



Minutes of the **Annual Meeting** of the Gurnard Parish Council held at Gurnard Village Hall in Westbrook Lane, Gurnard on Thursday 11 May 2016 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: **Councillors** Harrison (Chair) Budgen, Fuller and McKean.

Two representatives from the Safer Neighbourhoods Team attended and sent a written report ahead of the meeting which had been circulated to councillors and was read out by the chairman. There were 4 reported crimes in Gurnard in April 2017 compared with 5 last year. Three new community priorities have been established:

- 1 Dealing with offences relating to the night time economy
- 2 Criminal Damage
- 3 Youth anti-social behaviour and the associated causes.

Gurnard has been affected in recent weeks with incidents of damage to motor vehicles following reports of youths holding gatherings in the local area. The majority of these youths are not local residents. The Police have identified suspects for the damage caused and have taken action to prevent further gatherings from taking place. Due to the warmer weather other groups may wish to meet up at Gurnard with short notice. The Police would encourage local residents and businesses to report suspicious incidents, damage and anti-social behaviour. This enables them to have a true picture of the problem enabling them to work towards prevention, intervention, and a solution.

There was 1 Member of the Public present who asked no questions at this stage, but wished to speak on later agenda items.

A reporter from the Isle of Wight County Press was also present.

6550 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Jacobs and Nolan.

6551 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. To receive declarations of pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Harrison declared a non-pecuniary interest as an IW Council employee

Councillor Fuller declared a non-pecuniary interest as paid member of the IW Council.

Councillors Budgen and Harrison declared non-pecuniary interest in the Open Spaces Project in that they both live near to the site.

b. Dispensation requests

No dispensation requests were received

6552 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: In the absence of any other nominations, that Councillor Harrison is elected to serve as Chairman until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018

6553 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

RESOLVED: Councillor Harrison made a declaration of acceptance for the office of Chairman before the Proper Officer.

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6554 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Councillor Fuller is elected to serve as Vice Chairman until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018

6555 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

The clerk advised that no nominations had been received. It was

RESOLVED: That the three vacancies for Parish Councillors are re-advertised with a closing date of the end of June 2017.

6556 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

A review was carried out, which included some minor amendments, including the change of meeting evenings from Thursdays to Wednesdays.

Resolved: That Standing Orders are amended as detailed by the Parish Clerk and approved.

6557 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

A review was carried out, which included some minor amendments.

Resolved: That Financial Regulations are amended as detailed by the Parish Clerk and approved.

6558 TO APPOINT AN INTERNAL AUDITOR

Mrs. Jeffers has agreed to continue as the Internal Auditor for the Parish Council, so it was:

RESOLVED THAT: Mrs. Jeffers is appointed as Internal Auditor to the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2018.

6559 TO APPOINT A PLANNING COMMITTEE

Resolved: That a Planning Committee is appointed comprising all members of the Council. (Councillors Jacobs and Nolan agreed before the meeting as they were unable to attend.)

6560 TO APPOINT TO WORKING GROUPS

It was **RESOLVED:**

- a) That Councillor Nolan is appointed to the Cooks Bay Access Working Group (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).
- b) That Councillors Harrison, McKean and Nolan are appointed to the Financial Working Group (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).
- c) That Councillors Budgen, McKean and Nolan are appointed to the Grants Panel (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).
- d) That Councillors Fuller and Nolan are appointed to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).
- e) That Councillors Fuller and McKean are appointed to the Open Spaces Working Group.
- f) That Councillors Harrison, McKean and Nolan are appointed to the Personnel Working Group (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).

6561 APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL AGENCIES

It was **RESOLVED:**

- a) Councillor Budgen is appointed as representative to Amey Advisory Group
- b) Councillor Fuller is appointed as representative to the Cowes, Gurnard and Northwood Community Transport Forum
- c) Councillor Fuller is appointed as representative to IWALC Executive Committee
- d) That Councillor McKean is appointed as representative to the May Queen committee.
- e) Councillors Fuller and Jacobs are appointed as representatives to the Village Hall Management Association (Councillor Jacobs indicated his willingness to stand ahead of the meeting)
- f) Councillor Budgen is appointed as Neighbourhood Watch coordinator
- g) That Councillor Budgen is appointed as representative as Age Friendly councillor, with Councillor Fuller as her deputy.

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- h) Councillor Harrison is appointed as Parish Council Accounts Monitor
- i) Councilor Nolan is appointed as a Tree Warden (Councillor Nolan agreed ahead of the meeting as he was unable to attend).
- j) Councillor McKean is appointed as representative for Youth issues

6562 COUNCILLOR ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It was **RESOLVED**: That the following councillors take on the responsibilities of:

- a) Environment and Waste: Cllr Bugden
- b) Governance and Finance: Cllr Harrison
- c) Highways and Transportation: Cllr Fuller
- d) Human Resources: Cllr McKean
- e) IT and Communications: Cllr Harrison
- f) Planning: remains vacant
- g) Standards and Code of Conduct: Cllr Harrison

6563 MINUTES

RESOLVED: The draft minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13 April 2017 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6564 PLANNING

- a) There were three planning applications to consider. It was

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Parish Council makes no objections to the following applications:
P/00456/17 1 The Avenue and P/00441/17 Bridle Cottage, Rew Street
- (ii) That the Parish Council makes no objection to application number P/00438/17 providing that the illuminated sign does not have an adverse effect on neighbouring properties and is only lit when the store is open.

