

NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON MONDAY 27th JULY 2020 AT 7:15 PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs V J Ford (Clerk to the Council)

APOLOGIES: Councillor D Stewart (Isle of Wight Council)

M01/07/20 SOUTHERN WATER AND SSEN EXTRA SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS

The Chairman welcomed Mr Stuart Bailey, Southern Water Vulnerability Liaison Officer, to the meeting. Mr Bailey outlined his role and briefed members on the Priority Services Register, financial assistance and the “Home and Well” Project:

- Since March, Southern Water and SSEN had been funding the Hampshire Citizens Advice Bureau to promote the Priority Services Register (PSR) throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
- Registration for Priority Services enables domestic customers to receive a range of benefits, including free bottled water delivered to the doorstep and/or an emergency electricity supply in the event of an interruption to the normal service. Additional measures, including extra security, are available for disabled and/or vulnerable customers if requested
- Financial assistance was available for households with an income less than £16,105 per year or in receipt of Pension Credit
- Southern Water’s “Home and Well” project relates to the PSR and financial assistance and provides additional support, such as for people being discharged from hospital
- Mr Bailey had been working closely with Age UK

Councillor Boileau Goad invited Mr Bailey to visit the CRAB Niton website, explaining that CRAB had tried to identify vulnerable residents. He asked Mr Bailey if he would be prepared to meet with members of the CRAB Core Team when next visiting the Island, which Mr Bailey agreed to do. The Clerk reported that she had published details of the PSR and financial assistance available on the Parish Council notice boards and website and that details would be included on the CRAB website and forthcoming CRAB newsletter. She also stated that she had copies of printed leaflets, which could be delivered with some of the newsletters.

The Chairman thanked Mr Bailey for attending the meeting.

M02/07/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

M03/07/20 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2020 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

M04/07/20 FINANCE

Members had before them a schedule showing a cashbook balance of £91,143.06 in the General Funds, £25,466.33 in the Public Sector Deposit Fund and £6,315.74 in the Bequest Account. A schedule of accounts for payment was also before the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement to 20th July 2020 be received and noted.

Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Amount £
E Trans*	Beardsalls Shanklin	CRAB Business Alliance “Buy Local” booklet	332.62
E Trans*	Will Thurbin	CRAB websites and domain names	283.16
E Trans*	Mr R Dymock	Maintenance of Whitwell War Memorial metal railings	875.00
E Trans	John O’Conner (GM) Ltd	Mow/strim Niton Recreation Ground	123.00
E Trans	Whitwell Garage	Diesel for CRAB minibus	60.89
E Trans	Judd Developments Ltd	Replace floor and repair steps of multi action toddler unit, Niton Rec	264.00
E Trans	Top Mops Limited	Fittings and consumables for Niton public toilets	351.15
E Trans	Top Mops Limited	One-off deep clean for Niton public toilets	162.00
E Trans	Kompan Ltd	Replacement slide section for tri action multi play unit	269.06
E Trans	V J Ford	Clerk’s salary: July 2020	708.90
E Trans	V J Ford	Clerk’s expenses: July 2020	116.47
E Trans	Top Mops Limited	Investigate and repair 3 defective lights in Niton public toilets	96.20
E Trans	Reynolds and Read	Hire of portable toilets	228.00
Total			3,870.45

The Clerk explained that the invoice from Reynolds and Read was outstanding. The Chairman outlined the changes to the operating arrangements for Niton public toilets and the consequent charges.

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

M05/07/20 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21

Members had before them a statement of variance against budget for the first quarter 2020/21.

RESOLVED: that the statement be received and noted.

M06/07/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members had before them one Niton, one Whitwell and one Island-related 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.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk cross-reference comments on planning application 20/00513/FUL against the Island Plan Core Strategy: to be appended to, and submitted with, the Council’s comments.

