



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN

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Minutes of Bembridge Parish Council meeting held on 18th March 2014 at 7.00pm in Bembridge Village Hall, High Street, Bembridge

PRESENT: Cllr G Kendall (Chairman), Cllr D Grannum, Cllr S Pigot, Cllr M Tarrant, Cllr C Doe, Cllr B Dyer, Cllr B Bristow, Cllr P Pugh, Cllr A Lee, Cllr A Woodford and Mrs E Goldring – Clerk

PUBLIC: 3, Cllr J Bacon IWC, Judith Sutton Age UK and County Press reporter **PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

Cllr D Grannum took the chair until item 9 as the Chairman arrived late from another meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mark O'Sullivan Age UK Good Neighbour Scheme; Over 500 volunteers have signed up across 26 good neighbour schemes on the Island. Every area across the Island is covered and Bembridge has its own scheme. 39,000 hours of volunteer support has been given in the past year. The support provided through this scheme is not provided by any other organisation or agency on the Island. The aim is for people to stay independent in their own homes.

Extreme weather support scheme has been vital. Cold weather surveys have been carried out and where appropriate aids and adaptations have been issued. 120 in year 1, 169 in year 2 and over 200 in year 3 demonstrating the demand. Some predicaments have meant older people have to decide if they eat or heat. Some examples explained where a resident in the West Wight hadn't used their heating for 4 years because they couldn't afford to and had to go to bed fully clothed in a coat and hat, which is wholly unacceptable.

Age UK are leading a consortium of charities in a bid for big lottery funding of £3-6million pounds for projects to eradicate social isolation.

Volunteers would provide practical support with tasks such as shopping or changing a light bulb. There is no personal care required or medication giving involved. Task allocation is centrally managed through the Newport office calling 525282. All volunteers will be CRB checked and need to provide 2 character references and will attend a half day training course.

Cllr P Pugh left the meeting.

1. **31/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bembridge Neighbourhood Development Plan is currently out to official consultation until 24th March 2014. The examiner has been appointed and a referendum is expected in the summer.

2. **32/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence from Cllr J Marr and Cllr M Humphray.

3. **33/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

33/14/01 To receive declarations of pecuniary or other interests relating to items on the agenda
No interests declared.

33/14/02 To consider requests and grant dispensations if appropriate
No requests for dispensations received.

4. 34/14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To receive for approval minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th February 2014

RESOLVED: Approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 18th February 2014. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

5. 35/14 PLANNING COMMITTEE

To note minutes of the Planning Committees held on 18th February & 4th March 2014

RESOLVED: Note minutes of the Planning Committees held on 18th February & 4th March 2014

6. 36/14 FINANCE

36/14/01 To approve bank reconciliation and cash balances to 14th March 2014

RESOLVED: Approve bank reconciliation and cash balances to 14th March 2014

36/14/02 To approve schedule of payments to 14th March 2014

RESOLVED: Approve schedule of payments to 14th March 2014

7. 37/14 REPORTS

To receive the following reports:

37/14/01 Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC). Meeting to be held on 20th March.

37/14/02 Village Hall Management Committee: No update.

37/14/03 Bembridge Youth & Community Centre Management Committee (BYCC)

The new alarm system has been installed using the Parish asset grant. Preparation for the summer fair on 19th July is underway. Successful auction held raising over £1,000 for the church roof. AGM tomorrow evening. All going really well.

37/14/04 Village Partnership (plus Events Group and Green Town Steering Group)

Village Partnership due to meet on 26th March. Green Town Steering Group met with the PCSO to consider a litter mapping exercise. Have been busy planning the spring litter pick on 13th April 10.00am at Steyne Park. Exploring a circular walk of the village creating safer routes at Longlands Shute and Peacock Hill. Are having stall at Bembridge Street Fair to sign up a database of volunteers to help with projects. The big tree plant are offering thousands of free trees although not sure how many can be accommodated and have considered a grant from Bicycle Island project although not sure if this is viable.

