

TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Full Council** meeting of **TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 14th July 2025** at **6:00 PM**, at Parish Council Offices, The Broadway.

Those present :

Chairman : Mr G Wyre

Vice-Chairman : Mrs J Cave

Councillors : Mr V Fennell, Mr C Jarman, Mr C M Pipe, Mrs E Smith

Officers : Mrs H Gibbs

* Attended remotely

125/25 PUBLIC FORUM

There will be up to 15 minutes available for members of the public to speak, in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure, copies of which are available at meetings or on the website.

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public may be invited to speak on specific items during the meeting, but this is not a given.

Please note that Parish Council meetings are not public meetings, however, members of the public have a statutory right to attend meetings of the council as observers only. Public have no legal right to speak unless the Parish Council Chairman authorises them to do so.

Neither Councillors or the Clerk are under pressure to respond immediately to comments made during the public participation other than those which relate to items on the Agenda. Members of the public do not have a right to force items onto the Council Agenda.

One member of public.

126/25 APOLOGIES

To receive and accept apologies for non-attendance.

Councillor Blamire sent apologies - **ACCEPTED**.

127/25 CO-OPTION

To consider the co-option of a Parish Councillor due to a casual vacancy.

a. Candidates to introduce themselves and why they wish to become a member of the Parish Council. (Document circulated)

One candidate was in attendance.

b. To receive a proposer and seconder on each candidate followed by a vote.

Councillor Wyre proposed Mr Colin Marcus Pipe with Councillor Cave seconding - all agreed. Mr Pipe was welcomed to Totland Parish Council.

c. To sign the Declaration of Acceptance of office.

Mr Pipe signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office.

128/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in an item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

You must withdraw from the room when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.

None.

129/25 MINUTES AND UPDATES

To receive for approval minutes of the Parish Council meeting (s) as below:

Monday 9th June 2025 - **RESOLVED**

The minutes were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes. Proposed Councillor Jarman, seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed.

Councillor Cave to speak with the football club regarding the use of the football pitch on the Recreation Ground.

130/25 FINANCE AND GRANTS

a. To agree the approval of payments to 14th July 2025

APPROVED and **RESOLVED** to make payments by bank transfer/cheque/debit card as below: Proposed Councillor Wyre seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed.

£532.80	- Vectashield Pest Control - Mole treatment
£8.50	- Lloyds Bank - Bank charges
£139.48	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£28.89	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£15.38	- Home Bargains - Toilet rolls
£80.00	- West Wight Gardening Services - Village Hall strimmed and cut
£1650.00	- Natural Enterprise - Gift to Nature sites
£198.00	- Focus Plumbing and Heating - Legionella Risk Assessments
£67.49	- Amazon - Tree watering bags
£65.22	- British Gas - Utilities
£910.00	- V Sloper - Office rent
£47.11	- WightFibre - Telephone/Internet June 25
£1144.97	- Brighstone Landscaping - Grass cutting
£1632.00	- ERM - Insurance reinstatement costs, Parish property
£24.00	- High Glass - Window cleaning
£319.05	- Hampshire Flag Company - Beach flags
£216.00	- Playsafety - Annual inspections play and outdoor gym area
£20.00	- West Wight Gardening Services - Village Hall cut
£5032.92	- Public Work Loan
£5.88	- Biffa Waste - office
£104.16	- Biffa Waste - Colwell Common bins
£104.16	- Biffa Waste - Totland Recreation Ground bins
£15.38	- Home Bargains - Toilet rolls
£729.00	- ICS Southern - Public toilet cleaning
£693.12	- EDF - Utilities
£132.00	- R & R Containers - hire
£67.49	- Amazon - Tree watering bags (2nd order)
£29.34	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£13.34	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£38.72	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£88.81	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£53.82	- Yu Energy - Utilities
£16.03	- Wight Computers - Microsoft 365/Bitdefender Subscription
£1144.97	- Brightstone Landscaping - Grass cutting

b. To note: Chairman agreed to sponsor Table Tennis Tournament Trophy from his Allowance £20.00.

