



Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 1st March 2022, 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HOLLOW LANE, CHILLERTON

Present: Councillors Nigel Phillips (Chairman), Elisabeth Smith, Sara McWilliam, Peter Whiteman and John Hobart
Also Present: Mr Lindsey Hood (Clerk)
1 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

1873 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from IW Cllrs Suzie Ellis

1874 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllrs Phillips and Whiteman declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to the Chillerton and Gatcombe Community Association as the Treasurer and Vice-Chairman to the Association respectively. Cllr Phillips and Whiteman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Save our School campaign.

1875 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February were presented and accepted

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February were approved as a true record.

1876 CHILLERTON AND ROOKLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

At the last CGPC meeting, Cllr Ellis confirmed that a decision was due very soon on the future of the school. It was reported the next day (2nd Feb) at the IOWC scrutiny meeting that the school was still expected to close in August. However, later that week at a cabinet meeting, the decision had changed and further options were being looked at in the light of new information. A possibility is that CRPS partner with The Island Free School in a multi-academy trust and become a model for the Island where primary and secondary schools shared resources. Since the cabinet meeting, SOS have met with Debbie Andre, the cabinet member, about possible future developments.

1877 PLANNING

None

1878 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

- Village Events
 - Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations – an afternoon tea event has been proposed for Sunday 5th June, to be held on the Village Green. More details to follow

1879 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Grass Cutting – the Clerk is in contact with 2 contractors with regards to the grass cutting contract and has asked that tenders are submitted before 1st April 2022
- Dog bins – it was noted that there seems to be a problem with dog mess on the Village Green and it is believed that it is being caused by a single dog that has been allowed to roam free by its owner. Once this has been confirmed, details will be passed to the Environmental Officer

- Furniture Maintenance:
 - Post for village green – replacing the damaged posts on the Village Green was discussed. Costs for recycled posts are very high so it was suggested that tanalised, pressure treated wooden posts may be a better option.

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will obtain quotes on pressure treated wooden posts

- World Wars Memorial Project – several quotes for a “Lest We Forget” metal bench have been obtained. It was suggested that an island-based blacksmith should be approached to ask if they would supply something similar. The possibility of providing a wooden bench was also discussed, possibly circular, around the base of a tree.

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will obtain quotes for both metal and wooden circular benches from an island-based blacksmith and from HMP Parkhurst.

- Jubilee Hedgerow Project – Gillian Belben gave an update. The area has now been cleared of the old fencing and posts. Planting will take place on 3rd & 4th March with the help of local volunteers and support from the HIWWT volunteers. Plants have been ordered and will be delivered before 3rd March. Openreach have been contacted with regards to dropping a telephone wire to enable HIWWT volunteers to cut back trees that impeded on the hedge line.
- Dangerous Trees in Gatcombe – Cllr Smith expressed concerns that she would not be able to identify all dangerous trees in the area and requested that Island Roads be approached again. It was discussed that instead of specific trees being identified, areas of concern should be reported on-line via the Island Roads website.

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Smith to report all areas of concern regarding dangerous trees to Island Roads

- Toad and Squirrel Signs – the only signs that are available have already been viewed and it has been decided that these are not suitable. A suggestion was made that CGPC approach the local school to ask if pupils could design their own toad and squirrel signs and these could be used instead. Also check with AJ Wells

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will contact the local school to ask if pupils would like to design signs and obtain pricing for signs from AJ Wells

1880 TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

- Traffic calming measures – 5 completed surveys have been received, which was viewed as a disappointing response. All replies noted that Speedwatch would not be well supported in the parish. It was decided that CGPC should put forward the following proposal:
 - a) Chillerton Barnes to Highwood Lane to be designated as a 20mph zone.
 - b) All urban areas of Gatcombe from the main road to be designated as a 20mph zone
 - c) The main road to Carisbrooke from Highwood Lane to be designated as a 30mph zone.

SHOOTING IN CHILLERTON AND GATCOMBE – several complaints had been made with regards to shooting taking place close public footpaths and across public highways. The following information was received from PCSO Justin Keefe:

BASC: BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION
SHOOTING NEAR RIGHTS OF WAY (E.G. FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS)

When the footpath runs across private land the ownership of the land and sporting rights are unaltered. Therefore, a person with the shooting/sporting rights may shoot on or over footpaths on their land equally to public having the right to walk (to pass and re-pass) along it as a means of communication. So, the public and the shooters have a concurrent right to the footpath and it is up to both parties to not obstruct the other.