37/14/05 Finance & Staffing Advisory Group

The minutes and agenda items cover progress and recommendations of the group.

37/14/06 Harbour. Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February included with the agenda pack.

Malcolm Thorpe is seeking feedback from organisations represented on the advisory group therefore please email Cllr D Grannum feedback. Annual public Harbour meeting to be held on Friday 21st March 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

37/14/07 Other reports

An article was published in the Sunday Times referring to the poor bathing water quality in Bembridge. It is appalling that this detrimental information has been published when the change in legislation and classification will not be introduced until 2015. It was also mentioned on Monday evening in a story on South Today with Southsea. The Council is not happy about the negative publicity it will generate for a beach that sits between two good ratings at St Helens and Whitecliff. The Environment Agency could not answer specific questions raised about what pollution was causing the reading, the monitoring point being in an area of low usage and any health impact reports. **RESOLVED:** Write to the Sunday Times, South Today and the Environment Agency.

Warning to dog owners that palm oil is still being found on the beach. 50-60 logs have been washed into the sea and become stuck under the tide line. IWC will not remove them do to the status as a private beach. **RESOLVED:** Write to Mr Grimaldi to remove the logs.

37/14/08 Clerk's report

DRAGONS DEN

Bembridge Village Partnership hosted a 'Dragons Den' day on Saturday 15th February at Bembridge Youth & Community Centre where a grant funding pot of up to £2,000 was awarded to local organisations and community groups working for the benefit of Bembridge. 8 applications were received and 7 made the final shortlist. The applicants had to deliver a presentation to the dragons with an audience looking on. Keith Cook organised the event supported by Denise Grannum, Robin Maconchy, Steve Simmons and Sheila Weedall better known as the dragons.

The funding pot was allocated by the Dragons between the following applications:

Bembridge Football Club	£300 for sports equipment
Friends of Holy Trinity Church	£200 toward replacement ceiling appeal
Bembridge Primary School	£175 for anti-bullying campaign equipment
Bembridge Scouts	£250 towards replacement doors for scout hut
Bembridge Rainbows	£75 for gardening project
Bembridge Reckers Petanque Team	£300 for sports equipment
Bembridge Cricket Team	£400 for sports equipment

CLEARING FOOTPATH BB4

Well done to the Green Town Steering Group and the lengthsman for clearing footpath BB4 on 26th February. Luckily the sun shone and no rain was in sight to clear the footpath that had been taken over by residents waste bins, rubbish dumped in the area and a mass of overgrowth.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Bembridge Neighbourhood Development Plan was submitted to the Isle of Wight Council on 22nd January and the official public consultation concluded on 24th March. An examiner has been appointed to inspect the Plan and all associated documents. A local referendum is expected in the summer (potential dates of 24th July or 21st August depending upon timescales).

SPRING LITTER PICK

Bembridge spring litter pick will take place on Sunday 13th April 10.00am from Steyne Park. Are you free to help litter pick local footpaths? If yes please register your interest. Equipment and bags will be provided along with disposal of the litter collected.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The annual parish meeting date is set for Tuesday 6th May 2014 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. If you have any ideas for a guest speaker that would attract the residents' attendance please let me know.

BEMBRIDGE STREET FAIR

As part of the Bembridge Festival week the Annual Street Fair will be held in the High Street, Bembridge on Monday 26th May 2014, 2.00pm-4.30pm. All proceeds of this year's event will go towards the 'Holy Trinity Roof Repair Fund'. Come along and visit our very own Green Town Steering Group who will be promoting green initiatives and seeking volunteer support for projects.

TENNIS

In association with Ryde Mead Tennis Club the tennis courts at Bembridge Primary school are available April – September in the evenings, weekends and school holidays. Coaching sessions will also be arranged.

