

**GODSHILL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
13TH MAY 2019 AT GODSHILL METHODIST HALL AT 7.00PM.**

MINUTES

1.MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEETING.

On the proposition of Mrs Button, seconded by Mr Thrower it was –

RESOLVED: To confirm the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 24th May 2018.

2.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3.PRESENTATION OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31.3.2019.

The Parish Clerk had circulated the Parish Council accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2019. There were no questions on the content of the accounts.

4.REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The Chairman, Alison Child, reported as follows –

This is my sixth Annual Parish Meeting as the Chairman of Godshill Parish Council and I again welcome those present.

It has again been a very successful year for the Parish Council and I am pleased to report on some positive outcomes for the Parish.

The Council continues to consider and make comment on all planning applications in the parish, and this is done by the Parish Clerk through the Isle of Wight Council website. The Parish Council website contains agenda and minutes of all Council meetings and also provides a link from this website to planning applications on that of the IW Council website and also to the website of Godshill School. The Parish Council again objected to planning applications for development at Church Hill and was is concerned that planning permission was granted in this area. The year also saw a consultation on the Island Planning Strategy which set out a vision for future development across the Isle of Wight. The Parish Council responded to the Strategy and expressed its deep concern regarding the number of new homes being permitted within the Parish Area.

Road Safety in the village has always been and will continue to be of concern to the Parish Council and I am disappointed that the introduction of the 20mph speed limit has been unable to have the desired effect on the driving speed of a number of motorists who pass through the village and I feel that greater enforcement of the limit needs to take place if the speed limit is to be truly effective. Parking at School Crescent and Moorview continues to be a safety problem despite the efforts of all concerned and I would again ask that drivers act responsibly to reduce the risk of an accident in this area particularly at the start and end of the school day.

The Parish Council set its budget and precept for the 2019 -20 financial year at its meeting on the 8th January 2019, the precept for the year being agreed at £37,040 an increase of £5,000 on the previous year. This substantial increase was necessary to cover the running costs and necessary investment in the public conveniences and other sites that the Parish Council has taken responsibility for over the past few years. An Annual budget provision of £10,000 had been included for the refurbishment of the public conveniences and the Parish Councillors had attended a presentation in Shanklin on an option to refurbish by the installation of Modular Units as had taken place in two sites in Shanklin.

This way forward was an alternative option to a traditional refurbishment and both options are currently being costed. The Parish Councils Auditor had signed off the Councils Accounts for the 2017-18 financial year and there were no matters arising from the audit.

The Village Hall Management Committee have met on a regular basis to progress the development of a new Community Hall and Playground Facility at Central Mead. A new Community Centre will cost a much larger sum than the proceeds of the sale of the old Village Hall and funding options are being examined to raise the additional resources required, these include grant applications to a wide range of potential funders and loan finance approval from the Government. Nikki Collinson and a number of volunteers from the village have been actively fundraising for the proposed Playground through events and grant applications to the lottery and other funding organisations. I would like to express my thanks for this to Nikki and all those who have been assisting her. The Village Hall Management Committee have engaged Martin Hayles Architectural Services to draw up plans and manage the submission of a joint planning application for a Community Hall and Playground. I am pleased to report that the proposed project has the support of the IW Council Planning Officers who are being helpful with the provision of advice. A Public Meeting was held on Monday 11th June, which was well attended and demonstrated strong support for the proposed projects from the majority of those who attended.

The Parish Council has continued to maintain Central Mead, May Close, the Memorial Garden and Church Hill. The Parish Council has recently arranged for the cleaning of the War Memorial which has now been completed to a high standard. Unfortunately a further outbreak of Japanese Knotweed was found at Central Mead and this was treated with expediency in order to stop its spread, and this will need ongoing treatment for a period of years.

An extremely successful and well attended Summer Fayre took place in July and I record my thanks to all concerned with the event, but especially to Yasmin Nigh for all her hard work in its organisation. The Christmas market was also a good success despite the inclement weather and I would like to thank The Smithy for the use of the car park and all the other assistance they give the Parish Council throughout the year.

The year also saw an Electoral Review of the Isle of Wight by the Boundary Commission, and as a result of this in future elections Wroxall would now be included in the IW Council member ward for Upper Ventnor while Godshill will be included with a number of other rural areas. This should however not impact on the workings of Godshill Parish Council or its longstanding good relationship with the Parish of Wroxall.