However, if you shoot over footpaths, only do so if you have permission to drop shot over the land on the other side. To fire a bullet or shot onto land that you have no right to shoot into or over is ‘constructive trespass’. Whilst this is a civil matter BASC strongly advises not to do this. It is also a basic safety precaution not to shoot into cover where you cannot be sure what your projectile(s) will hit. It is especially important to apply this when shooting near footpaths

obscured by hedges or foliage. It is good practice to only shoot across footpaths where you can see approaching users from a long way off and be certain you will not cause danger or alarm. Please note that in the case of air weapons it is a criminal offence to fire an air pellet outside the boundary of your permitted premises.

If you shoot from a path situated on somebody else's land (regardless of who owns the rights to shoot on the land you are shooting into) it is taken to be armed trespass which is a criminal offence.

If a member of public is using a public right of way that crosses or is in the vicinity of your shoot or drive, the member of public has the right to pass and re-pass along the right of way without hindrance. Therefore, any shooting should be refrained from until they are at a distance where your activity should not cause any concern. This is particularly important if a bridleway is in use as a horse rider could be endangered by a startled horse. If a member of public approaches a path/bridleway a method for ceasing to shoot should be in place.

One example of a proven method is: A member of the shoot should be positioned at either end of the route (where appropriate) and shooting area to keep a watch for users of the right of way. When a person is seen approaching on the right of way the following action should then be taken. The 'watcher' should sound a horn, whistle etc to stop the drive, this person should request that the rider or person(s) on foot wait. All guns should then unload, and have their guns broken in the safest position pointing to the ground, then the person is able to continue to use the right of way.

Persons using a right of way are prohibited from loitering or using it for purposes other than a reasonable use. If a person strays from a path, then only 'civil trespass' would apply.

In respect of a highway, it is an offence under the Highways Act 1980 if you shoot within 50ft of the centre of a highway, leading to a road user being injured, interrupted or endangered.

It was agreed that this information should be published in the August newsletter and a letter should be sent to each game shooting company within the Chillerton and Gatcombe area.

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will write to each game shooting company that organises shoots within the parish to ask them to take note of the BASC rules and that these rules will be published in the August newsletter

CHILLERTON AND GATCOMBE PARISH WALKS – a letter has been received requesting that CGPC designate £100 for the re-printing of the local walks leaflets and asking for volunteers from the PC to lead walks in and around the parish. It was noted that £50 is already allocated in the 2022-23 budget for the re-printing of walk leaflets. Also, several local residents, although no longer involved directly with the PC, are still local and should be approached to ask if they would still be willing to lead walks. £25.50 has been raised through donations for walk leaflets.

RESOLVED: that, the Clerk will contact local residents that have led walks previously

C&G RISK ASSESSMENTS – it was noted that the risk assessments needed to be reviewed. It was suggested that Gill Phillips be approached and asked to review the RA's as she works as a professional risk assessor

RESOLVED: that, Cllr Phillips will ask Mrs Phillips to review the C&G risk assessments

1881 REPORTS

- Cllr Ellis was not able to attend the meeting but supplied a report which is attached to these minutes. It was noted that the CGPC was very disappointed at the behaviour of some IoW Cllrs at a recent council meeting. Specifically, the Chairman's behaviour was considered to be inappropriate and the political manoeuvrings of one group were not felt to be in the interests of the Island.
- Cllr Whiteman reported that the CGCA committee is busy setting up a full set of programmes. The quiz went well and other organisation are now wishing to host quiz nights at The Gallybagger. A tree has been planted in front of The Gallybagger as part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy initiative. The opening hours will be reviewed in March as more ramblers are now

dropping in when passing. Both the Village Hall and Gallybagger maintenance is up together, with no high-cost repairs required as present.

- Cllr Hobart reported that he was pleased to be back after a period of rest after an operation and expressed thanks to the Clerk and Jill Webster for the emails keeping him up to date. There are numerous training events and visits being organised by IWALC.

1882 FINANCE

a) **RESOLVED:**

That, the financial statements are accepted and approved

b) **RESOLVED:**

To pass the following accounts for payment:

- L Hood Salary - £421.50
- TEBS IOW Ltd – removal of old fencing for Jubilee Hedgerow - £560.00
- Ashridge Trees – bareroot plans for Jubilee Hedgerow - £1419.18
- Naturescape – bareroot plants for Jubilee Hedgerow - £48.49
- IOWprintready – CGPC newsletter - £37.50
- Go South Cast Ltd – route 6 winter Sunday bus route contribution - £600.00

1884 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

brook naming – Village Green posts – wildlife walks – CG risk assessments

1885 NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 5th April 2022, 7pm, at the Village Hall. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed -----

Date. -----