

# *Arreton Parish Council Newsletter*

*December 2023*

Once again, rather a large gap between newsletters. This is mainly because it has been rather quiet on the news front. This is not to say that the members of the Parish Council have not been busy but because they have been doing the things that they normally do e.g commenting on planning applications, overseeing the maintenance of the burial grounds, creating new policies when required and keeping the regulations that govern the way that town and parish councils are run. None of it wildly exciting (at least not usually) but it all has to be done.

## **Cricket Club Summer Fair**

The members of the Parish Council supported Arreton Cricket Club at their Summer Fair in August. Although the weather was not in a co-operative mood that day, the event was extremely successful and raised £2,500 for the Club to go towards the purchase of equipment.

The members of the Club are intending to hold other events such as quizzes, usually in the Community Hall, so keep a look-out for posters or on the Parish website.

## **Arreton Community Hall**

There has been a change in the management team at the Community Hall as Pat Phillips and Lawrie and Heather Calloway have all stepped down as Trustees after many years of service. They all deserve a great deal of thanks for running the Hall for so many years.

The Parish Council is represented on the Trust by three members, along with others from the community. The hall is available for hire, £11 per hour for residents, the diary and booking page can be found via the Arreton parish Council website

<https://www.arreton.org.uk/community-hall/> To view the diary and book on-line you can follow this link <https://www.brownbearsw.com/cal/arreton> - or contact the Bookings Secretary, Simon Dodson, at [bookingsarretoncommunityhall@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsarretoncommunityhall@gmail.com) or 07973 323560.

## **Arreton Open Gardens 2023**

Five gardens in Arreton were open on 30th July this year at £5 per head and children free. These were Horingford House, Station House, Spreets Rew, Haseley Manor and The Old Vicarage, with money being raised for the Island Scouts and Home-Start. There was intermittent rain which definitely kept some visitors away but, despite that, 150 people came. Teas at Haseley Manor raised £260 and another £102 came from the Coach House teas which were organised by Jacqui Gill, who kindly gave the proceeds to the nominated charities. House tours of Haseley brought in £115 plus £74 from payment through our card reader, which was for entry and teas. The plant stall owner donated £20 which gave a grand total of £1,334. Thanks to everyone who participated.

## **And finally ...**

As you know, the current Clerk will have retired by the time you read this and the new Clerk, Claire Gale, will be in the seat in front of the computer. Claire comes to the Parish from East Cowes Town Council and so is an experienced Clerk. I am sure that she will soon be up to speed with Arreton's quirks and foibles.

As previously mentioned, it has been an interesting ride at times. An anaerobic digester, the oil well, dealing with rabbits in the Cemetery (we don't mind them eating the grass but wish they wouldn't undermine the headstones), taking minutes when holding meetings on Zoom (not as easy as it ought to be) are some of the more memorable items that come to mind. Then there were the events such as those associated with World War I, the unveiling of the memorial to the Battle of Britain pilot who crashed between the School and Haseley Manor in 1940 and the Fun Days that we held. More recently there have been the events for the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Coronation of our new King, Charles. Part of the enjoyment of those was working with members of the two churches in the village and the Cricket Club.

Then there are you, the residents. You don't always make your thoughts known but the members of the Parish Council tend to assume that they must be doing a reasonable job because no one complains. Thank you for your suggestions and comments over the years.

I would also like to thank those of you who sent me nice messages when I announced my retirement, appreciation is always appreciated. So, after three Chairmen and at least 15 other councillors, it is time to thank them all for being so easy to work for and with. I wish them, Claire and yourselves all the best for the future.

With that, I will finally hang up my pen – Sheila.

#### PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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