M07/07/20 PLANNING DECISIONS

Members were notified of the following planning decision:

- 20/00374/FUL Proposed stable block comprising 3 stables and tackroom and hay store; part change of use of land to mixed agricultural and equestrian at Southford Mill Southford Lane Whitwell: **REFUSED**
- 20/00462/HOU Proposed vehicular access and parking area (readvertised application) (amended red line) at 3, Paradise Cottages, Southford Lane, Whitwell: **GRANTED**

3. 20/00738/HOU Proposed detached garage/workshop at The Coach House, Nettlecombe Lane, Whitwell: **GRANTED**
4. 20/00777/HOU Proposed detached double garage (revised scheme) at 2, Crumbley Cottages, Godshill Road, Whitwell: **GRANTED**

M08/07/20 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Chairman expressed thanks to Councillor Dave Stewart who had submitted a written report with his apologies.

Councillor Stewart would be raising the question of speeding and Police response, including recent concerns regarding drug dealing and people not complying with guidance on Coronavirus, when he met with the new Assistant Chief Constable in the coming week. He requested views from the Parish Council on local Road Safety measures as the Isle of Wight Council would be looking at Island-wide speed in the coming months. Southford Lane remained the subject of a separate current investigation and, when outcomes were known, may require a specific focus.

With regard to Undercliff Drive, there was no further update but a local meeting with stakeholders had been requested and Councillor Stewart hoped to arrange this shortly.

There had been some positive movements of apparently abandoned vehicles in Allotment Road Car Park.

Community Response And Back-up (CRAB) support had reduced in response to demand but was able to re-ignite if required: fantastic work by all concerned. Island Coronavirus cases remained low at 422 and, sadly, 39 deaths.

Councillor Boileau Goad expressed his disappointment at Councillor Stewart's absence from the meeting when road safety issues were to be discussed.

M09/07/20 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Boileau Goad asked the Chairman to write a letter of thanks for publication in the Connections Parish magazine, the letter to express the Parish Council's gratitude to CRAB volunteers and Parishioners for looking after each other over the past months. He asked for a further letter to be written to Niton Pharmacy for working closely with the CRAB Teams. He thanked Councillor Burridge for her work at Castlehaven.

Members expressed serious concerns regarding the fatal accident at Redhill. Councillor Boileau Goad stated that speeding had been a cause and called for signs warning of a dangerous junction to be erected, on private land if necessary. Councillor Biles suggested that the lack of hedge-cutting may have adversely affected visibility.

Councillor Boileau Goad asked for the new skateboard park to be sited away from the houses adjacent to the Recreation Ground and for noise reduction measures to be put in place.

Councillor Stotesbury suggested that the old path along the Blackgang Road, Niton, could be used as a cycleway, if the verge were cut back to the field.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask Island Roads to investigate the possibility of using the old path as a cycleway.

Councillor Stotesbury reported that the Brookside Garden Trust had cut the hedge adjacent to Institute Hill to allow access for the number 6 bus service to complete the Buddle loop.

The Chairman reported that a motorcycle race involving professional riders would be staged on the Island, the course running from Chale to Brighstone. Councillor Stewart would be giving more details shortly.

M10/07/20 SOUTHERN VECTIS NUMBER 6 WINTER SERVICE

Chale and Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Councils had agreed in principle to support a Southern Vectis number 6 winter bus service, subject to costs yet to be confirmed by Southern Vectis.

RESOLVED: that a number 6 winter Sunday, Boxing Day and New Year bank holiday services be supported, subject to costs yet to be received from Southern Vectis.

M11/07/20 NITON PUBLIC TOILETS

The Chairman stated that the Clerk had received a report of the gents' toilet being vandalised, with the result that the toilets had to be temporarily closed. Additionally, the facilities had required additional sanitary fittings to be Covid-19 safe in accordance with the latest Government guidance. Furthermore, cleaning by the long-serving volunteer had ended.

Through their shared delegated authority, the Chairman and Clerk had engaged professional cleaning company Top Mops Limited at very short notice and asked for the work necessary to render the facilities Covid-19 safe to be carried out. In the meantime, due to the strategic importance of the toilets to Key Workers, two portable toilets had been hired from Reynolds and Read to provide temporary facilities. The Church Street toilets had closed on 1st July and re-opened on 14th July. The daily cleaning contract with Top Mops was to run for at least 3 months.

