

Minutes of a meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2019** at **Arreton Community Hall** at **7.00pm**.

**Present:** Cllrs Kimber, Calloway, Healy, Orchard and Verey.

In attendance: IWC Cllr Mosdell and Sheila Caws (Clerk).

**026/19 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Cooper (on holiday) and Goodchild (unwell).

**027/19 Chairman**

Cllr Martin Kimber was elected Chairman, to hold office until the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May.

**028/19 To fill a casual vacancy**

Two applications were received and the Parish Council agreed to co-opt Mrs Venetia Verey, who was welcomed to the Parish Council.

**029/19 Questions from the public**

There were no questions from the public.

**030/19 To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meetings (4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January)**

The minutes of the meetings held on January 4<sup>th</sup> and January 14<sup>th</sup> were confirmed and signed – proposed Cllr Healy, seconded Cllr Kimber (4<sup>th</sup>) and proposed Cllr Calloway, seconded Cllr Healy (14<sup>th</sup>).

**031/19 To receive regular report**

(a) IWC Councillor – IWC Cllr Mosdell reported that there is an initiative to open up access to Michael Morey's Mount at Downend involving Kevin Coghlan, the Wildlife Trust, Rights of Way and Natural England. There are no permissive rights to the site and so Natural England and Rights of Way will have a further meeting and come back with a proposal. The idea is for a shared use access and the Parish Council will be asked to see if we wish to become involved, perhaps with regard to the upkeep. The IW Council will pay all the legal fees.

UKOG hold the licence to drill for oil in Arreton and they intend to put in an application for exploratory work in the near future. They wish to speak to the Parish Council and so a meeting will be arranged by them. There is no intention for any fracking on the site, only traditional drilling. An open meeting for residents will be held at some point.

(b) Cemetery and Churchyard matters – Cllr Orchard reported that the hole in the ground for the bolt on the main gates had filled up with soil and needed excavating.

(c) Highways and footpaths – Cllr Kimber met with a representative of the IW Ramblers to discuss rights of way in Arreton – this was not in his role as Chairman but as a member of the Ramblers. The Ramblers are working with the council to improve 'waymarking' of rights of way – normally posts with arrows on to be added where the right of way is unclear on the ground. This would relate to a good number of Arreton footpaths.

Cllr Kimber finished walking the Arreton rights of way in January and sent four defect reports to the Council. They also are seeking to identify any historic rights of way not already formally listed. Cllr Kimber also noted that the approved plans for the relocated farm includes two new (permissive) rights of way from the cycle path to the farm shop, and then to the A3056.

The cycle track at Horringtonford appears to be finished but is still locked up.

Cllr Orchard reported that the ditch that should have been dug to alleviate the run -off after the flooding in Blackwater still had not been done and the area was now overgrown again. IWC Cllr Mosdell will investigate.

- (d) IWALC/Chairman's report – there was no IWALC report this month.  
The Chairman reported that it had been a quiet month.

Cllrs Calloway, Goodchild and the Clerk attended a training session for the Island Planning Strategy on January 30th and circulated the presentation afterwards.

The Chairman has prepared and circulated his thoughts on communicating with residents, which will be discussed later as an agenda item.

As the Chairman Cllr Kimber will try and put forward his thoughts on anything that it appears the Parish Council should act on or offer an opinion on. However, he will do this as a basis for discussion at meetings as it is always easier to consider, and sometimes demolish, something presented for discussion than to start from scratch. This does not mean that his thoughts should prevail as he wants either agreement or a vote after discussion. He also thinks it may be appropriate for Councillors to act as leads in particular areas and any thoughts would be welcome.

- (e) Clerk's report – Agenda and Minutes Record: there was nothing arising from the minutes but the planning applications for Birchmore and Rustic Way have both been approved.

Other matters: The Clerk has sent off the VAT return. As ever, when it was a paper form, nothing changed for years but now it is digital there are variations every year. The IW Council have been invoiced for their share of the grounds' maintenance costs.

The advert for the grounds' maintenance tender has been placed in the *IW County Press* for two weeks and three enquiries have been received to date.

Our previous Chairman asks that a home be found for the banners and the PA system, which are still in his keeping at present. Somewhere dry and reasonably warm is required.

The Chairman, Cllr Kimber, and Cllr Calloway attended the AGM and Annual Forum of the AoNB Steering Group last month.

The Clerk has been contacted by a Merstone resident regarding flooding after heavy rain in the Merstone station area. The Clerk will investigate.

Training: Cllrs Calloway and Goodchild attended the training session organised by IWALC on the draft Island Planning Strategy.

**032/19 To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011. To give notice of any item to be raised under agenda item 045/19**

Nothing was raised.

**033/19 Finance**

The finance report for January was received and the balance in the current account was noted as £9,883.38. The following payments were agreed:-

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Staff costs          | £350.05  |
| NS&I (transfer)      | £2000,00 |
| IWALC (subscription) | £184.61  |

**034/19 Planning and Appeals**

To consider any applications recently received:- none have been received.

**035/19 IT security**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**036/19 Local award**

It was agreed that the idea was good in principle but that the matter should be deferred until parish communications have been improved.

**037/19 Pest control**

The Clerk received an e-mail from a local farmer to say that land had been cleared to the east of Gore Cemetery and pest control measures would be implemented on the farm side of the fence. A report was received from the pest control company who had been working in the Cemetery over Christmas recommending a fence as the best form of protection for the Cemetery. It was agreed to continue with pest control measures and defer the idea of a fence for the time being. In the meantime, Brighstone Landscaping would be asked to fill in the holes.

**038/19 Budget 2019/20**

The budget for 2019/20 was approved – proposed Cllr Kimber, seconded Cllr Healy. The precept was set at £9,300.00.

**039/19 Casual vacancies**

The Parish Council accepted Cllr Thirkettle's resignation and it was announced that Cllr Goodchild had also resigned for work and family reasons. It was agreed to begin the process to fill the two vacancies.

**040/19 Island Planning Strategy**

It was agreed to hold a separate meeting to discuss the Parish Council's response to the draft Island Planning Strategy.

**041/19 Churchyard tombs**

Quotes were considered for work on three tombs in the Churchyard. It was agreed to accept the quote from GJ Banks, noting that Option A was the choice for Cromwell's tomb. The total cost will be about £3,000.00.

**042/19 Community communications and events**

It was agreed that the Chairman would draft an item for Cllr Mosdell's newsletter asking for those interested in receiving e-mail and other communications from the Parish Council should contact the Clerk. The notice would be agreed by councillors before inclusion.

**043/19 Bank mandate**

It was agreed to amend the bank mandate to request only two signatories rather than the current three. Ex-councillors Thirkettle, Goodchild, E Oulton and R Oulton would be removed from the list of signatories and Cllrs Calloway, Healy, Kimber and Verey added.

**044/19 To note the date of the next meeting, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**045/19 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only**

It was noted that the lid on the dog bin at Park Cottages was broken. The Chairman will investigate.

There being nothing else raised, the meeting concluded at 9.16pm

**Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Council**

Hillis Side, Rew Street, Gurnard, Isle of Wight PO31 8NW

E-mail: [arretonpc@outlook.com](mailto:arretonpc@outlook.com) Telephone: 07587 008183

14<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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Chairman

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Date