

Calbourne, Newtown & Porchfield Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING THAT WAS CONVENED BY CALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL IN PURSUANT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SCHEDULE 12 (PART3) WAS HELD AT NEWTOWN TOWN HALL, ISLE OF WIGHT AT 7.00PM ON THE 14TH MAY 2018

7 Members of the Public were present.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mathrick and Cllr Hutchinson

2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 3RD APRIL 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd April were approved and duly signed.

3. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE PARISH CHAIRMAN

The Chairman gave the following report:-

Calbourne Parish Council has met on 10 occasions during this last year. We publicise our Council Meetings on the Parish Notice Boards in the Parishes within the legal time frame. Notices are also put up on our website. The Council acts on behalf of the local Community on many wide and varied issues. The Council responds as a Stakeholder Consultee for the Isle of Wight Council, Central Government and other Bodies. In May 17 there was an election for Calbourne Parish Council and 5 people were elected to become Calbourne Parish Councillors. We co-opted Sally Chaucer to fill the 6th Vacancy. All Councillors have had the opportunity to attend various training sessions this last year.

Because we have over 80% of Councillors elected and we also have a qualified Clerk the Council adopted the General Power of Competency.

Councillor Hutchinson as the Isle of Wight Councillor attends our Council Meetings and ensures we receive regularly reports on events at County Hall as they affect Calbourne, Newtown, Porchfield and our surrounding area. He is very supportive of the Council and pursues problems we raise with him.

The Council would like to place on record a thank you to the committee who manage the Porchfield Village Hall and congratulate them on obtaining a grant to connect the hall to the main drainage and also for all the hard work they put into keeping our Village Hall going.

Parish Councillors.

- Our Councillors continue to be the eyes and ears of the community and deal with many problems on behalf of the residents. They also bring forward local problems to the Parish Meetings.
- Our Councillors have agreed to have some new Parish signs made for Calbourne. They have been designed by a local resident who is an artist.
- They give their time freely and do not get paid for being a Parish Councillor.
- Our Councillors represent our Community on various outside bodies including the National Trust and the Flood Defence Forum, Porchfield and Newtown Village Hall and West Wight Partnership.

Parish Council Meetings

The Localism Bill has meant that the Council's throughout the country have to be more open and transparent hence you will find there will be an increasing use of the Councils website as more information will be being put on it. We have had a new website designed so that information can be uploaded onto it quickly. The Council has also updated its Financial Risk Assessment for 2018. The Council has continued to bring to the notice of the Isle of Wight Council problems that have arisen in Calbourne Parish throughout the year.

The Council has dealt with many matters including the following:-

- Concerns were raised with Island Roads about the state of pot-holes throughout the villages and also the lack of signs and speed of traffic. The Council has requested a schedule of works that are due to be undertaken in the parish.

- The Council has given a grants of £150 each to support the grass cutting in Newtown and Calbourne church yards and also in Porchfield burial ground. We have also supported the Optio Car Service.as well as age concern.
 - The Council has been consulted on various matters including the Isle of Wight Council Budget.
- The Council invited Cllr Ward to attend a Council meeting to hear the problems the Parish is having with Island Roads and also speed limits within the Parish.

- **Parish Council Planning Consultation.**

The Isle of Wight Council has asked the Parish Council for their views on Planning Applications during the year. The Parish Council have a Statutory Right to be consulted and they responded with their comments on the submitted planning applications.

4. **TO RECEIVE A SUMMARY OF THE ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk gave the following financial report:-

The Clerk reported on the Council's 2017-18 Finances. She reported that the Council has brought forward a balance of £10,189.68 at the commencement of 2017-18.

The receipts received during that year were £15,964.63. (Including balances brought forward of £10,189.68 gives a total of £26,154.31)

The payments during this period of time was £15,162.66 giving a balance of £10,991.65

Out of this balance £5,000 is being ring fenced for Porchfield Village Hall external repairs.

5. **TO RECEIVE OBSERVATIONS FROM LOCAL MEMBER OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL.**

Cllr Hutchinson's Report to Calbourne, Shalfleet and Yarmouth Annual Parish Meetings 2018

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 as an Island County Councillor and within the ward.

At the elections in May last year, there was a change of control of the Island Council and I was appointed as Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources.

That means I have responsibility for the Council's finances, its property assets, personnel functions, fleet management, legal services, democratic services (that includes managing committees, elections, and the upcoming boundary review) and lastly the Council's three harbours. And of course, as Deputy my task is to assist the Leader and I regularly stand in in for him at joint meetings and in discussions with Ministers.

In particular during the year I have been working with colleagues to more effectively manage the savings we know the Council has to find over the next three budget years, reducing the savings target next year from £9.3M to £5.5M; still a lot of money, but more manageable.

We continue to rely heavily on charities and volunteers to help support many services. The costs of Adult Social Care continue to grow, and because this Island has a very substantial proportion of frail elderly people, the annual increase in cost swallows up the 3% increase in council tax raised specifically to pay for it. Last year I reported that the Island Council placed more of it's elderly residents into care homes than any other in the region. I'm pleased to say that we have been able to change that and now, more rapid assessment on leaving hospital and a comprehensive care package has allowed residents to return to their own homes, where most would rather be. IWC is now being cited nationally as an example of good practice.

Our Highways network continues to improve and by the end of the core investment period, which has another two years to run, every Island Road and pavement will have been brought up to a high standard. It then will be maintained at that standard for the next 20 years.

Following on from last year's improvements in the broadband service for most households in the ward as part of the £5M Rural Intervention project, jointly funded by the Council and Government, we have managed to attract a further £35M of government grant and private investment. This will again

improve our connectivity and help to support business, which is essential for our economy to thrive. That improvement in connectivity was one of the reasons Ascensos moved to the Island from the mainland last September, creating 400 new jobs.

I have regular meetings with the Chief Executive and senior staff of Wightlink and Red Funnel, with members of the Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the many Charities that support Island residents

Locally, I continue to 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 as often as I can, though much less frequently than I would like.

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.

Most importantly I'm always available to residents of the ward to offer advice, guidance and support to help resolve issues they have with any Council service.

I'm pleased that during the year I have been able to assist many individual residents and businesses with a range of problems, from planning to housing, to highways, social care and education. My only regret is that having accepted the roles described above in managing the Council, it takes so much time that I cannot always respond as fast as I did when just being a ward Councillor – the upside is that when I do seek help for residents from Council officers it does get dealt with quickly.

6. OPEN SESSION FOR THE ELECTORATE OF CALBOURNE

A question was raised about Newtown Residents representation on National Trust Consultative Committee. Cllr Pike said he would raise it at the next meeting.

A question was raised about theme days being held on National Trust land and problems affecting the wild life was happening. It was reiterated that National Trust managed it on behalf of Natural England and they could put a ban on such events if they were causing problems to the birds and wildlife.

Signed

Date