

**Annual Parish Meeting  
Chairmans Report  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017 @ 6.00pm**

The Parish council met eighteen times from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 as follows:  
Full Council & Extra Ordinary x 12 meetings  
Finance x 2 meetings  
Planning x 4 separate meetings  
And attendance of your Councillors has been as follows:-

Councillor	No. of Meetings	Resigned or Co-Opted
Vince Fennell (Chairman)	18	
Jan Cave (Vice Chairman)	17	
David Filby	15	
John Howe	15	
Iain McKie	5	
Steve Blamire	18	
Helen Wood	7	Co-Opted 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
Verena Wilson	6	Resigned 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2016
Sandra Allen	3	Co-opted 8 <sup>th</sup> August-resigned 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2016

I was elected in as Chairman for a second year by my fellow Councillors at the May meeting last year and I have once again 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.

We welcomed Sandra Allen for a short time and at that point she very active with the Memorial Hall. Sandra left after a short time for personal reasons. Verena Wilson left October 2016 due to work commitments with the West Wight Sports and Community Centre. Verena still helps with the planters and troughs especially round the War Memorial and Cokes Green area. Helen Wood was co-opted in November 2016, Helen was well known for her relentless campaigning for the return of the Sea Wall between Totland and Colwell and from this decided she wanted to be part of the Community and the Parish Council. I would like to thank all the Councillors for the contribution they made whilst in post. Totland Parish Council has 1 vacancy, however, elections are taking place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and there are 13 candidates for 8 seats.

#### **Newsletters**

We continue to keep in touch with monthly reports which are published with the Freshwater, Totland & Yarmouth Island Magazine available in the Parish Office and we continue to make these available on our website, a copy is also displayed in the Parish Office window. We have a Facebook page and throughout the year we will add information.

#### **Archives**

Lois Cooper has been working very hard with sorting the Parish Archives this year and the Freshwater & Totland Archive Group are close to producing a Totland Reflections similar to the Freshwater Reflections last year.

#### **Community Support**

Councillors agreed that Totland would continue to financially support the West Wight Sports and Community Centre for the foreseeable future and also agreed to support the Library. We supported the 1<sup>st</sup> Totland/Freshwater Scout Group with their Fun Day on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June by having a stall promoting the Parish Council and giving away dog poo bags to promote 'Pick it Up'.

#### **Summers Lane**

The Parish Council have been working with the Ward Councillor John Howe, Isle of Wight Council and Island Roads to reduce the speed on Summers Lane. The Parish Council suggested the speed reactive sign currently on Weston Road should be moved to Summers Lane where it was felt it would be beneficial. This has been agreed and we are waiting for this to take place. The Parish Council is also pushing for this to become a 20mph speed limit.

#### **Public Toilets**

Totland Parish Council clustered with Freshwater Parish Council last year and has agreed to continue this working partnership. We can confirm Island Cleaning Solutions will continue to clean these toilets until 2020, they will continue to receive a monthly deep clean and during the summer months there will be two visits per day. Last May we upgraded the lighting in both Totland Beach toilets and repainted all the wood work internally. This year we are looking to repair the guttering. The Community Mosaic Project will also enhance this block of toilets.

### **Sea Wall**

With the completed Sea Wall back in September 2015, the Community continue to enjoy this walk. The Parish Council and our Ward Councillor John Howe will continue to work with the Isle of Wight Council and ensure funds are available to maintain this beautiful coastal walk.

We are also working in Partnership with Age Concern and their 'Men in Sheds' project. They meet every Thursday 2-4pm at Turf Walk. This is an excellent project and the official handover will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

The Royal British Legion West Wight Branch annual Service of Remembrance was held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at All Saints Church, Freshwater. This years event will be held in Totland.

### **Skate Park**

The Skate Park at Moa Place which is looked after by both Totland and Freshwater Parish Councils had new skatelite installed to replace the worn out ramps, however, there was a problem with the fixing of these boards. The contractor was called back and all was repaired quickly and in time for half term. The Parish Council also made contact with a local business who has offered to help with future repairs and maintenance, this is a very good outcome for the Community. The Annual Competition is due to be held on bank holiday Monday in August this year.

### **Car Boot Sales, Colwell Common**

We ran our first Car Boot Sale on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016 which coincided with the celebration of Isle of Wight Day last year. This was very well received and Councillors agreed to run several more this year. The first was held 8<sup>th</sup> April and we will continue with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, weather dependant.

### **Keeping Totland Blooming & Best Kept War Memorial**

A huge thank you to Caryl Starr, Rachel Bradley and Verena Wilson and to all the volunteer planters for their continued support with the wonderful floral displays around Totland. We were delighted to once again win the Isle of Wight Best Kept War Memorial at Cokes Green.

### **Pier and Pier Café**

Reports of overflowing 'Biffa' bins had been reported to the office last year and we got these removed very quickly. Additional 'Dangerous' signs were requested as well. During March another Planning Application with the removal of conditions had been advertised and the Parish Council supported this. The conditions were for the removal of raising the road and adding steps and a lift. The owner stated the project was not financially viable if the road required raising. We are still waiting for a decision from this application from the Isle of Wight Council.

### **Police Beat Surgery**

The Safer Neighbourhood Team continue to hold Beat Surgeries in the Parish Office.

**West Wight Arts Association**, the Parish Office continues to sell tickets for these events.

**Foodbank**, the Parish Council is working with in partnership with the Foodbank and has a basket in the office if you can help.

Finally, the Clerk in the Parish Office continues to be very busy with residents dropping in to discuss planning applications, report local problems and to express their concerns. The computer suite continues to be well used and we will be looking to update these systems shortly. The office also offers a photocopying service as well.

In addition the Clerk has also been successful with a grant and has secured 5 defibrillators for the West Wight area. These will be installed shortly and training will be offered to all residents.

Next month the Elections will take place and we hope to continue this journey with some new Councillors who are equally passionate about Totland as your current Councillors are.

I would like to thank the Parish Clerk Helen Gibbs for all her work throughout the year and thank you also to Councillor John Howe our Isle of Wight Councillor for Totland.

Chairmans Report  
Vince Fennell