

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Gurnard Parish Council held at Gurnard Village Hall, Westbrook Lane, Gurnard on Thursday 12 November 2015 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: Harrison (Chair), Budgen, Fuller, Jacobs, Javaid, McKean and Nolan.

PCSO Howard provided a written report for members. There were six reported crimes in Gurnard during October – the same as last year. It highlighted the community lead priorities including reducing crimes reported from Cowes Enterprise College. Councillor Harrison has spoken to the college, and this figures does includes all reported crimes including those reported by staff members such as Safeguarding. Councillor Bugden (as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator) reminded everyone to keep sheds locked as these are being targeted.

There were two questions from the 1 member of the public who attended.

The first question was about the fast broadband in the Village. Councillors advised the resident to contact BT, but to access the faster speed you have to pay a premium rate.

Secondly the council was asked about the construction parking in Worsley Road. Councillor Fuller has already spoken to the contractors involved in the three sites who are unable to park vehicles within the sites, but staff from D. N. Associates have agreed to park vehicles only outside the Glen where they are working to keep parking for residents outside the shops. This has shown an improvement in the last few weeks. Parking on the verges is still happening which is churning up both the grass and flower borders. Councillor Fuller has requested a visit from the IW Council Parking Enforcement Officers to ticket those illegally parked.

6281 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors McNeill and Spencer.

6282 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

None received.

b. Dispensation requests

Councillor Fuller declared an interest as a paid employee of the Isle of Wight Council.

6283 MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 October 2015 were approved as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

6284 PLANNING, LICENSING AND TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

a. There were no planning applications to consider.

b. There was one planning decision received.

c. There were no planning appeals reported.

d. There were no licensing applications received

e. There were no Tree Preservation Orders received, although Councillor Nolan advised councillors of some works both granted and denied to existing orders.

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6283 THE FOLLOWING REPORTS were received

- a. The Parish Council Chairman provided a verbal report. Having attended the Island Roads meeting with Cowes Town Council and Northwood Parish Council, he requested that another councillor attends the meeting set up with IWALC and Island Roads on Tuesday 12 January 2016. He was unable to attend the first meeting of Parish Councils and the IW Council regarding devolved services, but Councillor McNeill attended for both Gurnard Parish Council and Cowes Town Council. It was with great pleasure that he met with the Queen on Tuesday this week to receive the MBE. He shared pictures with councillors of the event.
- b. The Clerks Report had been circulated to all members – it highlighted the continued work on the Village Clock and the report from the National Clerks Conference she attended last month. Whilst there she attended a presentation from the Institute of Councils Clerks and requested that the council pay the annual subscription and joining fee now that she is a qualified clerk.
- c. Councillor Fuller circulated his newsletter to members - questions were asked about the long term lets now being offered by a local company at Gurnard Pines. Concerns were raised for employment there as it has always been the largest employer in the village. Councillor Fuller will check out the situation with Planning Enforcement as he understands that only some of the dwellings have permission for 52 weeks per year occupancy. A Councillor advised that there are 96 registered electors now living at the site.
- d. A report from the Chairman of the Open Spaces Project was received. A tree planting session is planned for Thursday 19 November 2015 at 10am. All are welcome to attend.
- e. Notes from the Cook's Bay Access Project Working Group meeting held on 29 October and 10 November 2015 were received. Everyone is very pleased that the coastal footpath has re-opened but would like to see access to Cook's Bay beach. Following discussions with the Rights of Way team at the IW Council, discussions about possible beach access will be re-visited in the spring.
- f. The Minutes of the Gurnard Village Hall Association meeting held on 8 October 2015 were received.
- g. Notes from the meeting with Island Roads held on 28 October 2015 were received. Further answers to questions raised before the meeting had been received on the day of the Parish Council meeting and circulated. Shore Road is to be re-surfaced in 2016, other works highlighted will be inspected by the District Steward. Councillor Fuller will organise another Ward Walk to provide answers. Councillor Harrison advised that poor communication was highlighted at the meeting, but this has not yet improved.
- h. Notes from the Medina Valley Area Action Plan meeting held on 28 October 2015 were received. The draft MVAAP was released for public consultation on Friday 6 November and will be discussed as an agenda item at the December meeting of the Parish Council.
- i. The Power Point presentation from Amey (new waste contractor) was circulated to members and Councillor Bugden advised she attended the very long meeting on 28 October 2015. Although it has been said that no changes would occur, some are being activated now. For collection of filled green garden waste sacks, residents now have to telephone 01983 823777 three working days before the recycling collection to arrange for the new lorry to collect them. Clear plastic bags for residents without a green recycling bin will have to be bought in future. Black recycling bins will be provided from April 2016. These will be smaller than the current green ones (240 litres) at only 140 litres. Any additional rubbish will not be collected and residents could be fined for fly tipping if they leave out additional bags of non-recyclable rubbish. The new company will collect large items of rubbish such as household furniture for £25.00 for up to four items. Second home owners can request a Monday morning collection at the cost of £1 per week.

