

# 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 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** One member of the public.

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year and noted the resignation of Councillor Messing. It was agreed to write to Councillor Messing thanking her for her services.

## **7.00pm to 7.15pm time allocated for residents of Newchurch Parish to speak to the Council on Parish matters.**

There were no questions from the public.

## **MINUTES**

### **1/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr G Hughes (Clerk) (due to illness). In the absence of the Clerk the minutes were taken by Councillor Blezzard.

### **2/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Blezzard declared his previously recorded interests.

### **3/23 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 subject to the following amendment:

“The meeting closed at “7.38pm” not “8.38pm” **GH**”

### **4/23 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Members had before them a summary of receipts and payments for December 2022 and a schedule of payments for approval.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the financial report for December 2022 and payment of the January 2023 invoices.

**GH**

### **5/23 IW COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Mosdell reported that Branstone residents were concerned about speeding by the new Branstone development. She does not feel that the right safety measures are in place and she will be having a meeting with the Chief Executive on site. There has also been a complaint that a security light at the new Goddards Brewery is never turned off and Councillor Mosdell is trying to get it sorted. Councillor Mosdell had received an enquiry from a resident as to when High Street, Newchurch is to be resurfaced. It was understood that Island Roads will not do the work due to an unsafe house and concerns that their large equipment will present a health and safety issue. It was suggested that Island Roads could be asked to do the work using smaller equipment or by hand as happens in other areas. **GH**

## 6/23 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Blezzard raised the issue of the Coronation on 6<sup>th</sup> May. There was to be a NALC National Assembly zoom meeting to exchange ideas on the subject on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed to agenda this item for the February meeting and in the meantime talk to the Church and other local organisations with a view to any event taking place on the Bank Holiday Monday. Councillor Harris asked for another seat to be provided on the cycleway towards Horingford. It was agreed to ask the Clerk to raise the matter with Island Roads. **GH** Councillor Earley observed that the new pathway from Watery Lane to the new Branstone development is complete but he has not seen anyone using it. The issue of a footpath from Branstone to Apse Heath was also raised and this will be an agenda item in February. **GH** Councillor West reported that some new yurts have appeared at "Strawberry Farm", Hill Top apparently without planning permission. It was agreed to raise with the Enforcement Officer. **GH** Councillor Mosdell commented that Wacklands Lane has now been tarmacked at private expense. Councillor Davison commented that a mirror had been left by Mountbatten's clothes bin in the car park and had shattered. In addition two bin liners of rubbish had been left by the rubbish bin. A working party of available members will meet on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January to move the rubbish. Councillor Davison drew attention to road repairs carried out in Palmers Lane. A small area to the north had been missed. Island Roads will be asked to come back to finish the work. **GH** Councillor Davison drew attention to potholes in Knighton Lane. The Clerk has already alerted Island Roads to effect a repair. **GH** Councillor Davison reported on a meeting that had taken place with the Cabinet. Council tax for second home owners is being taken on board in the forward plan. Councillor Bevan suggested that Isle of Wight Council should be asked to adopt the new footbridge at Langbridge as part of the rights of way network. The Clerk will be asked to raise this with Rights of Way. **GH** Councillor Bevan reported that the daughter of the late Don and Maureen Emery had purchased an oak tree to be planted in the churchyard to replace the lost ash tree. He asked whether the Council would consider a contribution to the cost as part of the money allocated for the Queen's Green Canopy project. It was agreed to contribute £100. **GH**

## 7/23 CLERK'S REPORT AND PROGRESS LOG

1. Matters raised with Island Roads
  - (i) Potholes and standard of repair at Knighton Lane.
  - (ii) Loose manhole covers at Apse Heath.
  - (iii) Arrangements for proposed Wightfibre works.  
Email sent raising each of the above.
2. Planning Enforcement – New "Community" at Hill Farm reported to Planning, response received, an enforcement case had already been opened. No further information received.
3. Vectis Fire & Security – contacted again re Fire Door, meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> December, quote received and circulated. Order placed.
4. Letter to Malcolm Smith re Speeding Enforcement. Letter sent, response circulated.
5. Letter to Island Roads re no caravan signage. Advised IR that NPC would finance.
6. Website – Observations received from Councillor Messing. Work undertaken, final details to be discussed with Councillor Messing.
7. Planning Enforcement sites: Two enquiries made on progress – response on Cedar Cottage circulated.
8. Enquiry made to planning re Branstone Section 106 monies, amount and commitment to it. Response circulated.
9. Resignation as a Parish Councillor received from Councillor Rosemary Messing. Electoral Services have been informed.
10. Problem locking front door to the Parish Hall due to water saturation.
11. Gift of £10K to the burial authority to be formally reported to the February meeting.

Members expressed concern about the Isle of Wight Speed Review and the need for the council to make its views known. It was agreed to ask the Isle of Wight Council what the deadline is and to advise that the current 20mph speed limit is more than sufficient. **GH** Members agreed to ask Planning Enforcement why they did not follow up on what was reported regarding holiday lets at cedar Cottage, Langbridge and whether they have processes in place to ensure that this does not happen again. **GH**

## **8 /23 CORRESPONDENCE**

Members considered a request for a grant from Naturezones at Blackwater.

**RESOLVED:** That no contribution be made as there is no obvious benefit to the parish.

## **9/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following applications were considered:

1. 22/02295/FUL Proposed bungalow. Land adjacent 1 Forest Dell, Newchurch.
2. 22/02270/HOU Proposed outbuilding to for gym and garden room. The Barn, Bachelors Farm, Canteen Road, Newchurch.
3. 22/02194/CLPUD Lawful Development Certificate for conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (i) To make no objection to application 1. Subject to the conditions recommended by the highways officer.
- (ii) To make no objection to application 2.
- (iii) To make no comment on application 3.

## **10/23 PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members noted the following planning decisions:

1. 22/02045/HOU: Demolition of garage; Proposed single storey side extension, 40 Forest Road, Newchurch: Granted.
2. 2/01923/HOU: Demolition of conservatory; proposed single storey infill extension and orangery/conservatory, 1 Hollowood Road, Newchurch: Granted

## **11/23 COMMUNICATIONS/WEBSITE**

Members were interested in progress in updating the website. Clerk to be asked for a progress report. **GH** Members were advised that former Councillor Messing had offered to continue helping with communications. The offer was accepted with thanks.

## **12/23 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2023-24**

Members had before them a draft budget for 2023-24. It was noted that confirmation of the final tax base figure has not yet been received from the Isle of Wight Council and it is currently unclear whether budgetary provision will need to be made for a by-election.

**RESOLVED:** That the draft budget for 2023-24 be provisionally received subject to possible amendments and approval of the precept for 2023-24 at the February 2023 council meeting.

### **13/23 NEW FIRE DOOR AT PARISH HALL**

Members noted that the installation of the new fire door should be completed by the coming Thursday at a cost of £563.60 plus VAT.

### **14/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed to be MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023. Members noted that the Chairman and Vice Chairman will carry out the Clerk's review during February. **RB/JD/GH**

**The meeting closed at 8.10pm**

**CHAIRMAN**

**20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**