

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Gurnard Parish Council held in the main hall at Gurnard Primary School in Hilton Road, Gurnard on Tuesday 9th June 2009 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Jacobs, Day, Fuller, Mrs McKean, Mrs Butler & Mrs Pain.

AGENDA "A"

- 4997 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
Resolved: That Councillor Day is elected to serve as Chairman until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2010.
- 4998 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE
Councillor Day made a declaration of acceptance for the office of Chairman before the Proper Officer.
- 4999 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN
Resolved: That Councillor Mrs Butler is elected to serve as Vice Chairman until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2010.
- 5000 COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE
The Proper Officer confirmed that all Councillors have signed their declarations of acceptance of office, as well as their written undertakings to be bound by the adopted code of conduct.
- 5001 ELECTION RESULTS
7 Councillors were elected in an uncontested election namely Richard Day, Alan Jacobs, Elaine Butler, Sylvia Pain, Marie Bugden, Jane McKean and Paul Fuller. 2 seats remain vacant, and the process of filling the vacancies by co-option has commenced. The Registers of Financial and Other Interests forms must now be complete within 28 days, i.e. by 7th July.
- 5002 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE STANDING ORDERS
Resolved: That Standing Orders are confirmed and approved in their current format without amendment.
- 5003 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS
Resolved: That Financial Regulations are confirmed and approved in their current format without amendment.
- 5004 TO APPOINT AN INTERNAL AUDITOR
Resolved: That Miss Sarah Truckell is appointed to serve as Internal Auditor until the Annual Meeting in 2010, and access is approved.
- 5005 TO APPOINT A PLANNING COMMITTEE
Resolved: That a Planning Committee is appointed comprising all members of the Council.
- 5006 TO APPOINT A COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE
Resolved: That the existing Community Projects Committee is re-appointed, of which 2 will be Parish Councillors namely Councillors Day and Fuller.
- 5007 TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE & DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE IW ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS
Resolved: That Councillor Day is appointed to represent the Council with Councillor Fuller as deputy.
- 5008 TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE COWES YOUTH CLUB
Resolved: That Councillor Mrs McKean is appointed to represent the Council

- 5009 TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO ISLAND WASTE SERVICES LOCAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP
Resolved: That the making of this appointment in postponed until there is a Full Council
- 5010 TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MARSH ROAD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Resolved: That Councillor Mrs Bugden is appointed to represent the Council.
- 5011 TO APPOINT 2 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Resolved: That Councillors Mrs Bugden & Mrs Butler are appointed to represent the Parish Council.
- 5012 TO APPOINT 3 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GURNARD TRAFFIC PLAN WORKING PARTY
Resolved: That Councillors Jacobs, Day & Mrs Pain are appointed to represent the Parish Council.
- 5013 TO APPOINT 2 PARISH TREE WARDENS
Resolved: That Richard Bolwell and Councillor Day are appointed as Parish Tree Wardens.

With the formalities of the Annual Meeting completed, the meeting continued with the normal business as set out in agenda B.

AGENDA "B"

Sgt Julie Cocks attended as Safer Neighbourhoods Officer, and reported that PC Mark Thomas will remain as beat officer for Gurnard, Northwood and Porchfield, and the Cowes team will remain as before. However, Sgt Cocks will also take on the Sgt's role at Whippingham and East Cowes. The Street Briefings in the Village have been replaced with Street Mapping, which is a one-to-one contact and it is well advanced in the Village already. It should take 6 weeks or so to complete and it will be repeated annually. Recent feedback from Cowes indicates anti-social behaviour is a main concern, together with lack of parking facilities – Gurnard results will be fed back to the Parish Council. Operation Seacom will take place again this summer, working with Red Funnel to combat the negative impact of party-goers travelling from the mainland. The IW Council Neighbourhoods and Environment Officer was unable to attend, but she e-mailed that one notice had been placed on a car without road tax in Solent View Road. Litter picking does not extend as far as Gurnard Beach between the Sailing Club and the Marsh at the moment, and a complaint has been received about parking opposite dropped kerbs – there is no enforcement for this. She will be taking part in the street mapping exercise with the Safer Neighbourhoods Team.

