SHORWELL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT COPY FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY.
THESE MINUTES WILL BE FORMALLY ADOPTED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Village Hall at 19.30 Monday 16th January 2023

Present

D. Rimmer	Chairman .
G. Alldred	Parish Councillor & Vice Chairman
K. Cram	Parish Councillor
D. Russell	Parish Councillor
G. Butler	Parish Councillor
P.Turner	Parish Councillor
C. Critchison	IW Councillor.
M. Davies	Clerk.

6 members of the public.

1. CHAIRMANS OPENING REMARKS.
The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. APOLOGIES.

None.

3. COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS.
None

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the 5th December. meeting were tabled, read and accepted as a true record.
Proposed: G. Alldred. Seconded: D. Russell.

Matters Arising.

None.

5. REPORTS.

a) Recreation Ground.

A work party is being arranged to dig out & re-fix the zip wire post when the weather is suitable.

b) Isle of Wight Council.

Report attached.

c) Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils.

A new Enforcement Policy is being considered, & Councillor Alldred is asking for a policy where parish & town councils would make a contribution to an Enforcement Officer based on size of population.

d) Local Policing.

October: 3 Incidents- Walkers Lane, Westcourt Close, Starks Close
November: 3 Incidents - Westcourt Close (2) & Farriers Way.
All listed as Sexual/Violent and no details.

The following scams are circulating on the Island:

Calls from a local number requesting renewal of Amazon Prime.
Leaflets/cold calling asking to buy silver/ jewellery etc or offering free estimates in connection with grants for insulation or solar panels.
The Police advise that all these should be declined.

e) Clerk's Report.

1)Community Lunches: There were no takers for the proposed December event, and at present the dates penciled in during January by the WI look like remaining blank.
A note has been put in the Newsletter to generate interest for potential dates in February & March. The possibility of using flyers or trying to run a more informal event will be considered after the Newsletter has been circulated, and if the response is poor.
2)Annual website costs will increase from £29.95 to £39.95, with additional developments in the pipeline which might further increase costs.
3) The members agreed to make a voluntary contribution of £60 to VCSE in accordance with the letter which was recently circulated. This is on the basis that all town & parish councils contribute based on their size to make up the shortfall in funding.
4) An updated government website-shorwell.parish.uk-now has full local details relating to the 2021 Census, plus local information on planning applications, property sales, farming information, precepts, election results etc.

All other items appear under separate headings.

f) Highways Report.
A fallen tree has blocked the footpath opposite the Church and next to the noticeboards.
This has been made safe by Island Roads.
Flooding at the junction of Chine Lane 7 Mill Lane in Yafford has been reported.

6. Planning.

No new applications.
A previous application for Westcourt Farm which was supported by the parish council has been declined by Planning Department.
Comments were sent to oppose the request by Atherfield Bay to claim discharge from previous planning conditions.

7. Finance.

The balance of the account at 31st December was £22.625.75 and a claim for re-imbursement of VAT paid totaling £138.37 has been requested..

Cheques to be approved for payment.

KC Treework(Dell Steps)	£1261.20	VAT Rec. £310.20
Clerk's Wages-Dec		
15.5 hours	£ 126.66	
HMRC-Tax Ded	£ 31.60	
Rec Ground maint.	£ 430.00	

Cheques Issued

001843	KC Treework	£1261.20
001844	M Davies	£ 126.66
001845	HMRC	£ 31.60
001841	D. McGeoch	£ 430.00

The Clerk had previously provided figures in connection with the calculation of the next Precept.
Actual expenditure to 31/12 was £6638, with a further £9,000 estimated before the end of the financial year, including a provision for the outstanding survey of the footbridge.
This would leave a balance of approx. £13,000 at year end.
While basic running costs (Rec Ground/Clerk's wages/Insurance /Dog Bins/Footpaths etc) have been running at up to £8,000 per year, there are likely one-off" costs to be incurred with the bridge, the Dell, play equipment and possibly the Cemetery.
With inflation likely to be around 5/6% it was agreed that the Precept Request should be increased from £15,000 to £16,000.

8. Parish Record Book.

None.

9. Footbridge.

Still awaiting response from potential surveying companies to clarify various issues.

10. The Dell.
Permission from the IWC is still awaited before the tree work can be carried out.
The steps and handrails have been repaired and these will be inspected before payment is made.

11. Climate Matters.

Meeting awaited.

12. Cemetery.
Councillor Russell has spoken to the landowner, and received a positive indication that the sale of the land might be considered again in the future. In the meantime, a further note is to be included in The Newsletter, asking for any local landowners to come forward if they have suitable plots.

13. Notice Boards.

No developments.

14. The date of the next meeting is Monday 6th February in the Village Hall at 7:30.

There being no further questions the meeting was closed at 8.15. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Cllr Claire Critchison – IW Council representative for Chale, Niton and Shorwell

Email: Claire.critchison@iow.gov.uk Tel: 07855022429
Road closure updates and general information notices www.facebook.com/clairechalenitonshorwell

Cllr catch up/surgery sessions 2023

Niton:	Wednesday 1st February & 1st March 10.30 – 11.30 am, The Exchange
Whitwell:	Monday 6th February & 6th March 10.30 – 11.30 am, Parish Church
Shorwell:	Friday 10th February 10.30 – 11.30 am, The Crown
Chale:	Saturday 18th February 10.30 – 11.30 am, WI Hall

Happy New Year to all. It's a bit damp, grey and cold out but I hope to see you at a surgery or community event. These will help us get through the next few months before the daylight and sunshine are a bit more frequent.

Dark Skies Event

The New Carnival Company are holding a Dark Skies Festival, taking place on the **17th and 18th February from 3-8pm at Isle of Wight Pearl.**

The Isle of Wight has incredible, unique, dark skies along the south west coast, only 1% of land in the south east of England still has a natural Dark Sky. Come along, find out why dark skies are important, and how they help our health and wellbeing.

This event is funded by the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Isle of Wight AONB Partnership as part of their work with the European Union Interreg Project connecting Biosphere Reserves across the continent.

Community Action IW

I met with Joel Bateman the Resilience Coordinator for Community Action IW this week, to discuss issues that the villages need assistance with. I highlighted The SWAY building in Chale, The Football Club in Niton, cycle routes from Niton to Shorwell and community transport. I have asked for details of funding opportunities and assistance to help get residents to community lunches and outings. Please let me know if there is anything else you would like me to mention.

Cheaper Bus Fares

Single bus fares are reduced to £2 until the end of march. This makes bus travel much better value so please take advantage of this great offer. www.islandbuses.info

The more people using buses the better to ensure we continue to have a service. If there are changes you would like to see to the service please let me know.

New Voter ID rules

From 4 May 2023, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections. This will apply to: Local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections, UK parliamentary by-elections. From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

There are many suitable forms of acceptable ID but **If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID**

You can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

You need to **register to vote** before applying for a Voter Authority Certificate.

www.electoralcommission.org.uk