

The minutes of the meeting of Gurnard Parish Council held at 6.30pm on Wednesday 12 April 2023 at Gurnard Village Hall.

**PRESENT Councillors:** Fuller (Chair), Acton, Bugden, Bustin, Franklin, Jacobs, and Nolan.

Clerk: Richard Shaul

1 members of the public was present.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Wood who was attending a significant family birthday and Cllr Williams who was child minding for her ill daughter

1. **MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared

1. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the council held on 8th March 2023 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and agreed by the chair. No matters arising.

1. **PLANNING, LICENSING AND TREE PRESERVATION ORDER APPLICATIONS**

The following licensing application was considered:

Application No: 23/00399/STMOBN

Proposal: Street trading consent for vending van

Location: Island wide

**Resolved: no objection raised**

1. **REPORTS**
   1. Parish Council Chairman

Noted

* 1. IW Councillor

Noted

* 1. Clerk’s Report

No report this month

* 1. GVHA

Noted

1. **FINANCE**
   1. Cheque and electronic payments for February and March

The clerk reported that during the transition period until the new clerk being appointed, and the subsequent delay in transferring the bank mandate to the new clerk, no cheque or electronic payments had been made. The only transactions that had taken place were two receipts of cash from the toilets and quarterly bank charges of £18.00

* 1. Copy bank statements and bank reconciliations were circulated prior to the meeting, and these were noted.
  2. Access to Unity Bank and unpaid invoices

The clerk reported that his access to Unity Bank’s electronic banking system had now been set up, and so electronic payments could now re-commence.

During the meeting 15 outstanding invoices totalling £3,424.60 were approved by councillors for payment.

Councillors also approved the reimbursement of £47.10 to Cllr Bugden in respect of flowers to the previous clerk.

1. **OLD SCHOOL MEADOW**
   1. Forest School

A report of notes and ideas for the setting up of a Forest School at Old School Meadow had been distributed prior to the meeting. Four basic needs were identified for the project to commence:

* + 1. Secure storage, potentially using the existing container on the site.
    2. Shelter from sudden bad weather. E.g. temporary awning type roof that could be stored away at the end of each session.
    3. A lavatory. Initially this could be a chemical “portaloo”.
    4. A controlled fire e.g. a portable fire bowl at the end of each session

**Resolved: That the OSM working party should meet within 3 weeks to report back to the Parish Council with detailed recommendations that could be approved at the May full council meeting.** **In addition, the Forest School representative, Laura Michael, should be given access to the storage container in order to further assess the work required.**

* 1. Consideration of a letter from resident relating to dog fouling at Old School Meadow.

The letter highlighted the issue dog fouling in Old School Meadow and suggested that a box containing dog poo bags be installed at the small gate to OSM.

**Resolved:**

* + 1. **That a box containing dog poo bags be installed by the small gate, and that the clerk replies to the resident thanking her for her letter and suggestion**
    2. **That the issues relating to the dog free and dog exercise areas of OSM be considered by the OSM working party (above) with recommendations that could be approved by the full committee.**
  1. Environment and biodiversity policy review

**Resolved: that the updated policy be adopted, subject to the addition of the headline “Reduce reuse recycle” at the beginning of the document and “Preserve and improve” at the start of the biodiversity section.**

**The council would also like to record their thanks to Cllr Acton for the work she has done regarding these issues.**

* 1. Gurnard in Bloom

**Resolved:**

* + 1. **That the Parish Council would like to record their thanks Stuart Dodwell and Burt Jupe for planting the crab apple tree at Pond Green.**
    2. **That Jenny Lewis is authorised to purchase plants for Gurnard in Bloom up to the budget of £500 as she has done previously, and pass receipts and invoices to the clerk for reimbursement.**

1. **GRANT APPLICATION FOR GURNARD NEWS**

**Resolved: That the grant should be £600, and that the clerk is authorised to make the payment.**

1. **KINGS CORONATION**

**Resolved:**

* + 1. **That the Parish Council would contribute up to £50 to Spinney Quilters for their Coronation wall hanging.**
    2. **That no further actions would be taken.**

1. **SAFETY FOR CHILDREN GOING TO AND FROM GURNARD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Resolved: no further action**

1. **BEACH SAFETY WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Acton provided written update from the beach safety working group prior to the meeting that included an update on the roll out of water butts by Southern Water.

* 1. Disabled access to beach huts

Awaiting second quote.

* 1. Recent movement of large coastal protection rocks at secret beach

Gurnard Parish Council have no direct responsibility for the foreshore. Isle of Wight council manage the beach on behalf of Crown Estates. Any work on the beach requires a licence from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The MMO are aware of the situation, and have spoken to local residents. Cllr Fuller will write to the MMO for an update on the situation, and report back to the next full council meeting.

* 1. Residents email with regard to benches in front of beach huts.

**Resolved: The clerk will reply to the resident to apologise for the delay in replying and explain that, following public consultation in October, the Parish council decided that the benches would remain.**

1. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Resolved:**

* + 1. **That no speaker would be engaged.**
    2. **Cllr Bustin would provide refreshments up to the value of £50.**

1. **LITTER PICK**

**Resolved: Cllr Acton is authorised to purchase additional litter pick sticks up to the value of £20**

1. **GURNARD VILLAGE SHOPS TOURIST SIGN**

Reply received from Island Roads that the smaller sign would only cost about £50 less than the larger sign. The Parish Council had previously believed that the smaller sign would be significantly cheaper than the larger sign, as it would only require one post rather than two.

**Resolved: To contact Portland Inn to find out if they are still prepared to contribute to the cost of the signs, and if so, clerk would respond to Island roads to get formal quotes for the larger and smaller signs.**

1. **Resolution: extend meeting 30 minutes.**
2. **HILTON ROAD WASTE COLLECTION LETTER TO RESIDENTS**

**Resolved: That the clerk should write to the Isle of Wight Council on behalf of the residents to ask:**

* **Is this a change in policy or standards, if so, why and should there have been consultation with residents**
* **May we have details of the risk assessment, and the criteria that will be applied**
* **What is the expected standard that the road should meet**
* **What practical advice can we give to our residents**

1. **POLICY REVIEWS**
   1. Dignity at work

**Resolved: Policy reviewed and no update required**

* 1. Emergency and flood plans

**Resolved: Cllr Acton will review both plans and highlight areas that need to be updated, and then pass over to other councillors for further comment.**

* 1. Expenses and Homeworking policies

**Policies should be adopted**

1. **ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE AGENDAS:**
   1. Website and hosting review (Cllr Franklin) May
   2. Old School Meadow, Recommendations and resolutions
   3. Review and sign off of accounting and governance report
   4. Feedback
      1. Hilton Road
      2. Village signs
      3. MMO feedback on secret beach

The meeting closed at 21:30

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Chair