

Minutes of the meeting of Arreton Parish Council held on **Monday 8th June 2026 at 7.00 p.m. in Arreton Community Hall**

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

In attendance: Claire Gale (Clerk), IW Cllr James Whelan, Steve Davis (Volunteer Tree Warden), Cllr Colin Mansell (Chairman, Godshill Parish Council), 2 members of the public

079/26 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

080/26 Questions from the public

A member of the public raised concerns about the number of vehicles travelling down Budbridge Lane. There is one no through road sign at the junction with Bury Lane. It seems to be a problem with people using satnav being directed to Godshill by this route. Drivers get as far as the bridleway and then are forced to turn round. This is causing danger to cyclists, horses and pedestrians and creating a nuisance with clouds of dust in dry weather. The Clerk was asked to contact IWC Highways to see if additional No Through Road signage could be added and to report the error to Google Maps.

081/26 To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011

There were no declarations.

082/26 To give notice of any item to be raised under agenda item 092/26

Cllr Filer gave notice of an item.

083/26 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2026

RESOLVED: To agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th May 2026.

084/26 To receive regular reports

a) IW Councillor

Cllr James Whelan reported that he is one of 22 new IW Councillors following the recent election. They have completed a comprehensive induction programme and are excited to get working in their new roles. Cllr Whelan is planning to start surgeries in the ward from July. Committees begin next week and he is serving as Chair of Adult Social Care and Licensing. He advised that an enforcement notice is about to be served on land adjacent to The Fighting Cocks pub. Concerns have also been raised around safeguarding, public health and the legality of workers living on site.

b) Chairman's Report

The Chairman had attended a Central Rural Parishes Meeting (along with Cllr Dodson), followed up on the possible gift of land off Chapel Lane and prepared for this meeting.

c) Clerk's Report

Following the last meeting the Clerk submitted NS&I Endowed Graves Account closure form by post, submitted Lloyds Bank removal of signatory form by email and post, contacted Island Roads about issues with access at Park Cottages (IWC responded that the path is maintained by the Housing Association so they have been contacted by email), emailed IWC Planning Enforcement on the New Barn Industrial Park (an email dated 19th May stated a stop notice would not be a reasonable or proportionate response), contacted "We the 33" about attending a future meeting and sought quotes for dealing with moles at Gore Cemetery.

Planning following planning application has been granted (20.05.26):

26/00416/FUL

Lake View Care Home Blackwater Hollow Newport Isle of Wight, PO30 3BJ

Retention of three storey rear extension, single storey rear extension; alterations to facade materials; revised parking and access arrangements; alterations to landscaping.

The Clerk reported possible unauthorised building adjacent to Budbridge Lodge to IWC Enforcement (an acknowledgement has been received), submitted documents to the External Auditor and published arrangements for the exercise of public rights, published the documents on the website, dealt with the burial payment received in error from Lake Co-op. The Trustees of Arreton School Trust have been told that the fund has now been closed and the balance transferred to the bank account. The next meeting on 22nd June will deal with distribution of the proceeds. The newsletter was drafted and circulated. Councillor co-option notices were published. The Clerk has also continued the entry of burial data on to Scribe Cemeteries software. An Arreton Parish Council Facebook Page has been set up to enable the Arreton Parish Community and Information Group to be created.

A phone call was received from the internal auditor regarding area (O) not being covered on his AGAR return. The Parish Council may hear from the external auditor BDO on this matter.

IWC is consulting on the Draft Island Planning Strategy Main Modification from 8th June to 20th July.

d) Community Centre

Cllr Dodson stated that the grant application for solar panels has been submitted and a response is expected in August. The prior approval application has also gone in. New codes have been set for the key safes to improve security.

e) IWALC

There was nothing to report.

f) Other Meeting Reports

The Chairman reported on the recent Central Rural Parishes Meeting which was well attended. Issues common to all 4 parishes included speeding, greening issues, sharing contacts for trusted contractors (particularly those responsive with urgent matters), litter and fly-tipping and wildlife walk mapping. Cllr Mansell stated that via the Community Association Godshill had secured a grant of £8,000 from Hampshire and IW Police to fund the purchase and installation of 2 flashing warning signs to help slow down traffic passing through the village. It is hoped they will be installed by the end of the year. The Clerk was asked to contact Godshill's Clerk for further details.