There were no comments from members of the public present (1)

- 5014 APOLOGIES
Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs Bugden who was on holiday
- 5015 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillor Jacobs declared a personal interest in agenda item 5c due to the applicant being known to him.
- 5016 MINUTES
- a. The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 26th May 2009 were received and noted.
 - b. The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 12th May 2009 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 5017 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON 12th MAY 2009
- a. Re: Minute 4987a refers
Solent Protection Society has responded to concerns raised by the Parish Council but, whilst the Society is sympathetic to the issues, it is felt that there is no threat from these activities to its remit and so feels it cannot become directly involved. It did mention that Natural England may be interested however.
- 5018 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
- a. Report from Parish Clerk.

The following planning application has been refused:

P/00422/09: Demolition of dwelling. Replacement detached dwelling. Vehicular access and parking (revised scheme) at "Peru" 5 Shore Road, Cowes.

b. Report from Councillor Day

Councillor Day reported that he attended the Planning Inspector's appeal visit to 72, Albert Road, and 2 neighbours also attended with the owner, the owner's agent and the case officer. Good access was given to the group but no comments were allowed.

c. **P/00534/09:** Retention of stable block comprising 3 loose boxes on OS parcels 8500 & 9400 on land at West View Road, Cowes.

Resolved: That the Parish Council has no objection to the application and has no further comment to make.

d. **P/00350/09:** Demolition of chalet bungalow. Outline for 2 detached dwellings. Vehicular access at 4, Solent View Road – APPEAL

Resolved: That the Parish Council adds "that the proposals amount to over-development" to its original comments.

e. **P/00771/09:** Householder application: Proposed 2 storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation at 7, Worsley Road, Cowes

Resolved: That the Parish Council has no objection to the application and has no further comment to make.

5019 REPORTS

a. IW Councillor

Councillor Fuller reported that he has joined the Independent Group in the hope of gaining better representation on committee work, and he is keen to serve on the planning committee. He has been in contact with Matthew Chatfield over the Gurnard Beach concerns, who stated that legal action is planned and more local evidence would be welcomed. He has been busy meeting people in County Hall and attending training courses. A summary of points noted whilst canvassing residents during the election campaign was presented to the Parish Council, from which he proposes to focus initially on the Gurnard Primary School site, coastal protection issues and Gurnard Pines residents' concerns. He thanked the Parish Council for its support.

b. Parish Clerk

The Parish Clerk reported that Councillor Hobart has an undertaking from a Paul and May Bradley to repair the Baring Road fencing on the Smith estate.

Following a mix-up with keys for the toilet block recently, new locks and keys have been issued and the block is now being locked up again at night. A light and a toilet roll holder have also been repaired in the last month.

Northwood PC has agreed to work with Gurnard PC on a joint affordable housing scheme, but it would not support the proposed scheme at the top of Cockleton Lane. Due to land price issues this plot has now been abandoned as a suitable exception site.

Parks and Beaches has been asked to investigate a disintegrating expansion joint on the esplanade in front of beach hut 11, and a possible hazard in connection with a sign close to the Watersedge Restaurant.

The Parish Council's insurance renewal is now completed

Recent reports suggest that the storm drainage project for Marsh Road has not been prioritized for this financial year and no commitment has been made for future budget years.

The community advice network day set for 19th September has been cancelled in favour of a Trading Standards play on 6th October – this will be a dramatic way of highlighting some issues around buying and trading and there will also be some reputable traders present.

The damaged Tuttons Hill street light column mentioned last month has been repaired

The Parish Task Group activities were suspended from April, but it is planned to start again on a similar format to the original soon.

The cutting of the grassed area at the Worsley Road/Shore Road junction has been forgotten – this has been chased up.

There have been a total of 5 responses now to the possible future role of the primary school site.

The owner of the new house on the old Methodist Church site has given an assurance that once the IW Council has signed off the new dropped kerb then the area around the post box will be re-seeded.

Gurnard Primary School has its summer fair on Saturday 20th June from 10.30am to 1.30pm.

The Parish Team at County Hall has amalgamated with the County Hall Members' Support Team – there are now just 5 in the joint team, which includes 3 from the old Parish Team, but only one of them is full time.

The 2 returns for the 2 community chest awards the Parish Council received last year have now been completed and returned.

The camera in position on the 4 cross junction recently was gathering traffic volume information for the forthcoming PFI project for the Island's roads.

The IWALC AGM takes place in the Council Chamber at County Hall on Friday 19th June from 7pm. **Councillor Day will attend with Councillor Fuller.**

A complaint has been received about youngsters abusing the tapped water supply on the esplanade by letting it run, often whilst parents look on. Parks & beaches has been advised, and asked to consider erecting a suitably worded sign.