The Remembrance Day service at All Saints was again well attended in the 100th Anniversary Year of the end of the First World War. It was good to see such an attendance and I hope this continues for future years.

Finally I would like to express the Parish Council's thanks to Isle of Wight Councillor, Rodney Downer, whose who has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Godshill community and to our Clerk, Gareth Hughes, for all the additional time he has spent on our behalf over the past year. I would also like to thank Mr Farrow for his work on the noticeboard and for assisting the Clerk with placing its content.

5. REPORT OF IW COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

IW Councillor Rodney Downer reported as follows -

During the past year I have attended all Full Council meetings except one, all Parish Council meetings and sat on the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Adult Social Care. I have also kept in touch with the Police.

Island Roads. The resurfaced section of the High Street developed surface breakdown and I reported this to Island Roads. This section will be attended to on the night of May 20th this year. The car park is also due for resurfacing this year but will have to be confirmed. In the carpark a motorcycle bay has been installed after an enquiry from a resident. The trees have also been cut back and dead ones removed this was from the area near the fence at the side of the car park. Residents in Lessland Lane contacted me because tarmac had been laid too high during resurfacing and water was running into their drives. After contacting Island Roads this has hopefully been rectified. Southern Water were made aware of a rattling drain cover near to Sandford Garage. Abandoned cars left in the car park have also been reported to Island Roads. It is frustrating that the process for dealing with these is a long one.

A resident in Sandford asked about a bus stop near Sandford Dairy and near Sandford Barns. I arranged a meeting with Island Roads for the resident. The result of this is a member of the Contracts Management Team in the Council and Island Roads together with Southern Vectis inspected the site. They agreed it would be possible but due to lack of funds not at the moment I will keep making representations.

Various potholes have been repaired having been reported to me by residents.

A resident spoke to me about a tree and bench in Paddock Close that were in poor condition. On inspection the tree was suffering from honey fungus and was dug out and replaced. The bench was also replaced with a new one. Residents were concerned about speed in the 20mph limit so I requested Island Roads to carry out speed monitoring.

Residents in Roud were concerned about the quality of verge cutting and I spoke to Island Roads about this. The size of the equipment and the competency of the operators.

There are still problems with parking outside the school and parking wardens are regularly in attendance. Also with the school I met with Headteacher Mark Snow.

Rights of Way. Concerns were expressed about the cutting out of footpaths one in particular was GL16 this was done soon after being reported. There was also the branch of a tree on GL 21 at Bridgecourt that was causing concern. The tree officer inspected and recommended removal for safety purposes.

Planning. The application for another dwelling on the Church Hill site was approved. However, there was some success in the fact that I was able to get it determined by the Planning Committee. Unfortunately it was approved and I have expressed concerns to officers that more might be applied for.

I arranged a meeting for the Parish Council Chairmen of Godshill and Wroxall to meet with a planning officer and Cllr Abraham to discuss planning and why Parish Councils thought they were not listened to in the planning process. Members of both Parish Councils attended a planning training at the Methodist Hall in Wroxall which I also attended.

At the request of the Chairman I arranged a meeting with a planning officer to discuss the entrance to Central Mead with regard to the proposed Village Hall Cllr Bacon was also in attendance. Residents also spoke of gaining access to the play area at May Close to allow a hedge to be cut I put them in contact with the Clerk. Similarly residents concerned with trees in Central Mead were put in contact.

Remembrance. Although at Wroxall this year for Remembrance I took part in a Peal of Grandsire Triples half muffled at Brighstone. (Bellringing) This took two and three quarter hours to commemorate one hundred years since the Armistice.

The threat posed to pollinators by Asian Hornets was highlighted by an event put on by beekeepers which I attended.

There were warnings of telephone scams which I highlighted that residents should be aware of in news posted at Sandford Garage and the Parish noticeboard.

I have tried to do my best for the residents and the Parish Council and will continue to do so.

Rodney Downer

6. REPORT OF ANY OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

As a Parish Council Representative on IWALC, Mr Jonathan Bacon outlined the continuing role of the organisation.

7. GENERAL QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs Clare Dinsdale expressed her anger at the continued speeding traffic through the village and inappropriate car parking in School Crescent and Moorview which was on occasion denying residents access to their drive or highway. It was commented that dumping was taking place on Central Mead from property in Moorview.

The meeting closed at 7.26pm.