

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Gurnard Parish Council held in the main hall at Gurnard Primary School in Hilton Road, Gurnard on Tuesday 13th September 2011 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: **Councillors** Day (Chairman), Jacobs, Whitehouse, Javaid, Longman, & Mrs McKean.

The representative from the Environment and Neighbourhoods Team was not able to attend, but Sgt Mike Sizer from the Safer Neighbourhoods Team attended and reported that PC Mark Thomas will move away from the Gurnard beat in November to Newport and will not be replaced. PCSO Steve Oatley will remain on the Gurnard & Northwood beat though. The decision was taken at the highest level and was solely based on budget savings required by 2014. Sgt Sizer then gave a précis of crime statistics, all of which show Gurnard to have a very low crime rate and to be one of the safest places on the Island to live. If PCSO Oatley cannot attend Parish Council meetings a report will be sent, and Sgt Sizer assured the Parish Council of the best response and service the Police can provide. He specifically mentioned vehicle crime, emphasising that cars must be kept secure and not left unlocked when unattended.

Comments from members of the public present (3)

One question was asked about enforcement of the lease agreements at Gurnard Pines, and why nothing had been done about those who choose to live there permanently in contravention of lease agreements. A brief history of the Parish Council's response to the situation was given, and it was agreed that this would feature on the October agenda.

5465 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Harley & Mrs Bugden who had other commitments, and from Youth Advisor Zoe Divers who had a prior engagement.

5466 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

5467 MINUTES

- a. The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 30th August 2011 were received and noted
- b. The Minutes of the Community Projects Committee Meeting held on 2nd August 2011 were received and noted
- c. The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 12th July 2011 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5468 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON 12th JULY 2011

- a. Re Minute 5454 (minutes 4123, 4960, 5062, 5104h, 5152a, 5153f, 5189a, 5302, 5317b & 5331b also refer): The IW Council has apologised for the poor communication over the recent exhibition of the proposed school redevelopment plans and has undertaken to keep the Parish Council more informed. There is a meeting tomorrow on the issue of site use, and in particular the playing fields and orchard.
- b. Re Minute 5461 (minute 5432 also refers): The by-election was uncontested, and so Aslam Javaid was duly elected. He was provided with a welcome pack and has signed his declaration of acceptance of office and written undertaking to be bound by the code of conduct in time for him to take his seat at the Planning Committee on 2/8/11, and has since completed his register of financial and other interests within the 28 day time frame allowed. Councillor Javaid is undertaking some basic Councillor training next month.
- c. Re Minute 5457: Councillor Harley has confirmed no changes are needed to his register of financial & other interests, and so the annual review of Councillors' registers is now complete.
- d. Re Minute 5451b (minutes 5426 & 5441 also refer): The community payback project start date of 7/9/11 was missed due to a misunderstanding and also not being able to get the materials delivered on site in time. The project will now start on Wednesday 21/9/11 and work will be 2 days a week until completion, which will last for 4 weeks maximum, weather permitting.

5469 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. Report from Parish Clerk.

The following applications have been approved:

P/00774/11: Storage shed on land adjacent to 8, Hornhill, Rew Street Cowes.

P/00951/11: Alterations including re-cladding of dwelling. Single storey rear extension to form family room. Balcony at 1st floor level on rear elevation. Loft conversion to provide en-suite bedroom including new window at 2nd floor level on rear elevation at 66, Solent View Road, Cowes.

Amendments have been received for an approved application:

P/00301/10: Replacement of planning permission (P/01034/07 TCP/08738/E: Demolition of garage. Conservatory. Provision of 1st floor with new roof to provide additional living accommodation to include balconies on west elevation. Covered parking area) in order to extend the time limit for implementation at 48, Lower Church Road, Cowes.

- b. **P/01200/11:** Proposed decking area with balustrading over existing single storey element at 1, Bay View Road, Cowes.

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

5470 REPORTS

a. Parish Council Chairman

Councillor Day reported that he was concerned at the withdrawal of the Police Beat Officer from Gurnard, and stated that he had been asked to give a comment to the IW County Press. He had also been approached by a resident suggesting that the Parish Council's meeting venue should be at the Village Hall.

b. Parish Clerk

The next Green Tank meeting is 3rd November.

The Compass Room booking for the Traffic Plan Working Party meeting on Thursday 22/9/11 is confirmed

The Chairman and Parish Clerk represented the Parish Council at Cowes Town Council's Cowes Week reception on 12th August

All the guttering damage to the toilet block was repaired late July, and the whole block was closed for 24 hours on 5/8/11 due to a blockage

Fresh contact is being made with Cowes High School to recruit 3 replacement Youth Advisors to join Zoe Divers.

