

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Wednesday 9 January 2008 in
The Council Offices, Winchester House, The Broadway, Totland**

Present: Councillors; Mr J Howe (Chairman), Mr J Honeychurch (Vice-chairman) Mrs C Bryan, Mr V Fennell, Mrs V Cooke, Mr A Jones and Mrs S Jennings (RFO).

Mr Bob Nelson our Town Centre Manager, County Press reporter and one member of the public.

101/08 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor D Filby (Honeymoon) and Councillor George Cameron (sick).

102/08 Public Question Time

There were no questions from the floor.

103/08 Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

104/08 Planning Matters

To consider the following planning applications:-

- i) Location: Red Rise, The Broadway, Totland Bay

Proposal: Conservatory.

Council had no comment regarding this application.

- ii) Location: The Little House, Summers Lane, Totland Bay.

Proposal: Conservatory.

Council had no comment regarding this application.

105/08 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 December 2007.

These were confirmed as a true record. Prop. Councillor V Fennell, seconded Councillor C Bryan and unanimously agreed.

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106/08 To receive the report from George Cameron.

There was no report due to Councillor Cameron being ill and still awaiting surgery.

107/08 To receive a report from Mr Rob Nelson, Town Manager

Mr Bob Nelson produced an excellent report covering dog fouling, litter, refuse, projects pending, toilets and footpaths (copy attached).

He asked Council if they would like him to check out the cycling on the esplanade and to try and get the "No Cycling" signs put back. Council agreed.

Mr Nelson explained how he was getting the probation service involved in community projects and had reported that they had cleared the steps down from the bridge to the pier, and also said that footpath T1 (at Colwell) was very overgrown and that he would get the probation service to keep this footpath clear.

Mr Nelson asked the Council if they would write a letter of thanks to the Probation Service. This was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Howe asked if he would continue to chase the situation regarding the concrete beach huts at Colwell Bay.

Councillor Hinton said he was a bit sceptical about having a Town Centre Manager but said that Bob was doing a magnificent job and to carry on which was agreed by Councillors David Filby and Carol Bryan.

108/08 To report on matters relating to Open Spaces

Councillor Howe said he had received the One Million Blooms costing for the garden on Cokes Green which amounted to £1517.60 and the balance of £482 due to Council would be used for refilling the planters in Totland.

109/08 To Receive the Report of the Turf Walk Regeneration Sub-Committee

There was no report.

110/08 To report on matters arising from the agenda - for information only

Earl Mountbatten Hospice - £93.93 collected at Lights of Love Parade.

111/08 Memorial Hall Arts & Leisure Company

Councillor A Jones said the MHALC would get £40,000 from the Bus Station Development towards the new extension to the Main Hall and approximately £1500 would be used for drawing up of the plans. Councillor Hinton said he was extremely pleased that the "Strawbs" were coming to the Hall.

112/08 Report from Councillor V Fennell re: Isle of Wight Parish & Town

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Councils.

Councillor Fennell reported there had been no meeting last month and that the next meeting was on 16 January 2008.

113/08 Taking forward and implementation of the Parish Plan.

Councillor John Howe asked members of the Council to think about ways to get the Parish Plan going forward for our next meeting.

114/08 Christ Church Totland - Churchyards Maintenance Grant.

Council agreed a grant of £1600 Christ Church, Totland. Proposed Councillor V Fennell, seconded Councillor A Jones and unanimously agreed.

115/08 To agree to obtain a Structural Engineers Report on the wall at Stokes Green.

Council agreed to employ a Structural Engineer to report on the wall at Stokes Green (opposite the pier), which had moved and is cracking. Proposed: Councillor V Fennell, Seconded: Councillor B Hinton and unanimously agreed.

Mr Bob Nelson said he had looked at the wall today and it had definitely moved again. The Clerk informed Council that Mr Tony Prewer, the Building Inspector at the Isle of Wight Council had recommended that the loose bricks from the top of the wall be removed and that this should suffice over the Christmas holiday, which has been done. Councillor C Bryan asked if the Clerk would talk to Mr Prewer and arrange for something in writing.

116/08 To accept Precept Budget 2008/2009

Two proposals were put forward at 6% and 8% and therefore a show of hands were requested. The vote was 5 for 6% and 2 for 8%, the 6% was therefore carried. Proposed: Councillor B Hinton and Seconded: Councillor C Bryan.

117/08 Clerk's Christmas Box

A Christmas Box of £150 was proposed by Councillor V Fennel, Seconded by Councillor C Bryan and unanimously agreed.

118/08 Accounts: To Consider the Payment of the Accounts (listed below)

Payments:

Waitrose.com (V Gallard)	£ 18.99	Monthly broadband charge.
Mrs V Gallard (salary)	£702.05	
Inland Revenue	£174.76	
Petty Cash	£ 30.00	
WBS	£110.39	Stationery
Mrs S Jennings	£290.00	29 hrs (May to Dec 07)

There were no questions and Council resolved to pay these accounts. Proposed

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Councillor V Fennell, seconded Councillor C Bryan and unanimously agreed.

119/08 Correspondence

The Clerk read out letters from Councillor Joe Duckworth and Mr Andrew Turner MP in answer to his letter regarding the closure of Yarmouth Bridge at the same time the 'Middle Road' was closed effectively cutting off the West Wight for a swift response from vehicles. Councillor Duckworth has passed his letter to Mr Stuart Love, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods for comment and we await his letter.

The Clerk read out a letter from the newly formed Totland Residents Association requesting use of the Parish office for their small bi monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the appropriate month and would total 6 a year. Council unanimously agreed to this request. Proposed Councillor V Fennell, Seconded: Councillor C Byran.

120/08 Questions and Information Time at Chairman's Discretion

Councillor Howe said he had picked up a leaflet "Celebrating Islandness" which states that from January the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Unit, in conjunction with the Isle of Wight Council Conservation and Design Team are running a project entitled "Celebrating Islandness". The aim is to record the small but all important details of our Island's wonderful environment.

Councillor Howe said he felt they should look at preserving Villages on the Island where bungalows are being replaced by blocks of flats.

He asked the Clerk to write to the AONB Unit and ask them for their support against planning applications for demolishing of bungalows and Victorian houses to be replaced with blocks of flats, especially as most remain unsold. This was unanimously agreed by Council.

Councillor J Honeychurch raised concerns about the Children's Centre at St Saviours.

Councillor C Bryan reported that the Lanes End sign had been beaten down. Mr Bob Nelson said he would deal with this. She also said the sign at Middleton was missing and asked the Clerk to check.

Councillor Howe said he had spoken to Mrs Val Ottway, Chairman of Freshwater Parish Council and told her that the Totland Parish Council were interested in sharing costs on maintenance of the Skateboard Park but would want a 50/50 committee.

The Clerk said she had received a call from the Clerk at Freshwater who asked her to run by Council whether or not they would be prepared to accept a joint Skateboard Park and MUGA (multi use games area) committee. Councillor

Howe informed Council that financing for the MUGA had been found. Totland Parish Council unanimously agreed on a 50/50 committee basis.

Councillor B Hinton said he was still hearing reports about selling off the library land at Freshwater. Council agreed that this should be closely monitored.

Councillor Howe closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.

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