TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 8th September 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

137/25 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.

Five members of the public were in attendance to discuss the recent notification from Hutchison 3G UK Ltd regarding permitted development rights for the upgrade of the existing telecommunications base station located at the corner of Alum Bay New Road and Headon Rise.

Concerns were raised over the lack of public awareness about the proposed works and the health risks. It was noted that all residents should be informed, especially as there are currently four existing masts in Totland and Freshwater, with an additional five sites expected to be released by December.

Members of the public expressed concern that the documents provided are difficult to interpret and should be simplified to ensure greater accessibility and understanding.

Councillors thanked the public for attending and for raising their concerns. It was confirmed that the Council would consider the matter during the meeting and advise of any outcomes or actions to be taken.

Members of the public left the meeting at 6.35pm.

138/25 APOLOGIES

To receive and accept apologies for non-attendance.

Councillor Blamire had sent apologies - these were accepted.

139/25 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.

140/25 MINUTES AND UPDATES

To receive for approval minutes of the Parish Council meeting (s) as below: Monday 14th July 2025 - **RESOLVED**.

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

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

141/25 FINANCE AND GRANTS

£2617.06

£24.00

£512.39

a. To agree the approval of payments to 8th September 2025

APPROVED and **RESOLVED** to make payments by banks transfer/cheque/debit card as below:

Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed.

Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed.		
£489.00	- HALC - Development Partners	
£15.35	- Lloyds Bank - Bank Charges 10th May - 9th June	
£65.22	- British Gas - Village Hall	
£5.88	- Biffa Waste - Office waste/bin rental	
£104.16	- Biffa Waste - Colwell Common bin empty	
£104.16	- Biffa Waste - Totland Recreation Ground bin empty	
£729.00	- ICS - Public toilet cleaning	
£629.41	- EDF - Final Colwell/Totland toilet invoice - end of contract	
£16.03	- Wight Computers - Microsoft 365/Bitdefender Subscription	
£67.49	- Amazon - Watering bags - trees Colwell Common	
£13.34	- YU Energy - Shed Cliff Road	
£88.81	- YU Energy - Colwell Toilets June 2025	
£53.82	- YU Energy - Parish Office June 2025	
£130.72	- Ricoh UK - Photocopier rental and usage	
£36.47	- Business Stream - Village Hall supply	
£10.97	- Lloyds Bank - Bank charges 10th June - 9th July	
£1440.00	- Dees Scaffolding - Village Hall	
£745.00	- Unique Windows - Village Hall	
£158.00	- South Coast Flag Poles - Service and repairs	
£20.00	- West Wight Gardening Services - Village Hall	
£206.24	- Everflow Water - Office and public toilet utilities	
£46.80	- Wightfibre - Parish Office July	
£17.40	- W Hurst - padlock Weston Field	
£190.07	- Dulux Decorator Centre - Village Hall	
£30.76	- Home Bargains - toilet rolls public toilets	
£318.57	- Jewson - Village Hall materials	

- Public Work Loan Board - repayment of loans

- High Glass - Parish office window cleaning

- Jewson - Village Hall materials

b. To agree the continuation of the Pest Control for Recreation Ground, Stokes Green and Turf Walk at £888.00 + VAT.

This is an annual maintenance contract and Councillor agreed to continue. Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Fennell all agreed. **RESOLVED**.

- c. To agree the purchase of 2 flags for the beach areas at a cost of £120.00. AGREED. Proposed Councillor Fennell, seconded Councillor Cave. Councillor Wyre would also like to have two flags for Rememberance Sunday, Councillors agreed.
- d. To note the local government pay award which will be back dated April 2025 **NOTED**. Councillor noted the increase of 79p/hour.
- e. To consider an extra wreath order on Rememberance Sunday to be placed at the War Graves Cemetery on Summers Lane.

This request was through residents who visit these graves regularly and felt they should also be recognised and remembered. Councillors agreed and an additional wreath will be order. Proposed Councillor Wyre, seconded Councillor Cave and a donation of £100.00 would be mae to Royal British Legion West Wight Branch. RESOLVED.

f. To consider extending the Beach Buoys at Colwell for another year at a cost of £2766.77 for 2026/2027.