SCHOOL FIELD & STEYNE PARK PROJECT

The Isle of Wight Council has issued a draft lease to the Parish Council for the school field which has many issues that need to be negotiated. Once this has been finalised the Parish Council would issue Bembridge primary school a 50 year license for the school to use Steyne Park. A working group will be appointed to drive forward a Steyne Park Project following the Parish Councils appointment of 3 Councillor Representatives.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

The Clerk attended the employer event held on 4th March at Quay Arts where information was received about the current apprenticeships scheme available for small businesses that are looking at such initiatives. There is potential for an apprenticeship that could work in the Parish Office and with the Parish Lengthsmen that needs further consideration.

LANE END CEMETERY DRAINAGE

Due to the consistent poor weather there have been occasions that the new side of Lane End cemetery has formed pools of water. Terry Weaver has provided a comprehensive response with reassurance that the current drainage arrangements are fine for the time being.

STEYNE ROAD DRAINAGE SCHEME

Island Roads have confirmed that the drainage scheme works in Steyne Road are scheduled to take place in September 2014 (out of the tourist season) and the road will be surfaced once this is complete. Island Roads will come back to us closer to the start date of works to provide specific details and will notify all the residents of the works.

BEMBRIDGE COAST HOTEL

Bembridge Parish Council Chairman and Vice Chairman met with Phil Howden General Manager of Bembridge Coast Hotel on 26th February to discuss the beach management plan.

It is clear that the continued poor weather is causing erosion problems on the beach and for the Bembridge Coast Hotel. It is understood that a plan is underway for the implementation of a more permanent solution as the temporary shingle is not working and washing away within 5 weeks. Bembridge Parish Council support the plan for a more permanent solution such as gabion's and would like to assist in any way possible.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL – DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Bembridge Parish Council Chairman and Clerk attended a meeting with IWC Officers on 21st February to discuss the sports, recreations and leisure services that are included in the list of discretionary services to be delivered in a different way.

The School Field lease negotiations are underway. Beach Safety equipment is being retained by IWC following a U-turn decision at their budget setting meeting. Bembridge Primary school crossing patrol has been taken on by the school. Rights of Way, Car Parks and Slipways are also being retained by IWC due to economies of scale however they may ask Parish Council to contribute to a cleaning contract for slipways; we await further details. The bring bank recycling sites and public conveniences at Lane End are still open to discussions but the Parish Council feels these would be better delivered through the Waste Contract and by RNLI.

Environment Officer monitoring duties for litter, graffiti, fly-tipping and dog fouling also need to be considered by the Parish Council. This role also includes inspections of cemeteries and play areas but the Parish Council already delivers this service in Bembridge. Lincoln Way pond is something that they would like to the Parish Council to consider taking on as of 1st April 2014. Maps of the site have been requested plus a quotation from our insurers.

8. 38/14 BEMBRIDGE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

38/14/01 To ratify parish asset grant of £570 to BYCC for alarm system

RESOLVED: Ratify parish asset grant of £570 to BYCC for alarm system

38/14/02 To ratify BYCC to operate under the Parish Council premises license for fundraising event on 19th July 2014 at Steyne Park

RESOLVED: Ratify BYCC to operate under the Parish Council premises license for fundraising event on 19th July 2014 at Steyne Park

9. 39/14 SOCIAL MEDIA

To consider use of social media for the parish council

Social media would have to be managed by the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. Cllr A Lee has friends who use social media as a tool for business. Maybe need some advice from an expert. Concern expressed that it could open a can of worms. Newport and Ventnor use Twitter. No Parishes on the Island use

Facebook. A blog was introduced some years ago by the Parish Council which became very unpleasant. Recommend the Parish Council do not proceed with social media.

RESOLVED: Not to proceed with social media.

10. 40/14 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

40/14/01 Bembridge Youth and Community Centre Management Committee – 1 Councillor
Cllr A Lee has too many commitments to become a member of BYCC at this time.

