

NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITWELL VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7:15 PM

PRESENT: Councillors T Addison (Chairman), J Boileau Goad, S A Burridge, P K G Fradgley, M Hughson, M A Innes, A Logan, L Sheerin and J A Stotesbury

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor S Biles

M01/11/19 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

One member of the public asked the Parish Council raised the problem of mud beneath the stiles near the bridge on public footpath NT14 and requested that bark chippings be spread beneath both stiles. The member of the public also reported that the steps over the wall on public footpath NT39(?) to Saint Catherine's Lighthouse had disappeared.

The Chairman stated that the Clerk would refer both problems to the Isle of Wight Council Rights of Way Team; this would still allow the Parish Council to act, but through the Rights of Way Department, as in the case of several previous issues.

One member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the memorial bench, which had been installed in Bannock Road, Whitwell, and then left the meeting.

M02/11/19 SOUTH WIGHT AREA YOUTH PARTNERSHIP (SWAY)

The Chairman welcomed Mr Andy Dorning, Lead Worker of SWAY, who shared a short video of the summer residential trip to the Lake District. Members of the Parish Council observed that SWAY was not well publicised locally. Ideas for improved publicity were discussed: Mr Dorning suggested that a link to the SWAY website could be placed on the Parish Council website.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dorning for sharing the video with the Parish Council; Mr Dorning left the meeting.

M03/11/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

M04/11/19 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2019 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

M05/11/19 FINANCE

Members had before them a schedule showing a cashbook balance of £56,305.47 in the General Funds, £25,363.07 in the Public Sector Deposit Fund and £6,265.61 in the Bequest Account. A schedule of accounts for payment was also before the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement to 18th November 2019 be received and noted.

* Already paid; for ratification only

Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Amount £
1623*	Festive Lights Ltd	Lights for Niton and Whitwell village Christmas trees	441.92
1624	John O'Conner (GM) Ltd	Mowing/strimming Niton Recreation Ground	114.00
1625	Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council	Contribution to Southern Vectis Route 6 winter Sunday service	1,684.67
1626	SSE	Electricity for Niton public toilets	37.65
1627	V J Ford	Clerk's salary: November 2019	708.90
1628	V J Ford	Clerk's expenses November 2019	131.38
		Total	3,118.52

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

M06/11/19 PLANNING DECISIONS

Members were notified of the following planning decisions:

1. 19/00897/HOU: Proposed log cabin to provide en-suite bedroom and storage at Fairytale Cottage, Saint Catherine's Road, Niton: **REFUSED**
2. 19/01109/FUL: Alterations & conversion of dwelling into 2 dwellings to include replacement raised roof & single storey extension at 14, Strathwell Crescent, Whitwell: **REFUSED**

M07/11/19 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Stewart reported that the traffic lights had been returned to Newport Road, Niton, due to the road collapsing over the previous location of the badger sett.

Councillor Stewart said that he had been pleased to see that the plans for the proposed development at Ladyacre Farm had been presented publicly for consultation. The Chairman asked if the Isle of Wight Council's pre-application advice to the developer could be shared publicly but Councillor Stewart said this was not possible.

Niton Community Football Club was working hard to bring the football matches back to the Niton ground.

The Isle of Wight Council budget would not be published this year, although there would be some information available to inform the town and parish council budget-setting process. There would be a meeting on 4th December to discuss the budget with town and parish councils.

The disabled parking bay markings outside Niton Village Hall would permanently disappear when Niton High Street was resurfaced.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Stewart for his report.

M08/11/19 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Boileau Goad outlined his wife's idea to ask Mr Neil Tregear, the local potter, to produce ceramic plaques to attach to the buildings along the Smugglers Trail. Councillor Sheerin had run the route, which was 4.2 miles. Councillor Boileau Goad had discussed with the Buddle Inn and the White Lion public houses the idea of hosting an organised walk.

Councillor Stotesbury asked for the Niton Christmas tree to be delivered by Friday 29th November. The Clerk confirmed that this had been arranged.

Councillor Logan reported that the November Isle of Wight Council Plastics Forum had been cancelled due to the pre-election period. She also reported that a number of Westcliff Park chalets had been sold on the basis of 52-week residency, but the water supply had been cut off subsequently. Councillor Stewart asked Councillor Logan to send this information to him by e-mail. Councillor Logan had drawn up preliminary plans for the Bert Sprake Memorial Garden and would send to members by e-mail.

Councillor Sheerin reported that children from Niton Primary School, Niton Pre-school and Niton Tots had made decorations for the Parish Christmas trees. Three of the four houses at Niton Football Club ground had been sold; all four had to be sold before the £40,000 contribution became available to the Football Club.

The Chairman reported on the Parish Council's frustrations with the Isle of Wight Council over various matters, despite working well with some departments. He would be meeting with Councillor Stewart to discuss a way forward.

M09/11/19 SOUTH WIGHT AREA YOUTH PARTNERSHIP (SWAY)

After some discussion of various issues, including publicity of the service, the impact of the Christian ethos on non-Christians and the contribution made by the young people to the community, the Chairman asked the Clerk if a written request for funding had been received from SWAY. The Clerk confirmed that none had been received but commented that the Parish Council's expectation of such was not always clear to external organisations.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask SWAY to produce a simple report providing justification for a grant; to include the number of young Parishioners accessing the service; and evidence that the service is sustainable (or otherwise).

M10/11/19 PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED PROJECTS

Members had before them a draft form prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: that the form, as presented by the Clerk be used to gauge public support for the various proposed projects, subject to the addition of a line at the foot of the table for "Anything else?" and instructions for returning the forms.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk produce a version to cover one A4 side to form the reverse of Councillor Stewart's Christmas newsletter.

M11/11/19 UNDERCLIFF DRIVE

The Chairman reported that he had written to the Isle of Wight Council as instructed by the Parish Council at the previous meeting (M12/10/19). He and Dr Bruce Denness had prepared a paper proposing a way forward, copies of which were before members. The Chairman outlined the contents of the paper.

Councillor Stewart reported that Isle of Wight Council officers had bid for funding to reinstate Undercliff Drive and for a package of traffic management measures for Niton and Whitwell. It had been proposed to use the old telephone exchange in Niton as a project office and possible local archive.

The Chairman suggested that local town and parish councils be invited to partner with the Isle of Wight Council to form a working group. Councillor Stewart said that he would recommend the idea.

RESOLVED: that the paper prepared by Dr Denness and the Chairman be presented to the Isle of Wight Council.

M12/11/19 SMUGGLERS TRAIL WEBPAGE

RESOLVED: that the Isle of Wight Geek be asked to build a dedicated additional webpage on the Parish Council website at a cost of £90.

Councillors Boileau Goad and Fradgley left the meeting.

M13/11/19 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

CM01/11/19 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FOR NITON RECREATION GROUND

Members had before them one tender for the mowing and strimming of Niton Recreation Ground during the 2020 season.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk instruct 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 2020.

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

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