised application and the changes were noted. It was agreed that there was no objection.

### **225/22 Community Speedwatch**

The Clerk reported that no further progress had been made in trying to contact the Godshill group but she will keep trying through other channels. A speed radar sign was suggested and the Clerk will contact Sway Parish Council which has one in operation to find out more detail. The Clerk will also contact Insp. Gooding and ask for a speed patrol through Merstone. She will also ask Island Roads for more width restriction signs and better placing of existing ones.

### **226/22 Casual vacancies**

See above.

### **227/22 Flooding**

The Clerk has received an update from the IW Council's Drainage and Flood Risk Management Officer. He reported that there has been a lot of work that many people in the village may not have noticed but the results are positive. Arreton Barns have installed a rainwater system and rainwater discharge to manage their rainwater and surface water more efficiently. This has included some groundworks which have had a positive effect on the amount of rainwater/surface water reaching the highway and exacerbating the issue of flooding. They have also agreed to allow the council to install a pre-gully run off from Downend Road which would greatly reduce the highway surface water before it gets to

Arreton Cross. They have some plans to do some additional works to further aid the discharge of surface water which are scheduled for early next year.

The landowners have been busy too, with the installation of silt traps and better management of their surface water which has had an impact on the amount of water reaching the highway and subsequently affecting properties. Their work has been paramount in reducing the risk of flooding and he will issue future reminders to them to maintain their systems. He is happy to do this as he has built good working relationships with them and is keen to nurture them in the interests of future collaboration.

The Environment Agency have approached the landowner with the stream passing through his land so to encourage him to work with them to maintain its length and ensure its future, uninhibited flow. The Environment Agency are also involved in the scouring and cleaning of the Eastern Yar along its entire length with work due to start early next year. This would increase capacity, flow and generally enhance the environment around the river. All these factors, when combined, will go a long way to reduce the flood risk.

**228/22 Budget**

The Clerk has received a request from Natural Enterprise for a further donation of £250.00 towards the clearing of balsam along the eastern Yar in the Parish. This was agreed and added to the budget. Figures for the salaries of the Clerk and the Burial Register were also agreed. There was a discussion about the planters with suggestions such as sponsorship for their maintenance and a figure in the budget for their maintenance. There was also a discussion on the wooden posts on the grass at Park Cottages as one has fallen over. The Clerk will contact Island Roads to see if they will take responsibility for a replacement.

**229/22 Emergency Plan**

Cllr Healy said that the template that he had been given was much too complicated for a small parish that did not have much in the way of resources. There was a need to know what was needed and who would benefit. There was also the question of liability if perceived responsibilities could not be met. The Clerk will contact the other parishes in the Central Rural ward to see if anyone has produced such a plan. It was noted that the Parish Council had no notice of new residents and it might be an idea to ask those with new neighbours to let the Parish Council know.

**230/22 Social media**

It was suggested that the Parish Council could have a presence on social media but it was noted that one platform would not be enough and that it required regular input. No decision was made.

**231/22 Model Councillor/Officer Protocol**

It was agreed not to adopt this for the time being.

**232/22 Gore Cemetery shed**

The Clerk was given more contacts to try to obtain further quotes for the necessary work.

**233/22 Drinking water fountain**

It was agreed to abandon this project.

**234/22 To note the date of the next meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**235/22 Any other matters raised by councillors for discussion only**

The retirement of the Burial Registrar will be marked in a suitable fashion.

**236/22 To pass a resolution to exclude the public and press under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss confidential matters**

The request from the Clerk for extra hours from April 2023 was agreed.

There being nothing else raised, the meeting concluded at 8.50.m.

**Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council**

Hillis Side, Rew Street, Gurnard, Isle of Wight PO31 8NW  
E-mail: [arretonpc@outlook.com](mailto:arretonpc@outlook.com) Telephone: 07587 008183

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

.....

Chairman

.....

Date