Following a request the Cockleton Lane hedges appear to have now been cut, but not to full height.

The owner of the land, upon which the footpath lies which runs around the back of the Gurnard Heights houses, has been identified and noticed has been served of the Parish Council's intention to include it on the IW Definitive Map. The Landowner has no objection and the full application, together with 24 witness statements, has been sent off to Rights of Way.

The May Queen 2009 event has been written up, which this year includes over 40 photographs. It should appear on the website very soon.

Rights of Way has been asked to strim footpath CS 36 in Marsh Road, and also to clarify the closed signage at the seaward end, which gives the impression the beach is closed.

The pavement from the Portland Inn to No 38 Worsley Road appears to have been left out of the resurfacing work, and the Winding Way footpath needs strimming. **It was agreed to enquire about these 2 issues.**

c. IW Association of Local Councils Executive Committee Meeting 21/5/09

Councillor Day reported that 17 Councils were represented, and the meeting opened with Chris Smy giving a presentation on the youth council's work. Topics discussed included insurance, the new training calendar, planning consultation and the regional spatial strategy for the SE. Reports were received from the Secretary and Treasurer, as well as from several representatives to outside bodies. The next meeting will be the AGM on 19/6/09, followed by a normal meeting on 16/7/09.

d. Hilton Road

Minute 4987c refers

Feedback received from the IW Council indicates that Hilton Road has both unadopted and private status. The owners of the road, whoever they are, are responsible for the road maintenance and sometimes this cost is recoverable from the residents. If access for the past 20 years has not been restricted by the owners, then the road automatically becomes "highway" under the Highways Act 1980, allowing public right of way with or without vehicles – the public cannot now be excluded from the road - there is no obligation on the IW Council to maintain the road as it states it doesn't own any of it. Residents should examine their title deeds to see what they say about road ownership and seek legal advice if necessary. County Hall's legal department states that neither residents nor owners of the road can stop the public using it. **It was felt clarification was needed about what "access" means, and also if speed limit enforcement in the road was possible.**

e. Gurnard Beach & Marsh Public Meeting 8/6/09

The meeting took place in the hall at Gurnard Primary School and was attended by about 60 residents. The IW County Press was present. Following a brief introduction from Councillors Salter and Day, Councillor Fuller made a short statement that the IW Council intends to take legal action against the people who moved the rocks. The meeting was then opened up to the floor, with many comments being made on both the Gurnard Beach and collapsed footpath/sea wall issues. The over-riding aim seemed to focus on the rock groin on Gurnard Beach being removed again, and constant pressure being maintained on the IW Council to reinstate the sea wall and footpath on the Marsh. 14 written comments were also collected. **It was agreed that Peter Marsden should be asked to clarify what permission was given to the owner of 52, Worsley Road, and whether it was written or verbal. Also that Councillor Fuller would set up a local meeting with Matthew Chatfield and perhaps Peter Marsden, which Councillor Day would attend.**

f. Island Waste Advisory Group Meeting 27/5/09

The target of diverting waste from landfill for the year is 36%, but is being far exceeded and currently stands at 76%. Recycling figures for the year ending March 2009 were 1200 tonnes of paper and 746 tonnes of glass. Landfill from commercial sources is down due to the economic climate, and the implications of this if it continues are that the site may have a life beyond 2015. A new 5 year street sweeping contract runs from October this year and bids are being discussed. The gasification plant is producing 2.5 tonnes of floc fuel per hour, but it is currently closed due to operational problems. There are some problems at civic amenity sites with the wrong class of rubbish being placed in the "black bag" containers. The next meeting is 26/8/09 3pm at the

Landfill site, which Councillor Day will attend if nobody is appointed before then. It was agreed to ask if Cockleton Lane could be street swept by the Hilton Road mini-roundabout to clear all the gravel away.

5020 TREES IN SOLENT VIEW ROAD AND WORSLEY LANE

Councillor Fuller had concerns about 2 trees raised with him, namely the one outside 60 Solent View Road which appeared to have died and one oak tree at the bottom of Worsley Lane on the south side which was reported as being at risk of felling.

Resolved: That the Parish Council asks if the IW Council would replace the tree in the Solent View Road verge outside No 60, and that Councillors Day and Fuller would investigate further the oak tree in Worsley Lane and bring the concerns to the attention of the IW Council Tree Officer.