Councillor Fennell thanked the Chairman.

c. To approve the purchase of Watering Bags for Colwell Common trees £134.98 - **RESOLVED**

The trees on Colwell Common still require some effort, especially the ones replanted last year. The watering bags help with this as the tree bath tree bag is an ideal watering system for trees. The water bag is placed around the trunk like a jacket, closed with a zip and filled with water. Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed.

d. To approve the quotation from Hampshire Flag Company £270.00 + VAT - **RESOLVED**

Proposed Councillor Cave, seconded Councillor Fennell, all agreed to purchase the two flags for Totland and Colwell Bay.

e. To approve the annual boiler service at the Village Hall at a cost of £135.00 + VAT - **APPROVED.**

These works are required annually and has been completed with no additional works.

f. To agree to the purchase of VJ flags for the 15th August 2025 - £40.00 - **RESOLVED**

Lamppost roundals are now out as well and £5.00 each, usually order 20. Councillors agreed to the the two flags and 20 roundalls at a cost of £140.00. Proposed Councillor Fennell, seconded Councillor Wyre, all agreed. Councillor Jarman would find out what event is taking place in Newport for this.

g. To consider the purchase of 1 or 2 large buoys for the swim area at Widdick Chine £1500.00 - See quote

It has been reported to the Clerk that smaller boats are coming inside the swim area with some mooring to the buoys. These buoys should not be used for mooring and the boats should not be entering this area. Councillor Wyre has been checking over the last week and although there are many boats in Totland bay none were in the swim area. This area will continue to be monitored and if necessary add larger buoys in 26/27. Proposed Councillor Fennell, seconded Councillor Cave all agreed. **RESOLVED**

h. To agree the Marquee cost for the Christmas Fair 2025 - **RESOLVED**

The increase for this year is due to the clear panels in roof and has been discounted. Councillor Fennell proposed the quote be accepted with Councillor Cave seconding, all agreed.

131/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS, DECISIONS, APPEALS & TREE WORKS

a. To consider Planning Applications

Lawful Development Certificate for proposed single storey rear extension

Greenhurst York Lane Totland Isle Of Wight PO39 0ER

Ref. No: 25/00886/CLPUD

Comments: No objection

Proposed alterations and conversion of integral garage to form bedroom; proposed single storey rear extension to form garden room; new detached garage

3 Greenways Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0ED

Ref. No: 25/00852/HOU

Comments: No objection

b. To receive Planning Decisions

Proposed 5 beach huts

Land Adjacent Pilots Point Madeira Road Totland Isle Of Wight

Ref. No: 25/00530/FUL

GRANTED 7th July 2025

Proposal Demolition of existing outbuilding; proposed conversion of two residential flats into four residential flats to include new rear porch (revised scheme)

Application 25/00687/FUL

Hurstleigh The Broadway, Totland
GRANTED 9th July 2025

c. To receive Tree Work Applications - **NOTED**

T1; Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore). The tree on the upper side of the garden (south western) Crown raise to 5.5m to meet highway standards and balance on the garden side. 20% crown reduction to gently reduce the size of the tree.
T2; Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore). Tree situated lower part of the garden on the Northern side. Crown raise to 5.5m to meet highway standards and balance on the garden side. A 30% crown reduction to reduce the over extending crown.

Alberi 6 Woodlands Totland Isle Of Wight PO39 0FE
Ref. No: 25/00935/TW |

T1; Lime (Tilia cordata). Repollard lower sub canopy as marked on picture.

6 Cranstoun Close Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0JR
Ref. No: 25/00912/TW |

T1; Holm Oak (Quercus illex). Crown thin and crown lift bough overhanging public highway. Total approximately 30%, G1; Group of Elm (Ulmus procera). Fell

Communal Land Cranstoun Close Totland Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0JR
Ref. No: 25/00911/TW |

d. To receive Tree Work Decisions
None

e. To note Appeals
None

Enforcement Notice: An enforcement notice has been issued in Totland with further details to follow in due course.

132/25

REPORTS

To receive reports as follows:

a. *Isle of Wight Councillor for Totland & Colwell - Councillor Chris Jarman*

General:

Ward surgeries, Walking for Health etc all continue as normal.

Efforts to secure a means of enabling the identified Ukrainian dentists to work here as NHS-only continue.

I attend both Freshwater and Totland Parish Councils as a member of both and also some other Parish and Town Councils where relevant.

Charity events:

I donated from my monthly IWC allowance to Mountbatten IW, Friends of the Animals and various charities supporting children and aid in Gaza, Palestine.