The Clerk showed a note of appreciation from Key Workers, which had been pinned to the wooden notice board outside the toilets.

RESOLVED: that the daily cleaning contract with Top Mops Limited be reviewed at the September Parish Council meeting.

M12/07/20 COVID-19 DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Members had before them the log of decisions taken by the Chairman and Clerk under delegated authority. The Chairman stated that he would like the delegated authority to end as soon as possible but, in the light of the rapid changes still taking place with respect to the Covid-19 Global Pandemic, it may be prudent to leave in place until September.

RESOLVED: that the delegation of Covid-19 related Council decisions extended to the Chairman and the Clerk be left in place and that the matter be reviewed again at the September Parish Council meeting.

M13/07/20 NT53 BRIDLEWAY, NITON

Councillor Sheerin outlined the problem of water draining off the Niton Manor field adjacent to the steep part of the bridleway. The Isle of Wight Council Rights of Way Department had recently resurfaced the bridleway. However, without measures in place to control the surface water, the scalplings would eventually wash down the bridleway, down Pan Lane and out onto Church Street and Rectory Road. The flint in the scalplings had been responsible for a number of burst tyres on vehicles using the highway. Councillor Sheerin proposed the use of a French drain, situated at the edge of the field, subject to the landowner's permission.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council agreed in principle to fund the installation of a French drain, subject to costings, and that Councillor Sheering approach Reynolds and Read Limited to obtain a quotation.

M14/07/20 ROAD SAFETY ISSUES

Councillor Boileau Goad suggested that the Parish Council should establish better liaison with the Community Action Road Safety (CARS) group. The Chairman suggested that CARS could become a Working Group of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Sheerin approach CARS to pursue closer liaison and report back to the September Parish Council Meeting.

The Chairman said that Councillor Boileau Goad’s earlier point regarding speeding had been well-made. He stated that it was an Island-wide issue and that he would like to see a speed-watch campaign. Councillor Stotesbury suggested that there should be a designated speed area for motorbikes.

M15/07/20 TOURIST LEAFLET

RESOLVED: that Councillor Boileau Goad establish a working party to look at tourist information produced to date, bring everything together, incorporate local history, update and publish in order to promote tourism within the Parish.

M16/07/20 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND PLACES 2020

RESOLVED: that the Clerk express the Parish Council’s disappointment to the Isle of Wight Council and ask for “Whitwell” to be reinstated into the name of the proposed new Electoral Ward of “Chale, Niton and Shorwell”.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45 pm

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

APPENDIX TO MINUTES

COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATION

1. 20/00875/HOU Proposed two storey side extension (revised scheme) at 3, Paradise Cottages, Southford Lane, Whitwell: **NO OBJECTION**
2. 20/01021/HOU Proposed single storey rear and side extension at 1, Verlands Close, Niton: **NO OBJECTION**
3. 20/00513/FUL The construction, operation and decommissioning of a well site for the exploration and appraisal of hydrocarbon minerals from one exploratory borehole (Arreton-3) and one side-track borehole (Arreton-3z) for a temporary period of three years involving the siting of plant and equipment, the construction of a new access track, a new junction with the Newport to Sandown highway (A3056),

the erection of boundary fencing, entrance gates and other ancillary development with restoration to agriculture on land to the north east of New Barn Business Park, Sandown Road, Arreton: **Niton and Whitwell Parish Council, having considered the application, STRONGLY OBJECTS** on the following grounds:

- i. The application flies in the face of the Isle of Wight Council's approach to the considerable Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Island Biosphere and other significant environmental features. It is not therefore ecologically viable
- ii. Approval would preclude National Park status for the Island
- iii. Represents a significant threat of poisoning to the Island water supply
- iv. [Cross-reference to the Island Plan Core Strategy: to be added by the Clerk]