IOW Councillor Report, November 2018 for Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council

Military Road

Military Road is looking good now as Island Roads are nearing the end of the project and just a couple of diversions are in place.
The whole job should be completed by mid November at which time there will be an opening ceremony which members will be invited to.
A water leak has sprung up in Mill Lane and the road has been closed temporarily which puts a stop to that road being used as a short cut around diversions and probably just as well as a tanker that shouldn't have been using this 6' 6" limit road struck the wall of a listed building there recently.

Chillerton and Rookley School

I have received notification that the Stenbury Federation are looking for a new L. A. Governor so if any member of the Parish Council would be interested or if you know of anybody who might be interested please let me know.
I believe they have had one application to date but there are two additional co-opted vacancies available and they would be pleased to receive applications from anyone with an interest.
The school is going through a difficult time but is getting assistance from the authorities to improve from its Requires Improvement status from OFSTED.

Boundary Review

The boundary review by the Boundary Commission is well on its way now and there are some dramatic changes listed for Central Wight.
If this goes ahead as they have so far indicated then Chillerton, Gatcombe, Shorwell and Rookley will be moved out of Central Wight as it now stands and will join the Godshill Ward, which will then be called Central Wight I believe.
However my ward will then have Calbourne, Shalfleet and Porchfield added to it and be called Brighstone Ward effectively running from south coast to north coast of the Island.
If this goes ahead I have suggested that the name should reflect the other main villages also and be called, Brighstone, Calbourne and Porchfield ward.
Members should be getting an update soon and the new boundaries should be known by January.

Brook Lane

A good meeting was had between Parish Councillors and Island Roads recently regarding the resurfacing of Brook Lane.
After much delay in attending to this road surface it finally looks like something will be done. It was concluded that once the leaves have finished falling, the road would be scraped back to see what the actual surface is like underneath, then make a decision on how to make the surface good without too much disruption to this attractive lane.
I will be keeping an eye on this one and making sure it stays on the list to be attended to urgently.

20 mph Signage

I was very pleased to see that at last the 20mph signage has been installed at both ends of the village to protect the school and its children.
However whilst the Parish Chairman and I were waiting for an Island Roads engineer to attend Brook Lane it was very noticeable that the 30mph flashing sign was lighting up on a regular basis, which is concerning that drivers are entering the village around a bend at speeds exceeding 30mph.
I wonder if we should set up a speed check on entry to the village?
If members think this would be a good idea please let me know and I will look into arranging for this to happen.

Budget Time

We are at that time again when the Council has to set a lawful budget against a backdrop of more Government cuts. This year we have to find another £5.5m and most has been found by efficiencies without having to cut services but inevitably there will be some cuts which is always difficult and with this in mind the Leader and the Cabinet have produced their budget and released it some three month's early in order to have discussions with opposition members and get their feedback and potential alternatives should they have any to offer.

With very best wishes to you all,

Steve

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