

IOW Councillor Report December 2019 for Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council



Waste services over Christmas and the New Year

WASTE, RECYCLING AND GARDEN SUBSCRIPTION COLLECTIONS

Recycling, waste and garden waste collections will change over Christmas and New Year. See the below calendar for changes to collections.

Between 23 December and 3 January excess polystyrene will be collected in white or clear sacks to the side of your black bin only.

Please do not place excess polystyrene in black sacks or in recycling.

| Normal collection day | Revised collection day |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Monday 23 December | Saturday 21 December |
| Tuesday 24 December | Monday 23 December |
| Wednesday 25 December | Tuesday 24 December |
| Thursday 26 December | Friday 27 December |
| Friday 27 December | Saturday 28 December |
| Monday 30 December | Unchanged |
| Tuesday 31 December | Unchanged |
| Wednesday 1 January | Thursday 2 January |
| Thursday 2 January | Friday 3 January |
| Friday 3 January | Saturday 4 January |

REAL CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTIONS

If you have a garden waste subscription, we will collect your real Christmas tree between 6 and 17 January with your garden waste on garden waste collection day. Trees must be free of all decorations and pots.

If you do not have an active subscription, you can order a real Christmas tree collection for £5. Do it online at www.iwight.com/waste or by calling 01983 823777.

RECYCLING CENTRES

Lynnbottom Recycling Centre will be closed on Christmas Day only. All other opening times are as normal.

BULKY WASTE COLLECTIONS

Bulky waste collections will not be available between 23 December and 5 January.



Christmas Waste Collections

Above are the Waste Collection changes for Christmas and New Year from Amey. If you have a garden waste subscription your real tree can be collected as part of your garden collection free of charge.

If you don't currently have a subscription for garden waste you can have your tree collected for a fee of £5.

Should you wish to have a subscription for 2020 and don't have an existing one then you will need to get onto the waiting list with some urgency and then you will be contacted from January to authorise your subscription for the coming year and by then the system should be capable of setting you up with a Direct Debit so that you won't have to remember to re-activate your subscription, as it would roll over to the next year unless you wish to stop the service by cancelling your Direct Debit.

The only day that the recycling centre at Lynnbottom will be closed is Christmas Day.

Rural Break In's

As the evenings get darker earlier, I have had a message from Newport Police that rural break In's have increased.

The current warning is for sheds and garages in rural areas so please remember to close and lock yours especially as the evening time comes and it gets dark earlier.

This is a good time to review all security like locks on windows and outbuildings. I have regular meetings with the Police to keep up with issues that they are dealing with so will pass on information that I am given.

West Wight Schools

Nobody likes to see a school closure but in the case of West Wight schools we have too many for the number of pupils available.

I have been involved in this process all the way through as a school in my ward has been implicated, although with the recommendation in the paper coming to Cabinet in January, Brighstone will remain as it is.

I have been very impressed with the way Cllr Brading and the Hampshire officers have conducted themselves and followed the process exceedingly well.

All I have seen is that they have had nothing but the best interests of the children in mind at all times and have considered their educational, physical and mental wellbeing throughout this process and have listened to all points of view.

The recommendation is to close Yarmouth School and build a new school on the All Saints site to accommodate children from the whole area including Yarmouth. The plan is sensitive to the needs of the children and parents of West Wight and ultimately you can't please everybody on an issue like this but on balance I feel this is the right decision.

I have now seen more emails in support of the recommendation than I have seen opposing it and I think that is down to the process being followed properly.

I think it is significant that the Governors are now in favour of the proposal.

We are always hearing that more money is needed for schools and I agree that is the case so I think it would be foolish to turn our backs on an offer of Government money for the building of a brand new school in the West Wight where we already have the perfect site available near to where most children are situated.

Therefore I will be supporting the recommendation of Cllr Paul Brading in his report.

Strategies signed off

I have recently signed off strategies on Procurement, Commercialisation and Environmental and I am pleased to say that each has an action plan to go with it. It is my opinion that a strategy is just words on a page unless you have an action plan to go with it which ensures something happen and we move forward. There are elements of both commercialisation and the environment embedded in our new Procurement Strategy which reflects the work we are doing in our task and finish group set up following our declaration of Climate Emergency at Full Council to reduce our carbon emissions to try to be neutral by 2030. This work feeds into our public meeting called Environment and Sustainability Forum, which you are welcome to attend. The Forum meets on the third Thursday of the month at 5.30pm at County Hall.

Budget Update

The Budget is proving challenging this year not just because we have to find savings of some £4.5m even after all the savings made previously. We would have liked to be able to share the budget with opposition members by now but due to the election, Brexit and no result on the Fair Funding Review, Island Deal or the green paper on Adult Social Care. This is proving difficult because there are so many unknowns and yet we are tasked with setting a legal and balanced budget. All we can hope is that after the election we can move on to get these matters solved.

I would like to take this opportunity to say to you all, have a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year

With best wishes,

Steve

*Councillor Steve Hastings
Cabinet Member for Procurement,
Waste Management and Special Projects*