5021 BEACHWATCH 2009.

Consideration was given to the Parish Council's involvement in this year's beach clean and survey event, which takes place on 19th and/or 20th September.

Resolved: That the Parish Council takes part in the Beachwatch exercise this year, and that Councillors Fuller and Day act as joint coordinators. The Parish Clerk will inform the Marine Conservation Society.

5022 YOUTH ADVISOR SCHEME

The scheme is now 11 months old and has proved to be a success on the whole. Consideration was given to extending the scheme to allow Youth Advisors to attend Full Council meetings.

Resolved: That the Parish Council extends the scheme to include Full Council meetings.

5023 PUBLICATION

Charles Arnold Baker's Local Council Administration has just had its 8th edition published, and consideration was given to purchasing the new edition

Resolved: That the Parish Council purchases the 8th edition of Charles Arnold Baker's Local Council Administration.

5024 PARISH CLERK'S WORKING HOURS

Minute 4996 refers

The Parish Clerk submitted a paper to the Council discussing various ways and means to reduce the current number of hours worked down to the 25 contracted, which proved to be inconclusive.

Resolved: That the Parish Council carries out a further review of the Parish Clerk's terms and conditions of employment in July.

5025 GURNARD NAMEPLATE SIGNAGE

Minute 4904b refers

2 Quotes have been received namely for solely manufacturing a new sign, and also for manufacturing and fitting the new sign as well as replacing the bolt-on securing arrangements with security fittings on all Village signs.

Resolved: That the Parish Council accepts the quote of £308 + VAT for the supply and fitting of one new sign for Tuttons Hill, to include the fitting and replacement of securing arrangements for all the Village nameplate signs with security fittings.

5026 PLAY AREA

a. Report

An expression of interest form has been submitted to the IW Council to request assistance under the Parish Empowerment Initiative with the project management of the play area scheme. A Village resident has suggested he would cover the cost of the seat and litter bin for the scheme.

In addition to the £10,000 granted to the Parish Council from Awards for All for the play area fencing, confirmation of the 2 other grants have been received, namely £50,000 from the Play Builder Fund and £15,000 from the Leader plus EU Fund.

b. Funding Agreements.

2 agreements, one for each fund, were copied to all the members for consideration with a view to authorizing the Chairman and Parish Clerk to sign them on the Parish Council's behalf.

Resolved: That the Parish Council authorizes the Chairman and the Parish Clerk to sign both agreements, subject to them being satisfied with the final wording.

- c. Next Steps
Discussion took place about what the next steps should be, in particular as to when to instruct Eibe to commence manufacturing and building the scheme.
Resolved: That the Parish Council authorizes the Parish Clerk to instruct Eibe to commence work on the project in accordance with the quotation dated 27/4/09, once the 1st staged payment is deposited in the Parish Council's account.

5027 CONSULTATIONS

- Consideration was given whether to respond, and if so how, to 3 consultation documents:
 - a. Review of Farm Animal Welfare Council
Resolved: That the Parish Council responds in line with comments made to the 4 questions at the meeting.
 - b. The Hampton Trust's Eco-Mentoring Programme
Resolved: That the Parish Council invites a representative to attend a future meeting to further explain what the Parish Council's role might be.
 - c. NALC Possible Changes to the Administration of Concessionary Travel
Resolved: That the Parish Council responds in line with comments made to the 11 questions at the meeting.

5028 ACCOUNTS

- a. Petty Cash
The Parish Council was given the details of the £3.28 expenditure from this account since the last meeting.
- b. External Audit 2009
This takes place on 3rd August, and it will be advertised in the usual manner later this month.
- c. VAT Claim 2009
The claim for VAT paid during the financial year 2008/2009 has been made, and it amounts to £895.95.
- d. **Resolved: To make the following payments:**

Telephone	£26.34
Travelling	£14.42
Chairman's Allowance	£1.40
Salaries	£973.89
Post Office Ltd	£463.80
Post Office Ltd	£12.24
S Dines	£32.00
- e. **Resolved: To transfer £49.37 from the Parish Council's HSBC Treasurer's account to its HSBC Business account.**
- f. **Resolved: To transfer £1500.00 from the Parish Council's Halifax account to its HSBC Treasurer's account.**

5029 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a. Exclusion zones for jet skis
- b. Parish Council meeting venues

The meeting closed at 9.18pm.

CHAIRMAN