

NEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Gareth Hughes

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A MEETING OF NEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD AT THE PARISH HALL, NEWCHURCH AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Bevan, Jewell, Prinal Patel, Rajesh Patel and West.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr G Hughes (Clerk). IW Councillor Barry and two Officers of the Police Authority.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: A resident asked a question regarding the use of pesticide on local land, he would provide information regarding such.

MINUTES

118/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Blezzard, Cripps and Davison.

119/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

120/26 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17TH AUGUST 2026.

On the proposition of Councillor Rajesh Patel, seconded by Councillor West, it was -

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 August 2026.

121/26 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST.

The Clerk had circulated a report detailing all transactions for August including a bank reconciliation for the month ended 31st August 2026.

RESOLVED: To approve the report.

122/26 IW COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

IW Councillor Barry reported on the highway improvements taking place between Apse Heath and Arreton, including correspondence he had regarding the proposed improvements that had been advised for Apse Heath. He had also written to the Environment Committee regarding bus services and improved pathway for Branstone residents. He also reported on the Island Speed Review and a request received to reduce the speed limit on Princelett Shute to 50 mph.

123/26 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

Councillor Prinal Patel reported on conversations with two residents regarding the following –

- (i) The speed limit on Harbors Lake Road where the national speed limit applies.
- (ii) Driveway access at a property in Newchurch Shute, PCSO Keefe advised that an application for a white line across the driveway may provide a solution.

Councillor West reported on the high standard of fencing that had been erected at Alverstone Road.

Following the previous communication with Island Roads requesting pathway resurfacing at the Hairpin Bend at Winford it was agreed to write again highlighting that its current condition prevented its use by prams, push chairs and wheelchairs. **GH**

Councillor Jewell enquired as to the ownership of the land between the Community Garden and the Newchurch Shute highway where there was a need for tree management. He reported on a box caterpillar presence in the Community Garden where treatment was necessary. He also reported on traffic management in Ventnor Road, Apse Heath, road surface conditions in Chambers Drive and a replacement road sign being installed at The Paddock.

Councillor Bevan reported that he had discussed arrangements for the future production of the Newsletter with Rosey Messing who was unable to continue in her previous capacity for personal reasons. It was agreed to engage with a volunteer who had offered her assistance. **RB**. Councillor Bevan also reported on the following –

1. Waste overflow during collection times – The Clerk to write to Waste Services. **GH**
2. Vehicle movement and parking at Newchurch School, a better future lay out of parking spaces would be a way forward, he would discuss improving current drop off arrangements with the school in order to improve the safety of pupils. **RB**
3. The need to be advised when the Police Authority were holding surgeries for local residents.
4. The content of e mails received from Councillor Cripps re tipping at Knighton and Councillor Blezzard regarding attendance at the forthcoming IWALC meeting.
5. Purchases for the Parish Hall, a new table had been previously agreed and the Clerk would investigate the cost of chairs and of a television to be used for the future presentation of planning applications. **GH**

124/26 CLERK'S REPORT AND PROGRESS LOG.

The Clerk had circulated the following report –

1. Tipping at Knighton - No communication received from Mr Chick to the Parish Council.
2. Letter from local resident concerning operation of Sandown Airport – E Mail sent to Joe Robertson MP. Referred to Dept of Transport, nothing further heard to date.
3. Highway works at Apse Heath – E Mail to Michelle Love of IW Council who subsequently requested of Mr Alan White (IWC Highways) that he respond to e mails sent to him previously requesting confirmation that works are programmed. Information request received from Michelle Love, response provided and I am now awaiting further information – Verbal update at meeting.
4. Police and Crime Commissioner – Invitation sent to make a presentation to the September or October meeting – Response awaited.
5. Cemetery fencing – Quotation from JR Fencing received – Agenda item.
6. Community Garden – Removal of bamboo quotation received – Agenda item.
7. Clearance of Sycamore from grave in cemetery – Order yet to be placed.
8. Asset of Community Value – Nomination Form nearing completion.
9. The report of the External Auditor had been received which contained the following statement –
'External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2025/26 - On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met'

A copy of the certified AGAR will be placed on the website together with the Conclusion of Audit Notice.

125/26 CORRESPONDENCE –

A communication had been received from Councillor Blezzard concerning attendance at the September IWALC meeting and the consideration of the motion to NALC as put forward by Newchurch Parish Council

126/26 PLANNING APPLICATION.

The Clerk reported that the following application had now been placed on the IW Council website – Demolition of conservatory; proposed single storey rear and two storey side extensions Hillbrook Cottage The Shute Newchurch. Ref. No: 26/01254/HOU.

The closing date for comments was 16th October and any comments should be sent to the Clerk for aggregation into a submission for consideration. **ALL**

127/26 PLANNING DECISION.

The following decision had been circulated –

Proposed alterations to south elevation to include replacement of hangar doors with full width bifold glazed system. ICR Touch (IOW) Ltd Embassy Way Sandown.
Ref. No: 26/00827/FUL. Permission granted.

128/26 GROUND MAINTENANCE

Quotations had been received in respect of the following works –

- (i) Additional fencing at the cemetery.
- (ii) Removal of bamboo from the Community Garden.

RESOLVED: (i).To request revised fixed quotations for fencing based on continuation of existing fencing type and its extension to the commencement of the brick wall boundary.
(ii).To accept the tender received for the removal of bamboo.

129/26 CLOSURE OF WINFORD ROAD FOR WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

Councillor Bevan reported on his attendance at a Teams meeting held on 11th August concerning the proposed project and put forward the following proposition for consideration –

‘For 'Phase 1 only Winford Road closed from its intersection with Forest Road and Watery Lane at 'Winford Cross' to its intersection with Harbors Lake Lane), as depicted on 'slides' 6 and 7, Newchurch Parish Council proposes that Harbors Lake Lane be made one-way heading towards Newchurch village (a generally NE'ly direction) for all non-HGV traffic from its intersection with Watery Lane, and that Palmers Lane be made one-way heading out of Newchurch village (a generally E'ly direction) for all non-HGV traffic from its intersection with High Street, thus avoiding the risks associated with vehicles travelling in both directions along Harbors Lake Lane and Palmers Lane (narrow roads)’.

After due consideration it was –

RESOLVED: To put forward the above proposal to Southern Water.

.130/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the Parish Council would take place at 7pm on Monday 19th October 2026

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

CHAIRMAN

19th October 2026