New forthcoming legislation will require the Parish Council to offer a pension scheme to its employees from 2014.

The next IWALC Executive Committee meeting is 15/9/11

The Gurnard Village Hall Association AGM takes place at the Village Hall from 7pm on 15/9/11

Cowes Town Council has paid its 50% share of the costs of one dog bin for the winter season.

The IW Council has written again to the former landowner of the old 4, Solent View Road site to chase the grass verge reinstatement, but it has not been implemented yet

Toilet block cleanliness inspections are now carried out by Cllr Mrs McKean on Mondays and Cllr Day on Wednesdays.

Gurnard Primary School years Reception to Year 3 are based at the Hilton Road school site and years 4 to 6 are at the old Solent Middle site.

Information about the 2012 IW Walking Festival was passed on to the walk coordinator in late July – the deadline for input to the 2012 programme is 30/9/11

Vandalism on Gurnard Beach on 3/8/11 included throwing litter bin lids around and dumping timber hoarding on the beach from a building site. This was cleared up the same day, and both the IW Council and the Police were informed. A local resident was very helpful in this process.

NALC conducted a survey during August on flood plans – a link to Gurnard's flood plan was sent in response

A dog warning sign post at the eastern end of the Village Green fell over last month due to excess corrosion – it was reported to the dog service

The Clerk is attending planning and localism bill training on 6/10/11, and financial management training on 3/11/11.

The All Saints Church Vicar, Lyn McRostie, leaves the church on 30th October to take on a new parish in Australia in November.

Enquiries on 5th August revealed that the Gurnard Marsh Village Green application was due back from legal services on 10th August and should then be sent out to the various internal consultees before setting a committee date.

The coning off of both side of Woodvale Road during Cowes Week was to safeguard emergency vehicle access at all times.

The Parish Plan Steering Group still stands at 6 or 7, and 12 are needed. Appeals continue to be made through Gurnard News, the website and the notice board.

The Harvest Festival event takes place on Spencer's field in Tuttons Hill on Saturday and Sunday 17th and 18th September.

Much work has been undertaken to encourage the cutting back of hedges in Winding Way, Baring Road, Tuttons Hill, Gurnard Heights and Cockleton Lane. Some of this is still on-going, but equally some action has resulted and hedge notices have been issued to some residents by the IW Council.

The IW Council intends to further formalize the play area agreement with the Parish Council. This will be discussed at October's meeting.

A meeting has been set up with several agencies for 23/9/11 from 2pm at Gurnard Sailing Club to discuss the local poor water quality.

Cowes Youth Club has an EGM arranged for 19/9/11 at 6pm.

The hedge on the Village Hall access lane is scheduled to be removed to enable easier access.

c. IW Councillor

Councillor Fuller produced a written report which included details of the new community bus timetable, bathing water quality, the untidy state of land at the eastern end of Princes Esplanade, West View Road and the implementation of some historic planning conditions, Gurnard Green Town status and a lack of response so far, and details of his various activities during the summer. The Primary School redevelopment planning application should be advertised on 23/9/11, and the Gurnard Marsh Village Green application should go before a hearing on 12/10/11.

d. Southern Gas Networks Liaison Meetings 22/7/11 & 2/9/11

5 attended both of the meetings, held at the Woodvale Hotel. All pipelines have now been gassed up and are now kept under pressure. Reinstatement will start soon, as will the building of the Rew Street site new roadway. Grass seeding of reinstated land will take place in October and November, and new sections of hedgerow will be boxed in for protection. There is just one more large HGV movement expected, either towards the end of September or early October, namely the kiosk structure for the Rew Street site. Decommissioning work at Egypt Point could start late October, and there is still no date set for final commissioning of the new plant. The next meeting is 7/10/11.

e. Gurnard Regatta Event 20/8/11

Minutes 5287, 5371, 5442 & 5453d refer

The event started with setting up in the rain, but it cleared up again for the rest of the day. The bollard key obtained for access to the Village Green was not needed as the bollard had disappeared, but it has returned since. Island Waste forgot to empty the wheelie bin but it managed to cope with the extra rubbish. The start was delayed due to people arriving a little later than expected, but once events got underway attendance was about the same as last year, 250/300 people during the whole day. Everyone seemed to enjoy the activities, which included swimming races, kayak races and kayak tug of wars. The sea creatures craft stall was overrun and a great success – the loan of a larger tent for the craft stall did not materialize but the one gazebo operating on all four sides coped OK. There was also face painting and a mad cork scramble, and a full photographic record has been kept, which will be uploaded to the website soon. A wash up meeting is planned soon, at which it will be decided whether to stage a repeat event in 2012.

f. Quality Parish Scheme - Reaccreditation

Minutes 5311 & 5421b refer.