Cllr Mansell shared information about a Greening Campaign Community Adaptation Resource Training Day taking place on the mainland on 14th June. This is the first one in the country. There are still places available if anyone would like to join. There will be 2 further training days and follow up community workshops after each training day which will look at local problems and solutions.

It was also noted that there have been 4 screenings of the film dealing with the climate and nature crisis ("The Peoples Emergency Briefing") on the island a 3 more are planned. Arreton Community Hall would be a good venue for this. This also ties in with the "We the 33" campaign. Project leader Lucy Hardy will be attending the Arreton Parish council meeting in July.

g) Cemetery and Churchyard Matters

The Clerk reported that a wooden cross had been installed at the churchyard without pre-approval. The Gibbs tomb had to be dismantled for safety reasons. Work has halted until the Diocesan Faculty is completed. The Church Wardens have been advised.

h) Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Dodson reported that there had been an accident in Merstone involving a bus, pick-up truck and a car. It was not known whether this had been reported. Cllr Dodson had reported to IWC fly-tipping in Chapel Lane and this has been dealt with.

i) Volunteer Tree Warden Report

The tree warden training day will take place on 17th June.

085/26 Finance

The Clerk confirmed that the NS&I Endowed Graves account had now been closed and the funds transferred to the Lloyds Account will be set aside for use in accordance with the terms of the bequests.

RESOLVED: To note the finance report for May and approve the payments as presented.

086/26 Planning and Appeals

There were no applications to consider.

087/26 Pest Control at Gore Cemetery

The Council considered guidance about the appropriate course of action for dealing with moles at Gore Cemetery.

RESOLVED: To take no action at present and check on mole activity at the annual inspection in July.

088/26 Bus Shelter Cleaning

The Clerk stated that following an enquiry with Southern Vectis about bus shelter cleaning this had been redirected to IW Highways and Transport Team who had yet to respond. The Clerk will contact Chillerton Parish about the process for adopting a bus shelter. The Council considered the need for cleaning the 7 bus shelters in the Parish.

RESOLVED: To approve the quotation and instruct the contractor to clean the shelters twice a year.

089/26 Gift of Land

Tree Warden Steve Davis presented a proposal for the use of land in Merstone offered to the Parish Council with a view to a low-cost project that would be able to look after itself. This would involve creation of a small woodland and nature reserve that would be dog free with gates to control entry and suitable signage. The question of whether there is giant hogweed on the site needs investigation and a concern was raised that fly-tipping of green waste could become an issue. The Chairman reported that IW Rotary is still interested in helping with the project which will be discussed at their next meeting. The Clerk read out an email from a member of the public concerned about the possible ongoing cost. Further information will be brought to the July meeting.

090/26 Noticeboard Locations

Cllr Roberts stated that the Arreton noticeboard is difficult to read from the pavement. All councillors were asked to visit the noticeboard locations prior to the next meeting. The Clerk will approach the Methodist Church about the possibility of re-siting it closer to the wall. This item will be on the agenda in July.

091/26 To note the date of the next meeting 13th July 2026 which will follow the annual inspection of burial grounds at 6pm

092/26 Any other matters raised by Councillors for discussion only

Cllr Filer had been contacted by residents concerned at the speed of agricultural vehicles with uncovered trailers travelling at speed through the village on route to the Anaerobic Digester Plant. Speeding vehicles cause a danger to residents and material from the trailers is causing blocked drains. The Clerk was asked to contact the local NFU representative and the manager at the Plant to ask for their support in improving the situation.

The meeting closed at 8.31p.m.

Claire Gale, Clerk to the Council

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11th June 2026

..... Chairman

..... Date