

GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Gurnard Parish Council held at Gurnard Village Hall in Westbrook Lane, Gurnard on Thursday 13 April 2017 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: **Councillors** McNeill (Chair), Bugden, Fuller, Harrison (7.06pm), Jacobs, McKean and Nolan.

There were no members of the public present.

In the absence of PCSO Derek Howard, PCSO Steve Anker sent a written report which was circulated to members. There was 1 reported crimes in Gurnard last month, compared to 0 last year.

6539 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Doughty.

6540 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillors Bugden, Jacobs and Harrison declared non - pecuniary interests in Planning Application Number P/00306/17 as they live close to the site.

b. Dispensation requests

No written dispensation requests were received

6541 MINUTES

It was:

RESOLVED:

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017 were read and approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6542 PLANNING

a) Councillor Fuller presented two planning applications to consider. It was:

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Parish Council raises no objections to applications numbered P/00306/17 (site of the former Gurnard Primary School) and P/00298/17 76 Worsley Road.

b) There were four planning decisions received.

6543 REPORTS

a. Parish Council Chairman

The Parish Chairman advised that on behalf of the Parish Council he had been invited to open The Range store the following day and that the clerk would be accompanying him. All councillors were invited to the event.

b. Parish Clerk

The Clerk provided a written report which was circulated ahead of the meeting which updated councillors on various projects within the village. A possible problem of "land grabbing" had been reported.

c. IW Councillor

Councillor Fuller circulated a copy of his report which covered his activities in the past month. He added an update on the re-opening of the coastal footpath from Gurnard to Thorness.

d. The minutes from the Gurnard Village Hall Association held on 8 February 2017 were received and noted.

It was:

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RESOLVED:

- (i) That the clerk contacts the Isle of Wight Council regarding ownership of the piece of land in Woodvale Close/ Gurnard Heights and provides an update to the next Parish Council meeting.
- (ii) That following complaints to a councillor regarding Cockleton Meadow, this should form an agenda item next month.

6544 FINANCE

- a) The clerk presented the cheque and electronic payments for approval.
 - b) The clerk presented the final quarterly Financial Review.
 - c) The clerk presented the Internal Audit report for councillors to consider.
 - d) The clerk presented the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31/03/17 for councillors to consider.
 - e) The clerk presented the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31/03/17 for councillors to consider.
- F0 The clerk presented the National Pay Award for herself for councillors to consider.

RESOLVED

- (i) That £5,692.01 cheque and electronic payments are approved.
- (ii) That the final quarterly Annual Financial Review is agreed and approved.
- (iii) That the Internal Auditors Report is agreed and approved.
- (iv) That the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31/03/17 is agreed, approved and signed by the chairman.
- (v) That the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31/03/17 is agreed, approved and signed by the chairman.
- (vi) That the National Pay Award is agreed and approved for the clerk.

6545 TRANSPORT FOR THE VILLAGE

The clerk provided a report on her meeting with the General Manager of Southern Vectis, Bluestar and Unilink held on 29/03/17 at Gurnard Press to discuss the possibility of extending the Community Bus hours for the Gurnard, Cowes Northwood route. The service number 32 currently operates from Tuesday to Saturday inclusive in the mornings and residents have requested a Monday service, extending the service to the afternoon and a direct bus to Newport. The clerk was advised that the service relies on volunteer drivers to reduce the running costs and that an additional service would require additional drivers. An afternoon service is not possible due to the buses being used for the school service at that time. A direct route from Gurnard to Newport and back may be possible if it can be fitted in with the school services. It was:

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Parish Council supports the recruitment drive for additional drivers for the Community Bus service across the Island.
- (ii) That the clerk continues to work with the bus company to try and improve the service for residents.

6546 TOILET BLOCK ON THE GREEN

- a) The solicitor employed by the Parish Council provided an update on the problems with the tap which is delaying the acquiring of the Freehold. The clerk advised that following another on-site meeting with an IW Council officer, she was advised that they are obtaining a quotation to install a separate water meter for the tap as it was clearly being serviced by the water supply to the toilet block.
- b) The clerk provided a quotation to repair the guttering which was identified as a problem by the Environment Officer.

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- c) The clerk provided a quotation for refurbishment of the toilet block which amounted to over £4,000 for all necessary work, but which could be staged as no regular maintenance had been previously carried out by the Isle of Wight Council. A second quotation had been sought but not yet received.
- d) As suggested by the solicitor, the clerk has sought an insurance quotation to add the toilet block to the existing Parish Council policy for the re-building cost of £230,000 which was provided by the Isle of Wight Council.

It was:

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Isle of Wight Council are advised that if they use the “buy back” option identified in the Freehold document to re-acquire the toilet block back from the Parish Council, they should be responsible for all legal costs as well as taking into account all refurbishment work that has taken place whilst the block has been in the Parish Council’s ownership.
- b) That the repairs to the guttering on the toilet block are commissioned at a cost of £393.00 plus VAT to replace the special metal guttering as required.
- c) That the clerk contacts the Isle of Wight Council regarding the cost of the refurbishment of the toilet block and requesting that they contribute half due to the lack of routine maintenance that they have previously carried out.
- d) That due to the cost of insuring the toilet block, the clerk obtains alternative quotations of the re-building cost.

6547 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The clerk advised that only six nominations had been received for the nine seats on the Parish Council. In view of this, an election is not required and a co-option process can begin if councillors wished. It was

RESOLVED: That the co-option process is started to encourage nominations for the three vacant seats on the Parish Council.

6548 BEST KEPT VILLAGE AWARD

For the first time for three years, the clerk was able to circulate the scoring for Gurnard in the Best Kept Village Award for the summer of 2016. Points were lost due to the lack of maintenance of some of the benches within the village and the cleanliness of the bus shelter and telephone box. The problem with dog fouling and litter also caused a reduction in points. It was:

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Councillor Fuller will provide a survey of all street furniture within the village, so that the clerk can establish the responsibility of maintenance and ask the relevant agencies to improve their maintenance routines.
- (ii) That the clerk contacts the Scouts and requests that they provide a general tidy up and clean for the village ahead of the start of judging in May.

6549 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) To consider the installation of a bench half way up Tuttons Hill
- b) Cockleton Meadow

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm

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Chairman