

## **NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITWELL VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 AT 7:15 PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors T Addison (Chairman), S Biles, S A burridge, A Logan, J A Stotesbury, Janice Young and Jon Young

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor D Stewart (Isle of Wight Council) and Mrs V J Ford (Clerk to the Council)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors J Boileau Goad, P K G Fradgley and M A Innes

#### **M01/11/18 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chairman welcomed two members of the public to the meeting.

One member of the public asked the Parish Council to consider provision of a Trim Trail in Niton Recreation Ground. Councillor Boileau Goad had obtained an estimate of just over £2,000 (ex VAT) for five pieces of equipment made by a local craftsman. The Chairman stated that it was an ideal time to bring the request to the Parish Council as it would be finalising its 2019/20 budget over the next eight weeks. Councillor Janice Young said she would support the proposal if the equipment would be free to use. The Chairman commented that any plan to install such equipment needed to include aspects such as installation, maintenance and repair and should be viewed over a minimum three-year timeframe.

**RESOLVED:** that the proposed Trim Trail equipment be considered as part of the 2019/20 budget-setting process: the Clerk to obtain estimates of the additional costs.

One member of the public reported that the willow trees on the green in Bannock Road, Whitwell, were overgrown. The Chairman asked the member of the public to report the matter directly to Island Roads.

#### **M02/11/18 PROPOSED ISLE OF WIGHT DARK SKIES PARK**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jonathan Bacon, Chair of the IW Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), who gave an informative presentation on the proposed Dark Skies Park. The proposed area would not be the entire Island but would be within the AONB, where satellite mapping shows very low light levels. Some Dark Sky tourism happens on the Island but official Dark Sky status had been shown to be of great benefit to the visitor economy. Nocturnal wildlife and human health would also benefit. Mr Bacon said the project was all about preserving the quality of the dark skies already there. The AONB trusted that the quality and direction of lighting in the Draft Island Plan would support the Dark Skies project. The AONB would be aiming to actively encourage sensible lighting through advice and education. Some forms of lighting subject to planning control would be restricted.

The Chairman asked what difference the official status would make. Mr Bacon stated that it would give formal international designation.

**RESOLVED:** that a letter of support from the Parish Council be sent to the AONB for submission with the application for Dark Skies status.

#### **M03/11/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

## M04/11/18 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being accurate records of the proceedings.

## M05/11/18 FINANCE

Members had before them a schedule showing a cashbook balance of £44,626.91 in the General Funds, £25,172.89 in the Public Sector Deposit Fund and £6,220.50 in the Bequest Account. A schedule of accounts for payment was also before the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 be received and noted.

\* Already paid; for ratification only

Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Amount £
1547*	Wight Building Materials	Materials for Ashknowle Lane upgrade	2,424.24
1548	Judd Developments Ltd	Laying safety matting and maintenance of play equipment at Niton Recreation Ground	822.00
1549	Mr B R Leach	Labour and plant for Ashknowle Lane upgrade	1,700.00
1550	V J Ford	Clerk's salary – November 2018	682.22
1551	V J Ford	Clerk's expenses – November 2018	12.15
1552	John O'Conner	Mow/strim and trim hedge at Niton Recreation Ground	432.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6,072.61</b>

RESOLVED: that the Parish accounts as listed above be approved for payment.

## M06/11/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members had before them two Niton and two Whitwell planning applications.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be asked to submit to the Isle of Wight Council the comments set out in the Appendix which forms part of these minutes.

## M07/11/18 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Stewart reported that the Isle of Wight Council would be setting its budget in February 2019. The Local Area Coordinators would be replaced by a new provision. Ofsted was currently looking at the Isle of Wight Council Children's Services.

Councillor Stewart stated that he would be sending out leaflets in conjunction with the CARS (Community Action Road Safety) Group, which would include a questionnaire covering road safety issues. He would be holding a Community Meeting in Niton on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and requested that a member of the Parish Council attend to give an update.

The next meeting for town and parish councils would be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at County Hall.

Councillor Stewart expressed his support for the transfer of Allotment Road car park, Niton, to the Parish Council and was working to progress this.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Stewart for his report.

## **M08/11/18 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor Logan raised the issue of the empty houses in Ivy Close, Niton. The Clerk gave an update on the progress of the Parish Council's request for enforcement of the original planning conditions (2003). Councillor Stewart undertook to investigate the issue.

Councillor Jon Young reported that a sign had been erected outside the "White Lion" public house saying, "To Let: Free of All Ties". He added that the status of the White Lion as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) would remain in place until 2021.

The Chairman reported that he would be attending SWAY's Roots café on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 7 pm and invited other members to join him.

The Chairman reminded members of the need to hold the inaugural meeting of the skateboard park working group in the early spring.

## **M09/11/18 CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that Signpost Express had offered to fit the new signs for the Tunnels Footpath free of charge and that this should be done by the end of the week (30<sup>th</sup> November).

24 people, including the Clerk, had attended the NHS training in CPR and use of a defibrillator held in Whitwell on 13<sup>th</sup> November. The feedback received was very positive.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Mr Graham Melville to thank him for organising the training and to the "White Horse Inn" for providing the venue free of charge.

There were 18 people booked on the Parish excursion to Busy Bee "Christmas World" on 5<sup>th</sup> December, with 9 places still available.

The Clerk reminded members to send suggestions for the Parish Council Christmas card list.