Social Rent Housing on IWC Land:

Together with Cllr Peter Spink we have put substantial effort into driving forward the new IWC policy on use of IWC land for social rent housing rather than selling for commercial developers. It has been a long and challenging path with blockages under the Leader and Cabinet system. A draft version of the policy was finally brought under the new committee system with Officers acknowledging it did not comply with the Full Council resolution in January. Details of who directed this divergent version after 5 months of delay cannot yet be proved. A heavily corrected version was developed and passed last week, pending ratification at Full Council in July.

Military Road / Afton Down.

I was pleased to be able to support the numerous discussions and evidence gathering regarding the historical works and present dangers relating to the coastal road over Afton Down. A substantial amount of documents and correspondence has been collated and continues to be examined. The tenacity of Cllr Becca Cameron is to be commended, and as a result it seems IWC is finally taking action to bring forward tactical operative plans and to procure the necessary and urgent safety provisions including speed restrictions and safety barriers.

IWC Finances.

I have been part of a group of Councillors reviewing material related to 32 topics of IWC expenditures in relation to ring-fenced funds, both Capital and Revenue.

The first related to the funding is local Pantries where the grant had been 'top-sliced' and used to replace core revenue funding of CAB. I continued to query this in the committee meeting until the incorrect usage of funds was admitted. The funding for Pantries has since been restored.

The second relates to the use of £6.3m for the repair and maintenance of roads at Camp Hill. The result was a public disclosure of the expenditure to date and confirmation of the balance awaiting contracting since 2021/2. Further work on this topic is progressing.

Local and IW Demographics.

Having attended a series of online briefings, I received and shared the revised local demographics and forecasts from the Office of National Statistics. They represent a substantial departure for earlier projections, mirror the declining birth rate, note the high morbidity and declining population, demonstrate the accelerating aging of population and now incorporate assumptions for inward domestic and international migration to IW. Figures in the database and projections are available down to ward level.

IWC Constitution.

Significant evidence and external opinions have been provided to the IWC Monitoring Officer that the process of election of the Chair of IWC on 21st May was not lawful and the same therefore applying to actions which followed. Multiple requests have been made of the Monitoring Officer regarding clarification including the consequences of acting unlawfully following. As of 06Jul2025 the Monitoring Officer has not provided the clarification sought and continues to consider the matter and consequences.

Jim McMahon MP has directed that Local Authorities operating under a Committee system now revert to a Leader and Cabinet form of governance. Clarification is being sought but the expectation is that this will be from May2026. There may be some exceptions to those in transition to unitary bodies or in the process of being dissolved.

It seems likely that the planned revision of our new Committee system Constitution will be redundant and that rapid progress will be needed to rewrite a new Leader and Cabinet Constitution for IWC.

IWCouncillors receive limited details regarding the progress of 'Devolution' of powers up to a regional mayor and the topic of Local Government reorganisation.

Key updates from issues in May2025:

01Jun - I supported the Freshwater Open Gardens event

03Jun - I joined discussions at Quay Arts regarding further support for Ukrainian guests.

04Jun - Given no direction had been received from the IWC Monitoring Officer as to the lawfulness or otherwise of the Full Council appointments on 21st May the members of the Pension Committee agreed to terminate the meeting.

05Jun - A attended the inaugural meeting of the IWC Policy Finance and Resources Committee where my attempt to declare an interest following what I believed to be an unlawful appointment of same were shouted down by Cllr Jordan.

08Jun - Having gathered a group together, I supported the Day at the Bay organised by Freshwater Bay Residents' Association.

11Jun - I attended the Local Access Forum at Riverside Centre and spoke regarding the proposed around Island route, specifically against the sections along busy roads. These dangerous routings only arise due to the pressure of the Osborne Estate and Barton Manor to prevent coastal access past their locations. This route forms part of the King's coastal walk around our national coast and are now the only sections not agreed.

13Jun - I attended the 'State of the Island' debate at Riverside Centre. It was repetitive and I learned nothing new. The key outcome was that 'we' need a plan to regenerate the business sector and hence bring well paid jobs to the IW and to retain young people, but there is none of the substantial funding available to deliver that - also that there is no central government decision to change the commercial model of ferry operators.

16Jun - I attended and submitted various questions to the latest briefing on IW Digital Switchover. I have since circulated the slides. The key message is for those impacted to take action in the residential, charitable and commercial sectors. Landline and Broadband suppliers all seem to be involved and aware how to assist clients with advice and supply of hardware.

17Jun - I attended the IW Pension Board and provided the same declaration of interest regarding an unlawful process on 21st May.

