

MINUTES

Virtual meeting of Lake Parish Council held on Wednesday 9 December 2020 using Zoom software, commencing at 19.15

Present

Chairman Mrs S. Horton

Councillors Mr B. Blezzard, Mrs S. Hardy, Mr H. Price, Mr T. Outlaw, Mr D. Stephens, Mr A. Whittaker, Mrs B. Young, Mrs N. Goodall

In attendance Mr M. R. Taplin (Clerk), Cllr P. Brading (IWC). Two members of the public.

From the floor Cllr Brading spoke about the need for a dog waste bin behind the Porter Club. He said a cast iron bench had been offered by a resident, but Island Roads would not accept an item such as this on public land. It was agreed to thank the resident, but decline the offer.

43/20-21 **Apologies for absence** None

44/20-21 **To receive any declarations of interest in agenda items**

The Chairman declared her editorial interest in Ripples.

45/20-21 **To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November**

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October as a true record, subject to some corrections requested by Cllr Blezzard.

46/20-21 **To resolve comments on planning applications received** None

47/20-21 **To receive a draft budget 2021-2022**

The Clerk had circulated this, which did not require a decision at this stage, but was designed to inform members in advance of a decision on this and the precept at the January meeting. Cllr Blezzard suggested members examine and come prepared to make the necessary decisions at the next meeting. Cllr Hardy said she would like provision for a tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to be considered.

48/20-21 **Lake Ripples**

Work on issue 48 was in progress and it was hoped to achieve delivery in early January.

49/20-21 **To authorise payments as per report**

The Clerk had circulated details of payments made by BACS in November.

Cheque	Amount	VAT	Payee	Item
Transfer	£ 749.00		Biltmore Printers	Printing Ripples
Transfer	£ 28.80		Sandown Town Council	Room Hire
Transfer	£ 140.40		HMRC	PAYE
Transfer	£ 561.11		M R Taplin	Clerk's salary November
Transfer	£ 7.00		Mrs S. Horton	Compost for roses
Transfer	£ 360.00	60.00	PKF Littlejohn	External audit fee
Transfer	£ 50.00		Wight Diamonds	Grant donation
Transfer	£ 245.00		Sandown Town Council	Room Hire/VJ day
Transfer	£ 199.84	5.51	SSE	Electricity supply
Transfer	£ 604.62	100.77	Top Mops Ltd	Toilet repair
Transfer	£ 285.06	47.51	Ringway Island Roads	Waste bin empty

Transfer £ 100.00 D Hardy Website maintenance
Transfer £ 72.00 12.00 The Lock Shop Defibrillator case repair
Resolved – that the payments be authorised.

50/20-21

To resolve a request for a dog waste bin near the Porter Club

Black sacks of dog waste were being deposited on the grass by the alley at the back of the Porter Club. It was **resolved** to order a bin from Island Roads.

51/20-21

To resolve whether to join the Bay scheme for hamper distribution to vulnerable families

The Clerk outlined the proposition from Sandown Town Council, aimed at families with children at Broadlea School. Cllr Blezzard spoke in favour and it was **resolved** to make £500 available to the scheme. A named vote having been requested, the result showed Cllrs Blezzard, Whittaker, Outlaw, Goodall, Hardy, Price, Stevens, and Young in favour and Cllr Horton abstaining.

52/20-21

To resolve any donation to the Mountbatten Hospice

Because there would be no carol service collection this year, it was **resolved** that a donation of £150 be made to the Mountbatten Hospice.

53/20-21

To resolve consultation on the future of New Rd public toilets and related matters

The Clerk had obtained quotations for the two options settled on last month and described these, prompting considerable discussion. Cllr Whittaker proposed that similar quotes to be obtained for Lake Cliff Gardens, which was in poor condition, but Cllr Blezzard reminded the meeting that a quote obtained two years ago showed this could cost over £100 000. Most members were concerned that proceeding with two projects in parallel would put too great a strain on resources. It was agreed to see if a survey of Lake Cliff Gardens toilets could be carried out to ascertain if any problems were serious. Cllr Whittaker also said that any consultation should include the option of doing nothing. Cllr Outlaw said doing nothing would always be an option. Cllr Blezzard proposed that the sequence going forward be: obtaining Danfo quote for putting Pay per Use toilets in the existing building; commissioning the architect's sketches for the expanded building option (likely to cost £1000), obtaining estimates for the resulting building work on the latter, and finally consultation on the costed options. This was seconded by Cllr Outlaw and so **resolved**.

54/20-21

Report from the Clerk

The Clerk referred to correspondence received, particularly regarding grants available through Isle of Wight Council to assist community projects to help local residents. He also referred to the appointment by IW Council of a new monitoring officer, Chris Potter, who had previously worked for a Parish Council.

Councillors reports

IW Councillors

Cllr Outlaw said that things had been quiet during the second lockdown, but considerable concern was building up at Wightlink's actions in respect of ferry operations, which left much to be desired in comparison with Red Funnel. He was pleased that COVID-19 infections were the lowest in the UK, resulting in Tier 1 designation.

Cllr Brading said much of his time had been taken up with the Winter Grant Scheme, which was available from Monday through a simple application process. School attendance was 5-6% above the national average. This year's budget-making process and gone remarkably smoothly.

Cllr Brading was asked questions about the situation with the land behind KFC (waiting for deadline to be reached, when legal action would be considered) and cliff falls after winter rains (Island Roads were dealing with this).

Parish Councillors

Cllr Blezzard reprised his IWALC report and drew attention to developing concerns about Island Roads hedge-cutting activity and the arrival of a new County Officer, Heather Rowell. He has also attended the NALC virtual AGM on 27 October, where it had been revealed that the Hampshire Association of Parish Councils was the only ALC that had not adopted the national protocols.

Cllr Outlaw said just before the meeting he been advised of the discovery of rat poison on The Mall near the park entrance. Cllr Whittaker said he would investigate after the meeting and advise Island Roads as necessary.

Cllr Hardy said IWALC were arranging a Topic Meeting on hedge cutting in February, which Members were welcome to attend.

Cllr Stephens said he had been advised by the owner of a property on Cliff Path that the new John O'Connor contract for cutting the adjacent hedge had been reduced to an annual cut, which was inadequate.

The Chairman thanked Jenny Hicks and Cllr Whittaker for the work to plant the rose bed by the Silent Soldier at Co-op Funeralcare.

From the floor

A member of the public said illicit cutting back was going on along the path from Lake Common towards the Golf Course, creating a considerable mess. She would inform Island Roads. Another member of the public offered professional help with surveying the public toilets. He also said the land behind KFC was now for sale.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.44

Chairman _____ **Date** _____

Next meeting: 13 January 2021, 19.15 via Zoom