

NEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk Gareth Hughes

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A MEETING OF NEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD VIA ZOOM AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2021.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Bevan, Davison, Earley, Harris and Mosdell.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr G Hughes (Clerk), Mr Russell Chick (IWC Planning), Mr J Marsh (HIWWT) and four members of the public.

7.30pm to 7.45pm time allocated for residents of Newchurch Parish to speak to the Council on Parish matters.

IW Council Planning Officer Russell Chick reported on the ongoing landfill situation at Knighton, planning approvals regarding such dated back to 1998, were of a complex nature and did not appear to have an end date. Current land levels were inconsistent with planning documents and he was confident that there was a breach of planning conditions. Further questions were to be put to the land owner and legal advice would be taken on formal action. Mr Chick was hopeful that he could report further to the March meeting. Mr Denham-Johnson was of the opinion that there was an end date in 2008, at which point the owners were responsible for reinstatement works to be undertaken. Councillor Harris asked on the type of tree to be used in reinstatement and Mr Cripps asked how long it would be before current landfill activity ceased. The Chairman thanked Mr Chick for his attendance and report.

Mr Jamie Marsh of HIWWT reported on the Trusts current activity along the railway line, at Hill Heath and Parsonage land. Fencing at Hill Heath was to be finished in March, there would be new viewing platforms in the area and major works were planned for next winter. Beavers were to be introduced to the river and there would be extensive consultation re Eco- Tourism and access to the site. Mr Fawdrey was concerned at the appearance of the galvanised steel fencing and felt fencing more sympathetic to the landscape should have been used in an AONB location. Councillor Davison was pleased that things were happening and felt that the fencing being used was the most practical at this stage. Councillor Mosdell asked about future planting and hedging plans which would soften the appearance of the fencing once complete. Mr Cripps asked whether planting could start immediately, Mr Marsh advised that planting was likely to start in the early part of next winter when conditions permitted. Mr Marsh agreed that communication with residents over works could have been better but Covid had impacted on the ability to achieve this, and he hoped that this would improve as the project progressed. The Chairman thanked Mr Marsh and public representatives for their contribution to the discussion.

MINUTES

19/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Arblaster and Llewellyn.

20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

21/21 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2021

On the proposition of Councillor Mosdell, seconded by Councillor Earley, it was –

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2021.

22/21 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS.

On the proposition of Councillor Mosdell, seconded by Councillor Davison it was –

RESOLVED: To approve the financial reports.

23/21 IW COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Mosdell had attended a number of IW Council budget meetings and also a meeting of the Outbreak Engagement Board. IW Council Chief Executive John Metcalfe was hopeful that a COVID safe election could be achieved in May, but there could be no door step canvassing

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

24/21 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Harris reported on the continued debris on Skinners Lane and Palmers Lane. It had previously been advised by Island Roads that it was the landowners responsibility to clear any debris/cuttings arising from work on their land. The Clerk would write again to Island Roads as the debris would impact on road safety.

(GH)

Councillor Llewellyn had sent a message stating that he had received complaints from residents regarding the monies being proposed to be spent on speed cameras. He expressed his own concern at what he considered was excessive monies being expended by IW Council on the proposed mobile speed cameras, and felt that the issue was a police matter. Councillor Davison felt that if the police were not taking action, then it was proper that the local authority could take some action.

Councillor Mosdell reported that the monies for the speed cameras had been included in the IW Council capital programme for the 2021-22 financial year. She also reported on a Southern Water plan to close a cycle route for a six month period which was felt to be excessive.

Councillor Davison reported that works had commenced at the Branstone Development. She also reported that IWALC had reduced subscription levels as Covid had reduced expenditure levels and that a number of Parish & Town Councils had concerns re elections being held in May. There was the census to be held in March and she wondered what assistance could be given to those not online

to participate.

Councillor Bevan gave an update on the pedestrian bridge and advised that Ian Boyd of ARC consulting was to complete the necessary permit applications to the Environment Agency. The pathway at the cemetery would form an agenda item for the March meeting.

25/21 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported he had sent a letter to Hants & IW Wildlife Trust re the management of trees at the cemetery, regarding which a response had been received. He had not yet contacted Wightfibre regarding the continual use of the car park by one of its vans, as he had observed that a number of vehicles were also parked there overnight. It was agreed to proceed to contact Wightfibre. (GH) All other items from the January Action List were contained elsewhere on the agenda. The Clerk would seek a contractor for the repair of noticeboards.

26/21 CORRESPONDENCE

E mail correspondence had been circulated by Councillor Davison, and there were no matters raised arising from the content.

27/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was considered –
Proposed alterations and single storey extensions on front and rear elevations.
17 Woodside Avenue Alverstone Garden Village Newchurch.

RESOLVED: To make no comment on the application.

28/21 PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decisions had been received -
1.20/02147/RVC | Variation of condition 2 on 19/00818/FUL to change the time limit for the submission of details of a remediation scheme | Honnor And Jeffery Ltd Newport Road Lake. Granted
2.20/02039/FUL | Proposed new front elevation | ICR Touch (IOW) Ltd Blackhanger Embassy Way Lake Sandown. Granted

RESOLVED: That the decisions be noted.

29/21 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

Concern had been expressed at the perceived lack of enforcement action by the Isle of Wight Council as the Planning Authority. After discussion it was agreed to seek an update from planning on the following potential enforcement cases –

- (i). Mersley Gardens - unauthorised access opening in Knighton Lane.
- (ii) Newchurch Nook/Meadowside – use as holiday accommodation.
- (iii) Grove Cottage, Winford Road – parking and highway safety.

It was also agreed to bring to the attention of planning, the erection of a shed to the front of Hillcrest, High Street, Newchurch. (GH)

30/21 PROVISION OF DOG BINS & DOG FOULING

Following recent comments from a resident the Chairman had invited a representative of Winford Residents Association to attend the meeting but no representative was present at this meeting.

31/21 LOCAL TRANSPORT PROVISION

The Clerk would again contact Island Roads and seek a meeting to discuss local transport needs. (GH)

32/21 FACEBOOK PAGE

It was agreed to defer consideration until after the May elections. In the meantime it was suggested and JE agreed to approach Mike Vallender who administers the Alverstone and Newchurch Facebook group page and ask if he would allow us to use the group page to convey items of interest from the council of a non political nature

33/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed to be Monday 15th March 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

CHAIRMAN

15TH MARCH 2021