The Quality Parish Scheme Reaccreditation Portfolio was completed on 30/8/11, and checked by the Accreditation Panel Secretary on 8/9/11. It will be finally submitted on 15/9/11 before the Panel's assessment on 27/10/11, which the Chairman and Parish Clerk will attend at 2.30pm.

g. Gurnard Village Hall Association Hall Management Committee Meeting 14/7/11

9 committee members attended and topics discussed included the key safe, the new shed, new tables purchased, community awards runner up award of £100, cybercafé, booking availability, finance, hirings, building fabric, the website and the AGM on 15/9/11. Finance stood at £5043.04 which includes a £2000 contingency fund.

h. IW Older Voices Forum Meetings 14/7/11 & 8/9/11

Cllr Mrs Bugden was not present to report.

i. Island Waste Advisory Group Meeting 21/7/11

The meeting focused on a power point presentation of the new service being rolled out from 30th January 2012. This included details of improved communication with the public, the choice of wheelie bins or clear sacks for recycled waste and possible problems with the use of wheelie bins. There was some resistance to the plans at the meeting.

j. IWALC Executive Committee Meeting 21/7/11

22 Local Councils were represented and topics discussed included HM Government's plans for business rates, payroll services, volunteering, the community bus scheme, IW Council protocol with Parish & Town Councils, training, the NALC conference, the new white paper, payroll for local councils, committee programmes and various reports. No response to the youth service issue was received, but there was some discussion on the proposed merger of SLCC and NALC. The next meeting is 15/9/11.

5471 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Minutes 5269c, 5288, 5319g, 5337, 5352, 5368, 5421g, 5440 & 5456 refer.

a. Forum Meetings

Both the Cowes, Northwood & Gurnard Community Transport Forum and the IW Community Transport Forum have met during the summer together with a new management committee – a total of 6 meetings. Much work went on preparing for the launch of the schemes on 5th September, which included getting a Coordinator in place to manage the drivers and draw up some rotas. Driver training was taking place throughout, though there were some medical referral problems. Unfortunately some volunteers gained their PCV licences and then announced they were not available for the scheme. Cowes Medical Centre would not offer better terms for the drivers' medicals. Forum members travelled the Wightbus No 32 route circulating timetables to passengers as

it seemed many were still unaware of what was going on, in spite of all local publicity. Southern Vectis worked hard getting the bus stop signs changed over the weekend before the schemes started, and by the time the 4 main schemes were launched there were only 10 qualified volunteer drivers available, when 22 are really needed at the moment. The Chale route was manned on the 1st day by a Southern Vectis driver. Whilst there is a coordinator in place he has said he cannot take on the role after all, but will remain in place on a voluntary basis until we find a replacement.

b. Launch of Scheme

The 1st morning was a little chaotic, not helped by the fact that the buses the drivers had trained on were not available, which unnerved one or two. With the exception of one hiccup on the Sandown route the services ran more or less to time, though the route through Gurnard has been cut short for 4 weeks due to the closure of Lower Church Road meaning there is no service both there and in Solent View Road - notices were posted at the bus stops to advise of this. There is also no service in Rew Street and the route map and timetable are on the GPC website home page. Another local meeting is planned soon to look at how to handle fares and donations and some 284 passengers were carried on the No 32 for the 1st week and £23.98 donations were made. An extra driver has just come on stream on the No 32 route, and there has been some feedback from the volunteer drivers, which is generally positive but with some operational suggestions which will be discussed at the Management meeting on 28/9/11. BBC TV is making a programme called "Postcode Lottery", which is looking at services lost and gained around the Country following the HM and Local Government cuts. As part of this process they want to interview on camera people connected with the bus scheme - accordingly 2 members of the Cowes, Northwood & Gurnard Community Transport Forum will take part - this gives both "Steering Group" knowledge and the perspective from a Volunteer Driver's point of view as one of the drivers is on the Forum. It is possible that a team from the BBC's "The One Show" may also come over the same day to interview.

