

GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Gurnard Electors held at the Village Hall in Worsley Road, Gurnard on Wednesday 25 April 2018 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Harrison (Chair), Bugden, Fuller, Jacobs, McKean, Nolan, Orrey and 13 members of the public.

Councillor Harrison opened the evening by welcoming those who had attended.

The Grant recipients started the evening providing short presentations advising how the Parish Council grant benefited their organisations.

Firstly Nicky from the PTA of Gurnard Primary School explained how the £100.00 given had helped them purchase an additional 5 MURAS boards which now means that this brilliant technology has been installed in all 14 classes in the school. These boards cost £2,100 each five classes did not have them installed.

Mandy then explained how the funds given to the Coffee and Chat mornings and Elephant Clubs run by All Saints Church have assisted residents. The £100.00 given to Coffee and Chat has provided cake for this free event which attracts over 40 people on the 4th Thursday of each month from 10.15am. Another £100.00 was given to the Elephant Club which pays for speakers, training for the circle dancing and percussion instruments. This is held on the 3rd Thursday of each month and again is free for all residents.

Finally Wendy advised that the £500.00 given to the Gurnard News last year is held in a pot towards paying for a new printer. 1,000 copies of the magazine are printed 10 times per year and delivered by volunteers to every home in Gurnard. Due to this amount of printing, a new printer is required every three years.

There were no apologies were received.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26 April 2017 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Harrison then gave a Chairman's Report which highlighted the achievements of the Parish Council including:-

The completion of the Gurnard Neighbourhood Plan, providing £1,650 in small grants to local organisations, the work on Cockleton Meadows, ownership of the toilet block on the Green, the Gurnard in Bloom team providing glorious colours in the village which helped Gurnard to win the West Kept large village award. Also that as Chairman, Councillor Harrison was very proud to lay the wreath at the Annual Remembrance Service. The clerk is working with the Reverend Amanda Collinson to provide a suitable commemoration for the 100th Anniversary for the end of World War One which will be funded by the Parish Council. The installation of another two defibrillators in the village and the Parish Council funded over 20 people to use the equipment. Another two training sessions are being funded by the Parish Council on Tuesday 22 May and Thursday 14 June 2018. Please contact the clerk to book a place. In our commitment to help make Gurnard an Age Friendly Village, Councillor Fuller asked two residents to carry out a Disability Audit of the village. Several issues were highlighted and raised to the IW Council and Island Roads. An Age Friendly Report will be available shortly – thank you to Councillor Marie Bugden for all her hard work on the project and Councillor Orrey for all her work on the proof reading. The Emergency Plan has been reviewed to include the shed and equipment we managed to purchase through the Scottish and Southern Electric grant. We are pleased that two residents have agreed to be co-opted on the Parish Council shortly.

GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Continuing Challenges:

Litter on The Green continues to be a problem, Councillor Fuller was not successful in gaining the Isle of Wight Council's agreement for the Shore Road/Shore Path area to be considered for conservation status, and Councillor Nolan raised the safety issue of cars driving into the Play Area on the Green. The Isle of Wight Council has agreed to install some bollards along the kerb edge to reduce this risk and has asked the Parish Council to consider funding a few more bollards. This will be discussed once costings have been received.

Finally Councillor Harrison advised that due to his increasing work commitments, he is stepping down as Chairman after a term of five years. He thanked his fellow councillors and the clerk for all the support they have given him. He intends to remain a councillor but take a short sabbatical.

The Parish Clerk circulated copies of the audited accounts and was available for questions. No questions were asked.

Councillor Bugden then provided a short written report on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Gurnard. She attends monthly meetings at Cowes Library following the closure of the Police Station. Generally Gurnard is a safe place to live with a low crime rate although some crimes are opportunist when residents leave doors or windows open. She also spoke about the increasing problem of scams, on the doorstep, through the post, over the internet and telephone.

Sargent Ged Armitage provided a written annual report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team which also advised that Gurnard has an exceptional low crime rate and continues to be an extremely safe place to live and work. He also mentioned the scamming problem and advised residents to telephone 101 if they feel concerned.

Councillor Fuller provided his Annual Report which once printed will be delivered to all households in Gurnard over the next few weeks.

Parish Awards were presented to the following groups to celebrate their work in the community:-

The Gurnard Knit and Knatter Group for all their hard work in Yarn Bombing the village.

The Gurnard Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for all their hard work in finally achieving a planning document which will ensure that any future development within the village is in keeping with resident wishes.

The Gurnard in Bloom team of Jennie and Ellis for all their hard work in keeping Gurnard a wonderful place to live and in achieving the Best Kept Village Award last year.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Following the meeting refreshments were served.

CHAIRMAN