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It was resolved:

- 1) That the Parish Council pays 2/3rd of the Institute of Local Councils Management subscription and joining fee with Cowes Town Council being asked to pay the balance.
- 2) That the clerk mentions the changes to the waste contract in the Gurnard News article.

As Mr. Bede Townsend could only attend the meeting for a short while, the agenda order was altered to accommodate him.

6284 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Chairman of the NPSG (Mr Bede Townsend) attended the meeting and provided a verbal update. The Landscape Assessment has now been completed and shared with Steering Group members. This should be the last piece of evidence required to complete the draft document. Although no activity has taken place awaiting this report, a meeting will be called soon of the Steering Group to work with the contracted consultant to produce the draft plan for public consultation. It is hoped that this can be achieved by the end of the year, with a Public Referendum in March 2016.

ACTION: That both the Neighbourhood Plan website and Parish Council website are updated to reflect the current position.

The budget was also reviewed with figures supplied by the clerk. There are sufficient funds “ring fenced” from last year to complete the plan.

6285 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

The clerk presented the policy which required no amendments. It was:

RESOLVED: To accept that no amendments are required to the Code of Conduct Policy which will be reviewed at the Annual meeting .

6286 NORTHWOOD AND GURNARD WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL PROJECT

Councillor McKean provided a written update on the project which was circulated to members, in that the project is nearly complete and a booklet will soon be published. Grateful thanks go to Nick Clark and Sheila Caws for their work.

6287 PETITION POLICY

As part of the actions from the recent complaint against the council, a Petition Policy was drafted by the clerk and circulated to members. It was:

RESOLVED: That the Petition Policy is approved, adopted and reviewed on an annual basis.

6288 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Following changes implemented following the complaint and the lack of cashing facilities by the new internet bank account, the Clerk circulated amended versions of both the Standing Orders and Financial regulations. It was:

RESOLVED:

That: The amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are approved and reviewed at the next Annual Meeting.

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6289 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The IW Council are again requesting that the Parish Council either pay for the Grounds Maintenance contract for The Green, or take over the contract themselves. Following the overwhelming support from residents at the Public Consultation held last year in that this important green area is kept maintained, it was:

RESOLVED:

- 1) **That the Parish Council accepts financial responsibility for the grounds maintenance of The Green for the year 2016/17.**
- 2) **That the quotations collated by the Parish Clerk are discussed at the meeting of the Financial Working Party and funds allocated within the budget for this.**

6290 ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

The cost of continuing to support the Environment Officer costs were circulated by the clerk. Much discussion took place about the level of service received by Gurnard residents.

ACTION: That any problems with litter, dog fouling, graffiti etc. which fall within the remit of the Environment Officer, must be reported to the clerk for monitoring purposes.

It was:

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council will continue to provide financial support for the Environment Officer for one further year of 2016/17 at a cost of £510.00. Councillor Fuller abstained from voting on this item as he is employed by the IW Council.

6291 RECORDING EQUIPMENT

Following the recent complaint, it was decided to consider recording the meetings in future, so the clerk presented the two quotations for recording equipment. It was

RESOLVED: That the clerk purchase the Philips Meeting recording equipment at the best possible price.

6292 CHRISTMAS TREE

Councillor Spencer was unable to attend the meeting but provided a verbal report to the clerk regarding the cost of providing a Christmas tree for the village. The approximate cost given for the purchase of the tree, installation, dressing, removal and disposal was £600.00. Councillors felt that without commercial sponsorship this was too much to pay.

It was

RESOLVED: That this project is considered for Christmas 2016, and that Councillor Spencer gains further information including the possibility of commercial sponsorship.

6293 MOBILE LIBRARY

The clerk presented details from the minutes of the IW Council's report following the public consultation. In respect of the Islandwide Mobile Library Service which visits Gurnard, savings are to be made by working with Age UK for "home visits". Until this has been agreed, no cuts have been advised to the service, although savings must be made by August 2016. It was agreed that until figures are provided by the Library Service, this item cannot be discussed.

6294 PUBLIC TOILETS

The clerk presented proposals from the IW Council which would mean that the Parish Council either takes over the building completely, or at least the running of the toilet block on The Green with other

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Town and Parish and the IW Council or just the Parish Council to retain the service. Costs have been provided by IW Council amounting to £7,300.00 (as per 2015/16). After discussions it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: No comments are made on the three options given until the toilet block is at risk of closure. – Councillor Fuller abstained on the vote for this item due to being employed by the IW Council.

6295 FINANCE

- a) The clerk presented the monthly cheque and BACS payment list for approval.
- b) The clerk presented the expenditure against budget to date.
- c) The clerk circulated a copy of the Internal Audit report.

It was:

RESOLVED

- a) **That cheque and BACS payments totaling £1,720.25 are approved.**
- b) **That the expenditure against budget to date is approved.**
- c) **That the Internal Audit report is accepted.**

6296 ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTHS AGENDA

- a) Report on the councillor training workshop held on 26 November 2015.
- b) Budget and Precept proposals for 2016/17.
- c) Age UK meeting held on 2 November 2015 (Councillor Bugden)
- d) Medina Area Action Plan Public Consultation.
- e) Standing Orders for Committees and Working Groups (Councillor Nolan)

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CHAIRMAN