



News and Updates from Totland Parish Council January 2023

Councillors would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and safe New Year.

We start with clearing up a matter from the report made last month by Councillor George Cameron of Freshwater Parish Council. Councillor Cameron made a claim that Freshwater had always tried to keep good relations with Totland Parish Council as we had shared the skate park and MUGA with them and the Memorial Hall. He claimed that there was trouble ahead because Totland pulled out of the relationship with the skate park and MUGA; this is incorrect, and it was in fact Freshwater Parish Council Chairman who wrote to Totland stating that at their Parish meeting on 6th October 2020, an agenda item was tabled asking whether the Joint Committee system should continue or whether Freshwater Parish Council should take back these assets under their own control. All Freshwater Councillors voted to take back control over the management and future development of the two sites. This therefore ended the joint working between Totland and Freshwater Parish Council. Councillor Cameron also claimed that Totland Parish Council wanted to withdraw from the Memorial Hall, again this is incorrect. Totland residents will be aware the Parish Council has agreed to purchase the Church Hall on The Broadway and therefore asked Freshwater Parish Council if they would be interested in purchasing Totland Parish Councils share as they wanted to concentrate on the development in Totland. Totland Councillors felt this would be a great opportunity for Freshwater Parish Council and not about Totland withdrawing and costing them to raise their precept to allow for this. This would not happen until 2024 at the earliest. The report from Councillor Cameron was very disappointing to read and we hope this month he has corrected this for the residents of Freshwater.

2023/2024 Budget

Councillors met in December to discuss the budget for 2023/2024. It was resolved to continue supporting the West Wight Sports Centre, Community Connector and West Wight Nursery. The Beach Buoys would also remain at Widdick Chine and Colwell. The Church Hall and upgrade to the public toilets was included and there will be no increase to Totland residents' precept. The Responsible Financial Officer with Councillors worked hard to ensure there would be 0% increase and wanted to be able to do this during these tough financial times whilst still offering good value.

Warm Spaces at the Memorial Hall

Totland Parish Council have teamed together with the Memorial Hall and the Friday Market to offer a Warm Space between 8.30am and 12.30pm starting Friday 6th January 2023. There will be tea, coffee and biscuits available in the small hall. You will also be able to charge your phone, relax and have a chat with us.

St Saviours Y5/Y6 decorated the Cokes Green Christmas tree in early December and the Parish Council purchased new lights. Sadly, both the baubles and lights were vandalised on several occasions, and this had been reported to the Police.

****** NEW Emailing List ******

Councillors are building an emailing list for Totland residents in order that we can communicate with you quicker. Information will only ever come from Totland Parish Council and no junk email will be involved. If this is something you would be interested in joining, please email totlandmail@gmail.com with your name, address and postcode.

Defibrillator Locations: The Waterfront Bar, Needles Battery, Memorial Hall, Colwell Public toilet block and Totland Parish Office. All are easily accessible 24/7.

Recycling: Afton Marsh Recycling Centre – This is open and you can now take household rubbish, however, you **MUST** book a time online or over the telephone. You **cannot** just turn up; you will be sent away.

CONTACT DETAILS: Parish Clerk – Mrs Helen Gibbs - Telephone 01983 756028
Totland Parish Council, Winchester House, The Broadway, Totland Bay, PO39 0AX.
The parish office opening days and times are: Monday – Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm.
Email: clerk@totlandparishcouncil.org.uk or follow the Clerk on Twitter [@TotlandClerk](https://twitter.com/TotlandClerk).
The parish council also have a Facebook page which is updated regularly.

Ward Councillor Chris Jarman – email: chris.jarman@iow.gov.uk
Telephone 0790 500 2834

Ward Councillor Surgeries are held in the office on a Thursday between 9am and 10am.
Please check in advance to ensure this is going ahead should you wish to talk with Councillor Jarman.

Your Parish Councillors' are: Chairman Jan Cave, Vince Fennell, John Howe, Steve Blamire, Helen Wood, Gareth Wyre, Hilary Benns and Chris Jarman.