



Minutes of the meeting of the Gurnard Parish Council held at Gurnard Village Hall in Westbrook Lane, Gurnard on Thursday 10 November 2016 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: **Councillors** Harrison (Chair) Bugden, Doughty, Fuller (7.24 pm), Jacobs, McKean and Nolan

There were 2 Members of the Public present who asked questions about the Village Green status of The Green and the possible development of the toilet block into a café with public toilets. The chairman explained that the agent had advised that the proposal was not going ahead at this time, but, that the Parish Council would be discussing the possibility of taking over the Freehold of the block later in the agenda. He also explained that the Parish Council would be looking at sustainable ways to retain the toilet block for the community as residents wanted the block to remain open which is very expensive and will remain a drain on the precept. The two members who raised these questions did not stay for the remainder of the meeting.

PCSO Derek Howard sent a written report which was circulated to members. There were 6 reported crimes in Gurnard last month, compared to 3 last year. The three community priorities remain the same. Councillors were pleased that following their concerns, the Police presence at Gurnard Pines and the surrounding area has increased and it is comforting to see the Police van patrolling the area.

6475 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors McNeill and Javaid. Councillor Fuller will be late as he was attending an IW Council Executive Committee meeting first.

6476 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillor Harrison declared a non- pecuniary interest in that he is a paid employee of the Isle of Wight Council.

Councillor Bugden declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6479g in that she is a non-Parish Council member of the Gurnard Village Hall Association.

When Councillor Fuller arrived, he declared a pecuniary interest in that is a paid member of the Isle of Wight Council and Executive member for Public toilets – therefore he withdraw from the voting for minute number 6482.

b. Dispensation requests

No dispensation requests were received

6477 MINUTES

It was:

RESOLVED:

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2016 were read, amended, then approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Councillor Nolan requested a recorded vote but was then happy with the new wording of the minutes.

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6478 PLANNING

a) There were three planning applications to consider – It was:

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council raises no objections to planning applications numbered: P/01343/16 Rear of 44 Worsley Road, P/01138/16 Police House, Tuttons Hill and P/01384/16 41 Woodvale Road.

b) There were two planning decisions received.

6479 REPORTS

a. Parish Council Chairman

The Parish Chairman had nothing to report this month.

b. Parish Clerk

The Clerk provided a written report which was circulated ahead of the meeting. She highlighted her training requirements for next financial year. Councillors are happy to “ring-fence” the remaining budget figure to support additional training next year as the clerk did not attend the Annual Conference this year.

c. IW Councillor

Councillor Fuller circulated a copy of his report which covered his activities in the past month. He was not available for questions.

d. The notes from the SLCC Branch meeting held on 19 October 2016 were received and noted.

e. The notes from the Open Spaces Project Working Group held on 20 October 2016 were received and noted. Councillor McKean added that a working party of 12 volunteers spent a very successful afternoon knee deep in mud clearing the ponds.

f. The six monthly report received from Gift to Nature was received and noted.

g. The minutes from the Gurnard Village Hall Association meeting held on 27 October 2016 were received and noted. Councillor McKean also provided a written report regarding the payment of the grant from the Parish Council to them which was not well received.

h. The notes from the Personnel Working Group meeting held on 1 November 2016 were received and noted.

It was:

RESOLVED:

(i) **A consolatory letter will be sent to the Gurnard Village Hall Association explaining the other demands on the precept that the Parish Council are now having to pay, but in the event of any major repairs required to the hall, the Parish Council would support them financially.**

(ii) **That the amended notes from the Personnel Working Group meeting held on 2 June 2016, which were amended at the meeting held on 1 November 2016 are circulated to councillors.**

Councillor Fuller arrived at 7.24 pm.

6480 FINANCE

a) The clerk presented the cheque and electronic payments for approval.

b) The clerk presented a letter confirming the successful application in grant funding from the SSE to provide an Emergency Centre in the grounds of the Village Hall. She will attend the next meeting of the GVHA on 1 December 2016 to explain how it must be spent.

c) The Grant Panel met to consider one more application.

It was:

RESOLVED

(i) **That £7,986.75 cheque and electronic payments are approved.**

(ii) **That a grant of £100 is made to the Solent Singers towards new sheet music for members.**

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6481 REVIEW OF POLICIES

The clerk presented three policies for annual review. It was

RESOLVED: The Health and Safety Policy, the Petition Policy and the Code of Conduct were reviewed and no amendments were required this year.

Councillor Fuller having declared his interest withdrew from the meeting for part D of this agenda item.