26Jun - Attended Local Transport Policy session

30Jan - Attended briefing and preparation meeting on workplan for Policy Finance and Resources Committee

30Jan - Attended the excellent session by Cllr Becca Cameron at the Community Centre regarding the A3055/Military Road and specifically plans for the Afton Down section.

The Clerk asked what would happen if a low number of forms were completed due to the very lengthy and wordy document, it was felt people may give up trying to complete as the links were also not working well. Councillor Jarman has asked for numbers of abandoned attempts and encouraging people to pick up a paper copy from the library. This consultation is run by a 3rd party who are also gathering personal information and you can only complete online if you accept the cookies.

b. Open Spaces

The path remains closed from Stokes Green to Pier. We are having difficulty finding a contractor for what is seen as a small job.

Timebank bench being installed this week on Turf Walk. Other benches will also be repaired or removed.

c. Clerk

The Christmas tree has been ordered for Colwell Common and all necessary licenses have been applied for for the Christmas Fair on Friday 28th November 2025.

The Clerk with a few Councillors met with the developers representative for Weston School site and another meeting will be held soon to discuss their plans. Councillors were disappointed with the initial plan and have asked for the parking to be highly considered along with the number of properties.

d. ROSPA 2025

i. To note the ROSPA reports for the play equipment and outdoor gym equipment.

ii. To agree actions from report.

The reports have been read and noted and Councillors agreed that over the next couple of years money would be added to the budget in order to replace some equipment. In the meantime, the maintenance team has recommended caps which would fit on the wooden post of the playbuilder area and help keep the water out and stop them rotting. Estimated cost for the 20 post is £200.00. Councillors agreed to this along with the necessary works to keep the area safe and usable. Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennel all agreed.

Clerk to contact MCM who installed the equipment to see if they are able to tighten the zipwire.

133/25 VILLAGE HALL

a. To receive updates relating to the Village Hall.

The scaffolding is almost completed inside and out with the contractor commencing works. The ceramic plaques have been removed from the front of the building. The Totland Parish Council is in need of repair and the other two will be returned to the Church. Councillors were advised to consider the paint colour inside from white to magnolia. The beams inside were currently stained and would need preparation to paint them. Councillors agreed to go with the suggestion for magnolia and to leave the beams stained. If on completion Councillors wanted to have the beams painted a quotation for the preparation and works would be requested.

b. To agree an initial Committee for the setting up of the Village Hall.

All Councillors would be on the Committee and an initial meeting would be set up.

134/25 INSURANCE

a. To note Insurance Reinstatement costings for the Parish Council buildings.

The toilets and Village Hall are adequately insured, however, the Bowling Club site requires an increase of £400,000. Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell, all agreed. **RESOLVED.**

b. To discuss the future insurance for the Bowling Club/Scout Building

Currently the Bowling Club insure this building annually, April to March, and the value is less the the reinstatement value. Clerk to contact the Bowling Club and ask them to increase immediately and then from 1st April 2026 the Parish Council would insure the whole building and recharge back to them. The Bowling Club would remain responsible for the bowling green and contents.

Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell, all agreed. **RESOLVED.**

135/25 CORRESPONDENCE

To receive correspondence and agree responses as required.

Parking on Colwell Common - A resident has emailed the Clerk to complain about the inconsiderate parking on the Common and ask if Councillors would be able to remind people that the Common is not a car park and that it is used by the community for walking, walking the dogs, picnics and children playing. Could guidance on the Common be considered.

It has been noted that the Common becomes particularly busy on sunny days during the summer months. This has been a consistent pattern observed over many years. Importantly, this usage helps to alleviate the issue of cars parking in and around Totland, which can often lead to congestion and obstructions.

It should also be acknowledged that monitoring or enforcing restrictions on this use of the Common would be extremely challenging for the Parish Council. Additionally, the installation of signage to deter such activity would likely prove ineffective and logistically difficult and costly.

136/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No decisions can be made under this item, however, Councillors can bring any matters up at this point that do not appear on the Agenda.

If a decision is to be made this will be added to the next Agenda.

A fundraising event at Freshwater Court for the Hospice and Friends of the Animal will be held in August.

A showcasing event will be held by Start up Business around the Island before each Council meeting in County Hall. If there are any in Totland that would like to be involved please let Councillor Jarman know.

Meeting closed at 19:35

Signed Chairman

Date