



Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2021, 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HOLLOW LANE, CHILLERTON

Present: Councillors Nigel Phillips (Chairman), Peter Whiteman, John Hobart and Sara McWilliam

Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk)
2 members of the public
Keith Herbert Area Manager Southern Water for the presentation.

Ahead of the formal meeting an interesting presentation was given by Keith Herbert, Area Manager for Southern Water, explaining the procedure for disbursement of storm and foul water. A digital copy of the presentation will be made available.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No items

1860. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Smith and IW Cllr Ellis

1861. 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 declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Save our Schools campaign.

Cllr Whiteman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Save our School item as he is a governor of Barton School and has knowledge of Mr Snow.

1862. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November were presented.

That, the minutes of the meeting, held on 2nd November are approved as a true record.

1863. CHILLERTON AND ROOKLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Chairman gave a brief update on the 'Save Our School' campaign:

We are now in the consultation period on options for the future of the school. The ones that matter are closure and linking up with The Island Free School. Can I ask everyone to make a response to the consultation via the IWC website. A leaflet was delivered to much of the surrounding area informing people of the situation and asking them to urge the Council to move towards the Free School option. There will be a consultation meeting for the public at the School on Thursday of this week. I understand it will be in a 'drop in format'.

Two obstacles have to be overcome if the Free School option is to be successful. As ever one obstacle is the Stenbury Federation. The Island Free School does not wish to deal with Stenbury and would want the school to be defederated first. The second option is the debt currently running at £150K. This is more than the Free School either wish or can take on. There would have to be a serious talk with the IWC about how much of that debt should be attached to the school and how much could be taken on by the IWC. After all, if the school is closed, they will have to write off the money anyway.

A proposal was made for a response to the consultation, and this was agreed with one abstention.

RESOLVED: that, Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council wishes to respond to the consultation on the future of Chillerton and Rookley Primary School. We believe that the children of our parish and the surrounding area would be best served by the school becoming linked to The Island Free School. We urge the Isle of Wight Council to negotiate with The Island Free School to achieve that outcome.

1864. PLANNING

It was noted that the following comment was lodged for application 21/02063/HOU Longfield House, Main Road, Chillerton

Chillerton and Gatcombe would raise no objection to the size of the proposal but would like to support the concerns expressed by the AONB. In addition, the PC would like to see all matching materials and any overlooking windows to have obscure glass.

1865. RECRUITMENT

Interviews for the post of Parish Clerk took place on the 7th December. 3 candidates were interviewed from 6 applicants. The standard was extremely high, although none had the CiLCA qualification. It was unanimously agreed to appoint Mr Lindsey Hood, subject to references. He will start on scale LC2 (point 22) rising to point 24 after completion of the CILCA qualification. A home working package will also be offered.

RESOLVED: that, Mr Lindsey Hood would be appointed as Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, subject to references.

1866. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

- Newsletters – no items to discuss
- Notice Boards – two quotes had been received to lay slabs in front of the notice board and dog waste bin at Gatcombe. It was agreed to accept the quote for £180.
RESOLVED: that, the quote for £180 from Colin Phillips, to lay slabs in front of the notice board and the dog waste bin in Gatcombe, was accepted.
- Village Events – the Christmas gift bags will be delivered week commencing 13th December. The distribution was agreed, and Ms Belben was warmly thanked for co ordinating this project.
- Community Support – no items to discuss
- Community Buildings – it was noted that the defibrillator installed at the School was no longer in operation and a repair was not viable. The cost of new equipment, that would be available for all to use, is £1000. The CGCA have agreed to co fund and will install in the porch of the Village Hall. It was unanimously

agreed to co fund the project with the CGCA. A maintenance program will be built into the budget for future years.

RESOLVED: that, the Parish Council and the CGCA will jointly purchase a defibrillator for installation at the Village Hall.

- Walk Leaflets – no items to discuss
- Resilience Plan – no items to discuss

1867. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Grass cutting - no items to discuss although it was noted that the contract is due for renewal in 2022 and this will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Dog Bins – no items to discuss
- Furniture Maintenance – no further quotes for the posts available at this time
- Play Area – no items to discuss
- World Wars Memorial – no items to discuss
- Community Initiatives to enhance the Environment
 - Hedge Planting – a reply had been received from the AONB officer for Catchment Sensitive Farming confirming the PC would be eligible to apply for the grant to plant a new hedgerow alongside Gatcombe Road. The farmer will be consulted regarding inclusion of a gate before the application is made.
 - Bob Edney Award – it was noted that the nomination of Gillian Belben for the Bob Edney award had been submitted.
 - Footpath cutting by Rights of Way – A meeting took place between members of the PC and IWC Rights of Way. It was made clear that individual footpaths cannot be cut at special times with specifications. However, the PC can take on footpaths and arrange for cutting themselves. It was agreed to consult Ms Belben on the most valuable footpaths for preserving wildflowers and wildlife before deciding on the next steps. It was also suggested that this cutting could be included in the grass cutting contract. This item will be discussed again next month.
 - Tree Planting – Two trees have been planted on the Village Green as part of Queens Green Canopy and Mrs and Mrs Goodenough were warmly thanked for purchasing, planting and agreeing to maintaining the trees.

1868. TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

- Transport (Winter Sunday Service) – no items to discuss
- Traffic calming measures – a resident’s traffic survey was discussed, and it was agreed that this will be distributed with the next newsletter.

RESOLVED: that a resident’s traffic survey will be distributed with the newsletter in January.

1869. REPORTS

- CCGA – Cllr Whiteman gave a list of events being held in December. These included Carols around the tree on 15th, a Xmas party on 18th, music from Dave Thorpe on 24th

and a News Year's Eve fancy dress party. Residents are also invited to create mini scarecrows to be displayed on the fences of the Gallybagger and the Village Hall.

- Cllr Hobart reported on a number of meetings he had attended over the past month.
- IWC – Cllr Ellis sent a report which was circulated.

1870. FINANCE

a) RESOLVED:

That, the financial statements are accepted and approved

b) RESOLVED:

To pass the following accounts for payment:

- M Warr – salary November - £235.50
- M Warr – Expenses, advert - £70.80
- IW Council – election recharge - £24.00
- IW Observer – job advert - £138.00 (£23 VAT)
- Gallagher – Insurance renewal (long term agreement) - £369.26
- Wight Computers – annual web hosting - £94.20 (£15.70 VAT)

c) Budget 2022/23

A draft budget was discussed, and some amendments were put forward. The amended draft will be discussed and agreed at the January meeting.

1871. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Budget – Footpaths - Neighbourhood watch – Brook naming – Dangerous trees in Gatcombe – toad and squirrel signs – Grass cutting contract

1872. NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 4th January 2022, 7pm, at the Village Hall. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.02 pm

Signed -----

Date. -----