6482 PUBLIC TOILETS

- a) The clerk advised that the appeal placed by Councillor Doughty against the payment of Business Rates for the toilet block on the Green had been successful and that the repayment of £1803.93 is awaited.
- b) The restrictions for development on The Green due to the Village Green status were discussed. Councillor Nolan presented a much improved map of the Village Green area and a copy of the conveyance document when the Green was sold to Cowes Urban District Council which has covenants on the use of the land including that “no trade or business” can operate from the land.
- c) The clerk advised that the proposal for development of the toilet block to a café with public toilets is not going ahead at this stage.
- d) The clerk presented the Freehold documents provided by the IW Council which will enable the Parish Council to take over full legal responsibility for the toilet block. A quotation for legal advice was also presented.

It was:

RESOLVED

- (i) **That Councillor Doughty was thanked for his work on the appeal which was successful in obtaining a refund for the business rates for the toilet block.**
- (ii) **That no further discussion can take place until the agent presents a proposal for the toilet block to the Parish Council and it was noted that the covenant restrictions and Village Green status appears not to allow a cafe on the site of the toilet block.**
- (iii) **That the clerk is authorised to instruct a solicitor and a surveyor for the toilet block to a total of £1,200.00**
- (iv) **That the clerk advises the IW Council that subject to a survey and legal advice the Parish Council is willing to enter into negotiations to take over the Freehold of the toilet block to ensure its future for the residents of Gurnard.**

6483 LITTER PICK

Councillors discussed the need for a twice yearly litter pick in the village which residents are no longer supporting. It was

RESOLVED

That an additional article is placed in the Gurnard News requesting that residents take pride in their village and pick up any litter outside their properties or report it to Island Roads, and to ensure that they don't drop litter or allow dogs to foul.

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6484 GURNARD IN BLOOM

Councillors welcomed Mrs. J Lewis to the meeting who has kindly offered to take over the Gurnard in Bloom for the village. Councillors welcomed the work that Mrs. Lewis and her nephew had undertaken so far, but felt that the planted verges in Worsley Road require some work. It was

RESOLVED

- (i) That £100 is given from the Chairman's allowance to provide bulbs and compost
- (ii) That up to £120.00 is funded to a lengthsman to clear brambles and holly from the verge beds in Worsley Road and this is followed by a community working party to continue the work.
- (iii) That a map of the village is constructed showing the location of planters, troughs and the planted verges.
- (iv) That Councillor Nolan undertakes a condition survey of the planters and troughs in the village for the next meeting.

6485 TRAFFIC ORDERS

Councillor Fuller presented a report on the current outstanding Traffic Orders requested for the Village and the complaints he has received particularly about the parking outside both Gurnard Primary School and Gurnard Pre-school, the top of the Church Road/Worsley Road junction and outside the Little Gloster. Councillor Fuller advised that the IW Council will be asking Town and Parish Councils to prioritize Traffic Orders in their areas. Cowes Neighbourhood Police team will be asked to patrol outside the school and pre-school and educate parents about safe parking. It was

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council have three priorities for Traffic Orders for the Village

- 1 The areas surrounding both Gurnard Primary School and Pre-school
- 2 The top of Church Road and Worsley Road (particularly around Bucklers View)
- 3 The area outside the entrance to the Little Gloster

6486 SAFETY OF THE PLAY AREA ON THE GREEN

Councillor Nolan presented a report on the potential problem of a car smashing into the metal fencing around the play area due to the lack of fencing by the parking area. It was

RESOLVED

That the safety issue of the fence surrounding the Play Area is raised to the IW Council requesting that they carry out a Risk Assessment of the area and provide a copy of their findings to the Parish Council

6487 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The clerk presented the completed Neighbourhood Plan and supporting evidence which has been produced by the two consultants employed by the Parish Council with input from the Steering Group. After five years of hard work, the Plan is now ready for presenting to the IW Council and for examination. It was

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council appreciates all the hard work of the Steering Group and is happy that the plan will provide some protection to the village. The Parish Council is happy to "sign off" the documents to enable them to proceed to the IW Council and then to examination

6488 RE-STRUCTURING OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The clerk presented a report from Ventnor Town Council offering an alternative way of structuring IWALC into an Executive with 9 members to meet with the (annually elected) Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer six times per year and the appointed representative from each council meeting four times per year as opposed to the existing position when all members of IWALC (currently 28 members) meet

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six times per year. Councillor Fuller (Gurnard Parish Council member for IWALC) explained that the current system assists particularly representing the voice of the smaller Parish Councils. It was

RESOLVED:

That the clerk advises IWALC that Gurnard Parish Council vote to keep the same structure to ensure that the smaller Parish Councils still have a voice.

6489 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Transport for the village (Councillor Bugden)
- b) Safety of the Play Area (once the Risk Assessment report is received from the IW Council)
- c) Condition Survey of the Planters and Troughs (Councillor Nolan)
- d) Village Green status for the Play Area (Councillor Nolan)

Meeting closed at 8.46 pm

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Chairman