

Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 19th April 2016 @ 6.30pm

The Parish council met fifteen times from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 as follows:

Full Council x 12 meetings

Finance x 1 meetings

Planning x 2 meetings

And attendances of your Councillors has been as follows:-

Councillor	No. of Meetings	Resigned/Joined/Other
Vince Fennell (Chairman)	14	
David Filby (Vice Chairman)	11	
John Honeychurch	1	Left 14 th October 2015
John Howe	11	
Colin Bradley	7	Died 11 th March 2016
David Bryan	1	Resigned 11 th May 2015
Adrian Bolton	1	Resigned 11 th November 2015
Jan Cave	14	
Verena Wilson	10	Joined 9 th September 2015
Iain McKie	3	Joined 28 th January 2016
Steve Blamire	2	Joined 10 th February 2016

I was elected in as Chairman by my fellow Councillors at the May meeting last year and I have enjoyed this year working with old and new Councillors and the Clerk.

I would like to start with the changes of Councillors we have experienced this year.

Cllr David Bryan resigned on the 11th May 2015

Cllr Honeychurch moved off the Island to be closer to family on 14th October 2015 and therefore could no longer remain as a Councillor.

Cllr Adrian Bolton resigned 11th November 2015 due to work commitments

and with great sadness Cllr Colin Bradley passed away on 11th March 2016. Colin was a very active Councillor particularly with the Open Spaces and he is very much missed, we wish Rachel his wife and his family well.

I would like to thank all the Councillors for the contribution they made whilst in post.

New Councillors:

Cllr Verena Wilson was co-opted 9th September 2015

Cllr Iain McKie was co-opted 28th January 2016

Cllr Steve Blamire was co-opted 10th February 2016

All new Cllrs are settling in well and we look forward to working with them for the coming years.

Totland Parish Council currently has 1 vacancy.

This has been a very busy year for all Town and Parish Councils on the Isle of Wight and Totland is no exception.

Newsletters:

We keep in touch with monthly reports which are published with the Freshwater, Totland & Yarmouth Island Magazine available in the Parish Office and these are available on our website.

Website:

We have updated the Parish Council website with new photographs and more information. This will continue to be updated as and when.

Archives:

Lois Cooper has agreed to help with the Parish Archives and has started to itemise electronically all our Archives. The Freshwater & Totland Archive Group are also producing a Totland Reflections similar to the Freshwater Reflections last year. They are also busy in our Archives finding lots of information.

Open Day:

The Open Day was very well attended on Monday 11th January and the ongoing responses received from the questionnaire has been very good. At the March meeting Councillors agreed that Totland would continue to support the West Wight Sports & Community Centre for a further two years and also take the responsibility of the public toilets. In addition Colwell Common will receive regular cutting and the Parish Council will discuss the car park on The Broadway with the Isle of Wight Council as soon as possible.

Isle of Wight Council:

It has been regularly publicised that the Isle of Wight Council are no longer being funded by Government to the full and this in turn has caused many cuts to services along the way. Certain discretionary services and facilities were due to stop from 1st April 2016 and Totland Parish Council, at the request of residents, agreed to keep the two toilet blocks, Totland Beach and Colwell Bay, open.

Public Toilets

The Parish Council clustered with Freshwater Parish Council and we have agreed a Cleaning Contractor who started 1st April. There has already been a huge improvement to the standard. These toilets will receive a monthly deep clean and during the summer months they will have two visits per day.

Colwell toilets were refurbished a couple of years ago and for now are in good condition. Totland Beach has not had any work carried out for several years and the Parish Council agreed at the April meeting to replace the lighting by adding more, repaint all the wood work internally and repair the guttering. There has been a lot of work involved with taking this responsibility on and I would like to thank the Parish Clerk for all her hard work.

Dog Mess:

This is an ongoing problem, however, this year we have been working with the Environmental Officer at the Isle of Wight Council and complaints have dropped. We do need to keep on top of this and a new Dog Poo Bin will be installed at the top of Widdick Chine as soon as possible. This was in response to requests made at the 'Open Day'. The Parish Council will also attend events around Totland and will be giving away dog bags to promote 'Pick it Up'.

Sea Wall

Work on the temporary path for the Sea Wall, Totland to Colwell was completed September 2015 and the Community, local and afar, attended the grand opening on Sunday 13th September 2015. It is impossible to say how many attended this opening but from where the ribbon was cut, at the start of the new path, right back to the pier was full of people. It was a fabulous day for us all and clearly demonstrated how much the sea wall was missed.

A couple of high lights were the Brighstone Barnacles who captured the moment brilliantly and the beautifully crafted bench on the Colwell side of the walk which has been donated; pictures can be seen on the board behind.

There have been a couple of teething problems, which is only to be expected. November many residents contacted the Parish Office with regard to the run off of mud along the new sea wall path. The relevant department was contacted and they confirmed that remedial work to the drainage would start that month.

The new interpretation board has been installed on the new Totland sea wall landslip path again picture on the boards behind.

Pier and Pier Café

The Parish Council have not received a response from the owners of the Pier or the Café and so are unsure if the Pier Café will be opening this year, and what will be happening with the Pier.

Remembrance Sunday

The Royal British Legion West Wight Branch annual Service of Remembrance was held on Sunday 8th November at St James Square, Yarmouth.

Skate Park

The Skate Park at Moa Place which is looked after by both Totland and Freshwater parish councils had some investment this year and had DRUM a YouTube production company support a local lad who designed a piece of equipment for the Skate Park, they filmed and help put the design into action. This was a week-long event which concluded with the production company holding a competition.

Totland Regeneration Partnership ART & CRAFT ON TURF WALK

Due to poor condition of the Turf Walk, Councillors agreed not to run with this event last year. We are working with Natural England and the Badger Action Group and are hoping this will be sorted in order that the event will run on Saturday 27th August.

Keeping Totland Blooming

A huge thank you to Caryl Starr, Rachel Bradley and Joan Rearden, (sadly Joan passed away last week), and to all the volunteer planters for their continued support with the wonderful floral displays around Totland.

Police Beat Surgery

The Safer Neighbourhood Team continue to hold Beat Surgeries in the Parish Office, however, there are changes due to the Team and we will report on those when we know more.

The Parish Office continues to be very busy with residents calling in to look at plans, report problems and to express their concerns and complaints.