Councillor Fradgley had asked the Clerk to mention the complaint he had received of dog waste being left in Whitwell Churchyard.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk refer the matter to the Environment Officer for his advice.

## **M10/11/18 REVIEW OF ASHKNOWLE LANE UPGRADE WORKS**

Members had before them the report written by the Chairman following his review of the works. Councillor Logan reported that she had received positive feedback from a resident who had been able to visit Ashknowle Cemetery since the upgrade.

RESOLVED: that the Chairman's report be adopted by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that the recommendations of the report be implemented.

## **M11/11/18 ISLAND ROADS' CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILTY VOLUNTARY SCHEME**

Members had before them a proposal from the Chairman for submission of a formal application under the scheme: to upgrade a strip of Church Lane, Whitwell (NT17) as an accessible path to Whitwell Parish Church.

RESOLVED: that formal applications be made requesting Island Roads' assistance to upgrade the strip of NT17 and also the bridleway from the end of the tarmac in Allotment Road to the gate at the end of the all-weather footpath (NT18).

RESOLVED: that no costs be incurred by the Parish Council under either scheme without prior approval at a subsequent meeting.

### **M12/11/18 WHITWELL WAR MEMORIAL**

Members had before them the grant offer received from the War memorials Trust for the steam cleaning of Whitwell War Memorial. The Clerk explained that the War Memorials Trust Method Statement differed from that submitted by the contractor, WightStream Hydrocleaning Services Ltd, in that it did not allow the application of a protective chemical after cleaning, or the use of a poultice during cleaning. The Clerk had informed the contractor, who would be revising their method statement and quotation accordingly.

RESOLVED: that the grant offer of 50% funding up to a maximum of £500 from the War Memorials Trust be accepted.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council undertake the steam cleaning of the Memorial and provide the remaining 50% funding to a maximum of £500.

A request for a grant towards the upkeep of the Whitwell War Memorial plant troughs had been received from the Whitwell Women's Institute.

RESOLVED: that a grant of £100 be awarded.

### **M13/11/18 PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPO)**

All members had before them a copy of the Isle of Wight Council's proposed PSPOs and a report from the Clerk recommending that Niton Recreation Ground be included under the Orders.

RESOLVED: that the Isle of Wight Council's proposed PSPOs be supported.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk submit her report to the Isle of Wight Council to request an extension of the proposed PSPOs to include Niton Recreation Ground.

### **M14/11/18 NETWORK INTEGRITY REGISTER (NIR)**

A list of requests from the NIR had been provided by the Isle of Wight Council. It was observed that five requests on the Niton and Whitwell list related to Saint Lawrence and that some requests known to have been submitted were not listed.

RESOLVED: that the following (unlisted) requests be submitted to the Isle of Wight Council as the Parish Council's top five priorities:

- Remodelling the junction of Southford Lane and Godshill Road, Whitwell;
- Courtesy crossing at the end of Rectory Road adjacent to Norris Stores;
- Restoration of the metal path along the southern grass verge of Blackgang Road, Niton;
- Matched signage in Niton and Whitwell indicating Ashknowle Lane as a safe non-vehicular route between villages;
- Signs indicating priority through the pinch point in Rectory Road near the junction with Laceys Lane.

**M15/11/18 PARISH PRIORITIES**

Members had before them the current priorities, as listed on the homepage of the website, and the proposed priorities, as compiled at an informal meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

RESOLVED: that the following priorities be adopted:

- Reinstatement of Undercliff Drive as a key part of the Island’s road network at the earliest opportunity
- Supporting local transport services where needs are identified
- Maintaining safe and accessible routes between and around our villages
- Represent local views on planning policy and its implementation, whilst actively working to ensure these representations are given more consideration as part of the planning process and subsequent decision making.

**M16/11/18 VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREES**

RESOLVED: that Councillor Stotesbury arrange for the purchase and delivery of the Christmas trees for Niton and Whitwell.

**M17/11/18 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: that, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded for the following item and that they are instructed to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2) and Standing Order 3d.

**MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE THEN EXCLUDED FROM THE COUNCIL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CM01/11/18 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FOR NITON RECREATION GROUND**

Members had before them two tenders for the mowing and strimming of Niton Recreation Ground during the 2019 season.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk instructs John O’Conner (Grounds Maintenance) Limited to undertake the work in Niton Recreation Ground, carrying out up to 16 cuts and 8 strims throughout the year, January to December 2019.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:35 pm

Signed..... Date.....

## APPENDIX TO MINUTES

1. P/01145/18, TCPL/20471/E – Householder Application – Alterations to include restoration of cottage annex & formation of external door to basement and  
P/01146/18, LBC/20471/F– LBC for internal alterations to include removal of fire doors; new heating / electrical system; formation of en-suite bathroom & external door to basement at St. Catherines House, St. Catherines Road, Niton Undercliff: **NO COMMENT**
2. P/01182/18 – TCP/33631 – Demolition of dwelling; Proposed replacement dwelling and detached double garage at Cairnmount, Castlehaven Lane, Niton Undercliff: **NO COMMENT**
3. P/01192/18, TCP/29057/C – Householder Application - Proposed conversion of garage into additional living accommodation at Fernbank, High Street, Whitwell: **NO COMMENT**
4. P/01248/18, TCP/28607/B – Proposed agricultural barn to be used in association with existing orchard on land opposite Sibbecks Farm, Downcourt Lane, Whitwell: **NO OBJECTION** provided that the conditions relating to highway access are carried forward from the previous application (P/01257/15, TCP/28607/A)