5472 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING VENUE

The existing venue can be used at least until February 2012, maybe even to Easter 2012. Consideration was given to an alternative main meeting venue when the existing site is sold and 4 options were considered, which included the Village Hall which was not available when required.

Resolved: That the Parish Council makes the new Gurnard Primary School site its new main meeting venue once the existing site is no longer available.

5473 LITTER PICK EXERCISE

Minutes 5384b, 5419b, 5435c & 5460 refer.

a. Meeting Venue

The previously agreed date of 15/10/11 is now no longer possible, so consideration was given to a new date and also where to meet and what areas of the Village to clean up, and it was:

Agreed: That the litter pick would take place on Saturday 22nd October and would include Worsley Road, Tuttons Hill and Winding Way, with everyone meeting outside the Village Hall in time for the 10am start

b. Parish Council Representation

Councillor Longman will lead the event, and Councillors Javaid and Mrs McKean will assist.

5474 COWES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Due to the Partnership's new constitutional restrictions, the issue of the Parish Council being represented on the Partnership was not considered.

5475 PUBLICATIONS

The Society of Local Council Clerks is publishing a new edition of its "Clerk's Manual" next month, which should be in the region of £45 and consideration was given to purchasing the manual.

Resolved: That the Parish Council approves the purchase of the new Clerk's Manual.

5476 HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012

Celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee are planned for 2012 with Monday 4th June being the main focus of the celebrations, and the Parish Council considered if it would take the lead on any local celebratory event.

Agreed: That the Parish Council makes an entry in Gurnard News to gauge residents' interest in arranging a Village event.

5477 POND GREEN

Consideration was given to a £100 (maximum) estimate received for an annual pruning of the shrubbery at the rear and side of the amenity plot in Lower Church Road.

Resolved: That the Parish Council approves the £100 annual pruning of the shrubbery in the site.

5478 POLICIES

a. Environmental & Biodiversity Policy

The Parish Council carried out an annual review of its Environmental & Biodiversity Policy.

Resolved: That the Parish Council approves the annual review in its current format without change.

5479 ACCOUNTS

a. Petty Cash

The Parish Council was given the details of the £10.39 expenditure from this account since the last meeting.

b. Payments

Resolved: To confirm the following payments

IW Council	£124.22
Salaries (August)	£970.09
Post Office Ltd (August)	£442.38
S Dines	£85.00
Office Depot	£84.14
NALC	£15.50
A Moorman	£113.86
M Bean	£76.62
NALC	£58.75
E Gladdis	£7.98

c. **Resolved: To make the following payments:**

Telephone, Broadband & calls	£22.73
Travelling	£68.40
IT accessories	£64.00
Parking	£2.00
Ferry Fare	£45.00
Salaries	£990.84
Post Office Ltd	£456.22

d. Transfer

Resolved: To transfer £97.58 from the Parish Council's HSBC Treasurer's account to its HSBC Business account

e. Transfer

Resolved: To transfer £2000.00 from the Parish Council's HSBC Savings account to its HSBC Treasurer's account

5480 CONSULTATIONS

The Parish Council considered if and how it would respond to 5 consultations:

a. NALC – Localising support for Council Tax in England

The Parish Council commented generally that the 6 week time limit given for response to consultations is not sufficient. Resolved: That the document appears to cover all the issues, but that it declines to formally comment due to its limited expertise on this subject.

b. NALC – Streamlining the Planning Process for Nationally Significant Wastewater Transfer

Resolved: That the Parish Council supports the principle of streamlining the planning process, provided the process remains vigorous.

c. NALC – Local Government Resource Review

Resolved: That the Parish Council declines to formally comment, due to its limited expertise on this subject.

d. NALC - National Planning Policy Framework

Resolved: That the Parish Council welcomes the principle of simplifying planning policy, subject to policy not being changed or watered down in terms of the protection of greenfield sites.

e. NALC – Local Planning Regulations

Resolved: That the Parish Council agrees the regulations effectively reflect the changes proposed in the localism Bill, that it agrees with the list of bodies included in the duty to cooperate and that it agrees the revised regulations effectively consolidate the 2004 regulations with the 2008 and 2009 revisions. The Parish Council also comments that the regulations could be changed to improve the process of preparing local plans, within powers set out in the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Localism Bill, by providing clearer information to comment upon, by clarifying what the delegated powers are and by ensuring that policy fundamentals are not flawed.

5481 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA
Permanent residency status at Gurnard Pines.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm.

CHAIRMAN