6565 REPORTS

a. Parish Council Chairman

The Chairman advised that he had no report this month.

b. Parish Clerk

The Parish Clerk circulated a written report and it was:-

RESOLVED: That the remaining funds from the SSE Emergency grant are used to purchase a defibrillator for the Village Hall as requested by the Women's Institute. The Parish Council uses reserves as required to ensure that the unit purchased is suitable for all hall users, and takes on the responsibility for installation and any future maintenance costs.

c. IW Councillor

Councillor Fuller circulated a copy of his report which included details of his activity the past month. Councillor Harrison congratulated him on his success as regaining his seat on the Isle of Wight Council with a large majority. Councillor Fuller requested that the Parish Council considers several projects from his report as future agenda items.

- d. The minutes of the meeting of Gurnard Village Hall Association held on 5 April 2017 were received and noted. Councillor Fuller added that on Election Day another resident fell over the raised ironworks in Westbrook Lane. This has been raised with Island Roads who are investigating the incident.

- e. The minutes of the meeting of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils held on 16 March 2017 were received and noted. Councillor Fuller is still not being noted as representative for Gurnard.

6566 FINANCE

- a. The clerk presented cheque and electronic payments totaling £2,571.35 for approval.
- b. The clerk advised that the Parish Council still meets the criteria for the use of the General Power of Competence.

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- b. The clerk presented the payment from IW Council for the precept and grant for 2017/18 totaling £54,967.00.

RESOLVED:

- a. That electronic payments totaling £2,571.35 are approved.
- b. That the Parish Council continues to use the General Power of Competence as it meets the criteria of six elected councillors (2/3rds of the total number) and a qualified clerk.
- c. That the precept and grant payment of £54, 967.00 is received and noted.

6567 COCKLETON MEADOW

Councillor Bugden presented a short report regarding a number of issues raised by residents about the management of the Open Space now known as Cockleton Meadow. The Chairman of the Friends of Cockleton Meadow attended to advise councillors of the progress with the project. He congratulated the Parish Council on taking on the Open Space to protect it from development, and to provide a space for residents and visitors to enjoy to improve their physical and mental wellbeing. The project is still in its early stages, but progress has been made due to the successful funding bid from "Tesco Bags of Fun", which has provided some capital investment to ensure that the area is protected as a natural open space for all to enjoy. Further funding has been applied for to provide an accessible path and disabled parking area. The small gate to the north of the site, has not yet been restored as it will be re-positioned once the development of housing is completed which will provide a footpath to that entrance. Many native trees have been planted on the site, which will be thinned once established and signage provided to show which species they are. Councillor McKean will be holding an event there on 18 June 2017. All councillors are asked to promote the site and its use. Volunteers are always welcome to join the project.

6568 BENCH ON TUTTON'S HILL

Residents have requested that the Parish Council consider the installation of a bench half way up Tuttons Hill. The clerk presented the three options with costs open to the Parish Council to consider. It was:

RESOLVED: That using an article in the Gurnard News, a report on the notice board and a survey on the website, residents views are sought before the Parish Council commits £2,500 of its reserves to providing a bench on Tuttons Hill.

6569 ANNUAL REVIEWS

a. Risk Assessments

The annual review of the Risk assessments were carried out under the headings of home-working, finance, insurance, employees, clock maintenance and volunteers at Cockleton Meadow and the findings were presented to the Council.

Resolved: That the Parish Council approves the annual reviews and amendments where necessary.

6570 DATES OF MEETINGS

In view of the General Election, the clerk advised that the June meeting of the Parish Council needs to be moved from the second Thursday. The meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday plus the last Thursday if a separate planning meeting is required. This does not allow the village hall to be booked for a weekly event, but there are two Wednesdays per month available. It was

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the June meeting of the Parish Council is moved to Wednesday 14 June 2017 to accommodate the Village Hall being used as a Polling Station for the General Election.
- (ii) That with effect from June 2017, the Parish Council meetings are moved from the second and last Thursdays of the month to the second and last Wednesdays of the month to enable the village hall to rent the room for every Thursday.

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6571 ORPHAN LAND IN GURNARD HEIGHTS

As reported by the clerk at the previous meeting, a resident has raised concerns about land in Gurnard Heights which borders a garden in Woodvale Close. The clerk has carried out some investigations with the IW Council who advise that the Land Registry shows no owner. To claim ownership, regular use of the land over a period of twenty years has to be established. It was:

RESOLVED: That the clerk reports the findings from the Isle of Wight Council regarding the orphan land at the back of the property in Woodvale Close to the resident that raised the issue and that as there has been no Parish Council involvement with the land to date, that the resident contacts the Isle of Wight Council for further information.

6572 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a. To consider further action regarding the problem of litter on the Green
- b. To consider the Risk Assessment and costings from IW Council regarding the safety of the Play Area fence.
- c. To appoint a Councillor for responsibility for Planning.
- d. To consider assisting residents is gaining Conservation Status for the Shore Road/Shore Path area.
- e. To consider providing an informal disabled accessibility audit of the village
- f. To investigate the problem of cyclists speeding in Horn Hill.
- g. To receive a report regarding the Age Friendly Island celebration – Councillor Bugden.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN