

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SHALFLEET CIVIL PARISH  
HELD AT SHALFLEET SCHOOL, NINGWOOD ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL  
2015 AT 7.15 PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Pam Broadhead (Chairman), John McGuirk, Helena Hewston,  
Brenda Baxandall, Pamela Myles  
Cllr Stuart Hutchinson  
Sally Woods (Clerk)  
9 members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr Stephen French

The Chairman welcomed all present to the 2015 Annual Meeting and introduced Mr Stephen Plummer. Mr Walter filmed the meeting.

**1. To receive a presentation from Stephen Plummer on West Wight Wildlife:**

Mr Plummer gave an entertaining, enthusiastic and interesting presentation, showing photographs and video of a variety of animals and insects.

**2. Report of the Chairman of Shalfleet Parish Council:**

The Chairman read her report for the year (attached to Minutes).

**3. Report of the Isle of Wight County Councillor Cllr Stuart Hutchinson:**

Cllr Hutchinson gave his report (attached to Minutes) and agreed to answer questions.a

He confirmed there were many issues with Island Roads which were outstanding, including Bouldnor View Point and Shalfleet Church wall.

**4. Electors Open Forum:**

A resident asked about signage and speeding at Ningwood Hill and Cllr Hutchinson responded it was important to get the speed for a road right and then monitor.

Cllr Hewston commented on the fact no response had been received following a NANSAG application to the Community Highways Fund – Cllr Hutchinson confirmed there was a massive backlog with mainly one person to deal with it.

Resident commented on the speed signs at Thorley and Wellow and asked why there was such a short stretch of road that was 40 mph – she asked for ‘slow’ to be painted in the road. Cllr Hutchinson said changes in road speeds were prioritised on the number of accidents that had occurred and referred people to a ‘crash website’ which pinpointed where road accidents had happened, as well as numbers involved.

Resident asked if the Clerk was certified to undertake the safety checks of the play areas in the Parish. Clerk confirmed she was not and that she would look into whether she needed to be.

Resident commented on irregular white lines and those that had been painted over potholes. Cllr Hutchinson replied that Island Roads gets penalties if a certain amount not painted, so this could be the reason.

Discussion on roads and fact that Island Roads put lists of works on their website.

NANSAG (Newbridge and Ningwood Safety Action Group) member said data is needed in order to enforce speeding and this is not always readily available. She mentioned Speedwatch, the top ten items which NANSAG had put to the Community Highways Fund and confirmed they would continue to support the Parish Council. The group were looking to extend the area they covers. People always welcome to contact her for advice and help on road safety issues.

Meeting closed: 8.37 pm

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2015**

It has been a year of changes for the council since our last Annual Parish meeting. John Whitney, Bill Burt and Jane Jacobs resigned and Susannah Jennings our Clerk left to take up the position of Brighstone Parish Council's Clerk.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work over the years.

We welcomed 3 new councillors; John McGuirk, Steve French and Pam Myles after a very successful election. Our new Clerk Sally Woods took over to keep us all in order and with her vast experience has kept us on track. Alas with all these changes there was a while when the function of the council was not as smooth as I would have liked, but now I think we are back on an even keel.

In July, with only 2 Councillors standing, Cllr Hewston and I attended the annual end of year leaving assembly at the school where we gave the leaving children presents. This was a happy occasion and underlines our support for this wonderful school. Keeping with the school theme; in January the children attended the question and answer session of our meeting and very interesting it turned out to be. We soon found out from their comments the type of playing equipment they now prefer. Also, the same problem of the dangerous conditions that the pupils and parents have in crossing the road and Cllrs McGuirk and French are taking this up. I think a fresh approach is very welcome but as with everything in life – it will take time.

I will spend a short time covering a few of the issues that have arisen over the last year:

1. We have a new website now which is more up to date and we hope to have a youth section but as yet this has not been done.
2. We have agreed a Donate-a-Gate to be installed at Bouldnor Field to connect with the other pedestrian gate, to save people have to open the large metal gate.
3. We have agreed to take on extra grass cutting at Newbridge Play area and Withyfields.
4. The West Wight Councils of Shalfleet, Yarmouth, Freshwater, Totland, Calbourne and Brighstone meet 3 or 4 times a year to try and have a unit voice on issues that affect us here in the area.
5. There is to be a seminar on how to apply for grants and I hope to encourage as many councillors as possible to attend as I feel this will be very useful in the future as funds become tighter.
6. I must congratulate Jill Cowley and her committee for their sterling work at Wellow Millennium Green. It now looks like a Green and is getting noticed. Their event last Summer proved what can be done when you put your mind to it.

Challenges ahead:

We really do not know yet but I am sure that the IOW Council will try to put more pressure on us to take on more services and I think perhaps we should bear it in mind that although we may not be directly affected by the cuts in services to other West Wight Councils, places like WW Swimming Pool and the Library are used by many people in our Parish and perhaps we need to look more at the West Wight as a whole, not just ourselves as a Parish.

I would like to thank; Val Gwynne for being the Parish Council representative on Yarmouth Harbour and Flood Defense Groups, as well as Hilary Higgins our Tree Warden for continuing to support us and Stuart Hutchinson for all his hard work.

I would like to remind everyone here that all of us our volunteers who seek no reward for working for the community, only the satisfaction of knowing that we are trying to do our bit.

Thank you to all the councillors for their work over the last year, to Sally for taking over at such a difficult time and to you the public who have attended our meetings.

Pam Broadhead  
Shalfleet Parish Council Chairman  
22.4.15.

## **West Wight Ward Report to Calbourne, Shalfleet and Yarmouth Annual Parish Meetings 2015**

West Wight Ward is the largest on the Island and covers 14 separate communities from Yarmouth in the west to Mark's Corner and Thorness Bay in the east, within the parishes of Calbourne, Shalfleet and Yarmouth. This report covers the work I do for the Island Council and within the ward.

The last year has been an extremely difficult year financially for the Island Council. On top of the £36 millions previously saved, there is a requirement to save a further £28 millions over 3 years including £14 millions in the current year.

Unless there is an Island-wide referendum, the rates are capped at 1.99% increase, yet against that we have a very substantial loss of government grant and increasing demand for services, especially the rapidly expanding cost of Adult Social Care. This means that we have had to ask Town and Parish Councils if they would take on some services, especially such things as toilets, grounds maintenance, beach cleaning and environmental management, all of which are often local to a particular town or parish. We have been forced to curtail some services and increase charges for others. I personally opposed the increased parking charges which I believe will damage our tourist economy and the businesses in our high streets.

However we have during the year successfully partnered with voluntary organisations such as Age UK which enable services to be supported by the use of local volunteers. Many services such as the Good Neighbour scheme, and the Libraries support could not be managed without them. In addition the three healthcare providers, IWC for public health, the Clinical Commissioning (GP's) Group for primary care, and the NHS are now working much more closely together within the "My Life" framework, which I was pleased to inaugurate as the first Chairman.

As well as Isle of Wight Full Council meetings I continue to serve on the Appeals Committee, Audit Committee, Employment Committee, Scrutiny Committee and Pensions Committee. I also act as Shadow Cabinet Member for Resources and am currently leading a specialist Task Group looking at how the Council procures and manages it's contracts. Doing this more effectively than we have in the past will become particularly important as the council seeks external public sector, voluntary and commercial providers to help deliver it's services.

Locally, I serve on the Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee and the Yarmouth Flood Defence Working Group.

To keep in touch with issues in the ward, I attend and report to the meetings of the Town Council and the two Parish Councils and attend local social events from time to time, such as Wellow Coffee Mornings, Porchfield Tea and Chat and Yarmouth Society. Because of a series of operations that my wife has had over the past year, I have spent time supporting her and have not been able to attend as many of these as I would have liked.

I write a regular monthly column for the Yarmouth and Freshwater Magazine, which always carries my contact details and an invitation to contact me if there are issues I can help with. Those details are also printed each month in the local Parish magazines.

I'm pleased that during the year I have been able to assist many individual residents and businesses with a range of issues, from planning to housing, to highways, social care and education.

I have attended and spoken at meetings of local residents concerned with the proposal to site two giant wind turbines at Parkhurst which would have had a major impact upon residents in Mark's Corner. I opposed these at Planning Committee and was pleased that they were rejected. I note that the developer has now decided that he does not have a sufficiently good case to appeal.

I also spoke at Planning Committee to oppose the proposal for 24 poorly designed and sited dwellings on the edge of Shalfleet Village, with almost no connection to the village and no indication as to how these would be managed for the benefit of local people.

I have quarterly meetings with the Chief Executive and senior staff of Wightlink and am supporting the initiatives to create regular dialogue through an Islandwide Ferry Users consultative group as well as the local groups giving feedback on individual ferry services.

I have regular meetings with Sergeant Mark Lythe about policing issues in the ward, and I speak regularly to the Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel about them, though I am delighted to say that within the ward we are fortunate to have little crime and have one of the safest and most attractive areas of the Island in which to live. Long may that continue!

*Stuart Hutchinson*

West Wight Ward Councillor

April 2015