RESOLVED: Not to appoint to this vacancy but keep the deed of trust at 3 Councillors.

40/14/02 Steyne Park Project Working Group – 3 Councillors

Cllr A Woodford, Cllr D Grannum and Cllr B Bristow want to become members. Cllr A Lee and Cllr J Marr are also interested and could join the group as and when the project warrants.

RESOLVED: Cllr A Woodford, Cllr D Grannum and Cllr B Bristow appointed to the Steyne Park Project working group.

11. 41/14 WAR MEMORIAL & PALMER MEMORIAL

To agree Wightstonemasons quotations for cleaning War Memorial and Palmer Memorial
Quotation for cleaning is £800 and £850 plus VAT. £540 has been received so far in donations via the Beacon appeal which will contribute towards the cost. The Pilot Boat has been collecting 1p per pint to add to the donations.

RESOLVED: Agree Wightstonemasons quotations for cleaning War Memorial and Palmer Memorial.

12. 42/14 VILLAGE OF THE YEAR

To consider entering the Village of the Year competition

Bembridge meets two of the three criteria for the Village of the Year competition.

RESOLVED: Enter Bembridge for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the Year competition.

13. 43/14 SCHOOL FIELD

To ratify school lease fees £500 plus VAT and school license fee £300 plus VAT

RESOLVED: Ratify Glanvilles solicitors school lease fees £500 plus VAT and school license fee £300 plus VAT.

14. 44/14 CONDITION SURVEY WORKS

To ratify structural engineers report quotation £325 plus VAT for High Street

RESOLVED: Ratify Patterson Reeves & Partners structural engineer report quotation £325 plus VAT for High Street.

15. 45/14 TRAINING

To agree Clerk attends Emergency First Aid at Work course through Island Training cost £95 plus VAT

RESOLVED: Agree Clerk attends Emergency First Aid at Work course through Island Training cost £95 plus VAT.

16. 46/14 IWC DELIVERY OF SERVICES

46/14/01 To consider taking on Lincoln Way pond as a community asset as of 1st April 2014

Lincoln Way pond will be taken off the Isle of Wight Councils ground maintenance contract as of 1st April 2014 and the site will be left if it's not taken on. The Parish Council are keen for the pond to remain a community asset. There are 7 trees, 5 rose bushes, grass cutting and annual pond clearing. The pond can only be taken on by the Parish Council is the land is to be leased or a freehold secured in the near future. The Parish Lengthsmen would carry out the maintenance works.

RESOLVED: Agree to take on Lincoln Way pond maintenance and as a community asset via a lease or freehold arrangement.

46/14/02 To consider taking on Environment Officer monitoring roles as of 1st April 2014

Environment Officer monitoring roles include reporting litter, fly tipping, graffiti and dog fouling. The dog wardens are to be retained by IWC. This role should not be confused with Environmental Health. IWC will still carry out the any clearing required once reported.

RESOLVED: Take on Environment Officer monitoring roles as of 1st April 2014.

17. 47/14 SMALL GRANT SCHEME

To consider a small grant scheme application from BYCC for darts equipment
BYCC previously had three dart boards and ockeyes. The small grants scheme fund has already been spent this financial year. Proposal to refuse the small grant scheme application from BYCC for darts equipment 6 for 0 against 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED: Refuse BYCC small grants scheme application.

18. 48/14 BEMBRIDGE COAST HOTEL

To support the plan of Bourne Leisure for a more permanent solution to beach erosion.
No formal plan has been submitted at this stage although there is one in the pipeline. Endorse a letter of support from the Parish Council for a more permanent solution to beach erosion.

RESOLVED: Support the plan of Bourne Leisure for a more permanent solution to beach erosion.

19. 49/14 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That in accordance with s.1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public will be excluded from the following item, having due regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Full Council meeting 15th April 2014, 7.00pm Village Hall, Small Hall

Meeting Closed 20.20

Signed:.....

Dated:.....