

Minutes of the meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 10th June 2024** at **7.00pm** in **Arreton Community Hall**

Present: Cllrs Gurney-Champion (Chair), Healy, Dodson, Mills, Roberts, Cooper, Verey and Taylor.

In attendance: Claire Gale (Clerk), no members of the public.

097/24 Apologies for Absence

IW Cllr Suzie Ellis (due to ill-health).

098/24 Questions from the public

No members of the public were present.

099/24 To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011

There were no declarations.

100/24 To give notice of any item to be raised under agenda item 110/24

Cllr Verey requested an update on the ownership of Merstone Station.

101/24 To receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2024

RESOLVED: To agree and sign the minutes of 13th May 2024.

102/24 To receive regular reports

a) IW Councillor

No report was received. Cllr Ellis continues to be available by phone and email.

b) Cemetery and churchyard matters

Jacqui Gill had approached Cllr Dodson about applying for a grant to have the war memorial cleaned. This has the Parish Council's support. The Clerk will check for any historical records for the war memorial. A site visit took place today at Gore Cemetery with the contractor and neighbouring landowner. The holm oak tree will be removed in the week beginning 17th June.

c) Highways and footpaths

Cllr Cooper raised concerns the amount of signage on the verge at the crossroads near the new dog meadow. Cllr Dodson stated that he had contacted Wightfibre to remedy the ruts left in the verge when installing a new box on Chapel Lane. A member of the public had reported the A33 footpath between Chapel Lane and the cycle path was virtually impassable. Cllr Dodson confirmed that the fence is rotten, overgrown and leaning across the path. The Clerk was also copied in on correspondence on the footpath from Arreton through to Horringford passing the stables at Fulford Farm. The Clerk will report these concerns to Rights of Way at IWC.

d) Chairman's report

The Chairman attended the D Day 80th Anniversary Fish and Chip supper at The White Lion which was a great success. It was attended by around 40 people. Live music was provided. A small number had also attended the cream tea in the morning. Bell ringing had taken place at 5.30pm. The Chairman attended the Gore Cemetery site visit and has responded to emails over the last month.

e) IWALC

Cllr Roberts attended the IWALC meeting. The Draft Island Planning Strategy 6-week consultation period has been delayed by the general election and will now commence on 6th July. Bob Blezzard reported back following attendance at the NALC conference which had noted the countrywide problem of responsibilities being passed down to Town and Parish Councils but without funding and the growth of Air BnB. The IWALC County Officer will be attending decarbonisation training and will share the information received.

f) Meeting reports

There were no meeting reports.

g) Clerk's report

Following the last meeting the Clerk has checked shed quote and asked Brighstone landscaping to remedy the ivy and ridge tiles, emailed Island Roads regarding traffic light sequencing at the Hare and Hounds junction, requested IWC/IWALC meeting notes and circulated them and organised the Housing Needs working group for June 17th 10am to be hosted by Cllr Roberts. The Outside Bodies list has been updated, changes advised and enquiries made about current status of the South Wight Wellbeing Forum. Posters for D Day events were organised and circulated and Jacque Gill was advised the Coach House was not needed. The Cricket Club was advised their grant application was successful. Information was submitted to CCLA re Arreton School Trust. The memorial tablet fees were added to fees list. Burial queries were followed up with the Chairman. An email was sent to the primary school re balls blocking the culvert in School Lane.

It was noted the planning applications for 24/00481/FUL Hillcroft Budbridge Lane Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3DJ Demolition of existing buildings and proposed replacement storage building and 24/00355/FUL Little Sullens Farm Burnt House Lane Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 2PP Proposed conversion, alterations and extension of outbuildings to provide ancillary accommodation and a self-contained annexe have been granted.

The Clerk has completed a Valuation office form re Gore Cemetery (forwarded from IWC). The end of year finance tasks have been completed including setting the dates for the Public Rights inspection period (5th June to 16th July) and posting of notices, plus publication on website. The Clerk organised and attended the site visit at Gore Cemetery. The councillor contact list has been circulated.

103/24 Finance

The finance report for May was received and the balance in the current account was noted as being £20,740.42. The bank mandate form to add Cllr Taylor as signatory to the Lloyds current account bank was completed and signed.

RESOLVED: To agree and approve the payments as presented. To approve changes to the current account bank mandate.

104/24 Planning and Appeals

The following planning applications were considered.

24/00283/HOU

Location: Stickworth Lodge Stickworth Lane Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3AP

Proposal: Alterations and conversion of garden room to form bedroom and ensuite

RESOLVED: To support this application.

24/00725/HOU

Location: 2 Longmeade Cottages Hale Common Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3AP

Proposal: Demolition of conservatory; Proposed single storey rear extension; new door on rear elevation

RESOLVED: To support this application.

24/00699/FUL

Location: 5 And 6 Macketts Lane Cottages Macketts Lane Arreton Newport Isle of Wight PO30 3AS

Proposal: Demolition of conservatories; proposed single/two storey rear extension to 5 and single storey rear extension to 6

RESOLVED: To support this application.

105/24 Gift to Nature

Following receipt of the annual report and information about other sources of funding the Council considered a request from Gift to Nature for a donation of £250 for the continued upkeep of Merstone Station.

RESOLVED: To approve a grant of £250 towards the upkeep of Merstone Station by Gift to Nature.

106/24 Arreton School Trust

The Clerk stated that a copy of the trust deed and draft minutes showing the appointment in May of Arreton Parish Council representatives and information about the incumbent and one church warden at St Georges Church was sent to the CCLA. The name of the second church warden is now known and will be advised. Further information is required from the CCLA to progress.

107/24 IT Update

The Council considered a report prepared by the Clerk recommending upgrading the IT to ensure back up of the laptop, more comprehensive anti-virus software and more secure clerk and councillor email provision. It was noted that advice from SLCC and NALC is for local councils to move towards the use of gov.uk domain names. The preferred Council domain name is arretonpc@gov.uk . The format for email addresses would be clerk@ , chairman@ and Cllr.inital.surname@arretonpc.gov.uk. A quotation for the recommended upgrades from Wight Computers was presented.

RESOLVED: To add an IT heading to 2025/26 budget with appropriate allocation of funds. To approve the quote from Wight Computers and use funds from general reserves to upgrade to Bitdefender Premium Business Anti-Virus , to upgrade the laptop with the Microsoft 365 Business Standard package and add 4GB capacity. To change hosting to Wight Computers to enable set up of standardised email addresses. To keep the existing arreton.org.uk domain name and to apply for grant funding to and purchase a gov.uk domain name. To keep website support with the existing provider.

108/24 Burial Matters

The Council further considered the criteria for inhabitant and non-inhabitant fees. It was noted that the reference to children in relation to fees is not needed as there is no charge for under 18s in either case. Following discussions about the wording this matter was deferred to the next meeting.

109/24 To note the date of the next meeting 8th July 2024

The meeting at 7pm on 8th July will be preceded by the annual inspection of Gore Cemetery and the Churchyard at 6pm.

110/24 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only

There is no further information about the ownership of Merstone Station at present.

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

Claire Gale, Clerk to the Council

14th June 2024

E-mail: arretonpc@outlook.com Telephone: 07587 008183

..... Chairman

..... Date