2025/2026 will be the last year and this service includes the 4 yellow 200m buoys between Totland and Colwell along with the launching channel at Colwell. The lauching channel has not worked as it expected for various reasons; buoys incorrect colour to suggest this was a launching channel, too far out from slipway - the Parish Council were informed this was because the IOWC were not the land owners and

permission would not be given. Councillors do not want to extend this contract but agreed to ask for quotations from other suppliers. Buoys at Colwell wil not be in place for the 2026/2027 season and this will be reviewed.

g. To approve the purchase of 2 leisure batteries for Christmas tree lights - £148.36 + VAT - we are trying to use some solar panels this year with a timer.

AGREED.

h. To consider the report with regards to the projected increases for Totland Post Office for 2026/2027.

It was agreed this was becoming more difficult to support with an additional, possibily £5000.00, required to support the ongoing losses, total could be £12500/£13000 required to continue this service providing Godshill Parish Council also continue to support. If Godshill stops supporting Totland will automatically close as a sub post office.

Councillors had agreed not to increase the precept after the large increase to purchase the Village Hall, however this amount would need to be added to the precept and therefore an open day as soon as figures have been confirmed would be held seeking residents opinions. Information would be made available immediately so as many residents could be reached as possible. Clerk to request break down of Profit and Loss.

i. To approve the quotation for the tree works required on the Recreation Ground - £480.00.

Quotation accepted. In addition a limb from an oak tree which overhangs 19 Lanes End would be carried out at the same time.

142/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS, DECISIONS, APPEALS & TREE WORKS

a. To consider Planning Applications

<u>Lawful Development Certificate for demolition of conservatory; proposed</u> single storey rear extension

4 The Cronins The Avenue Totland Isle Of Wight PO39 0DL

Ref. No: 25/01170/CLPUD
Comments: No objections

Removal of chimney, addition of entrance walkway to front door, pitched roof to extension on north elevation, lean to on northern elevation, raised decking on western elevation, alterations to fenestration and external materials

Show more description

Stone Meadows Weston Lane Totland Isle Of Wight PO39 0HE

Ref. No: 25/00993/HOU
Comments: No objections

h Tawasiya Dlamaina Dasi

b. To receive Planning DecisionsApplication No: 25/00789/HOU

Location: Blue Skies Moons Hill Totland Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0HU **Proposal:** Proposed garden building to provide ancillary accommodation/art

studio/storage

GRANTED 23RD JULY 2025

c. To note Tree Work Applications

T1; Yew (Taxus baccatta) - Prune overall canopy approximately 25-30% to include a reduction of encroachment towards property.

Rose Cottage Heatherwood Park Road Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0EL

Ref. No: 25/01260/TW | Received: Mon 01 Sep 2025 | Validated: Mon 01 Sep 2025 |

Status: Registered

T1; Oak (Quercus robur) - Reduce overhang and encroachment to all 3 properties (1 Fairfield Park,15 Fairfield Park and 13 Fairfield Way) balance lower canopy to match; Total approximately 30%.

1 Fairfield Park Totland Isle Of Wight PO39 0FF

Ref. No: 25/01096/TW | Received: Wed 30 Jul 2025 | Validated: Fri 01 Aug 2025 |

Status: Registered

d. To note Tree Work Decisions

Rose Cottage, Heatherwood Park Road - Yew (Taxus Baccata)

Application No: 25/00658/TW

Location: Rose Cottage Heatherwood Park Road Totland Bay Isle Of Wight PO39 0EL Proposal: Yew tree; Remove the branches overhanging the roof on the north east side of the tree as detailed in photograph. Raise crown by 30%. Remove left side of tree

where trunk divides

Case Officer: Jerry Willis Decision: No objection

Decision Date: 31/07/2025

Application No: 25/00730/FUL

Town & Country Planning Act 1990

Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 25/00021/TPO

Rose Cottage, Heatherwood Park Road, Totland,

THIS IS A FORMAL NOTICE to let you know that on the date of this notice the council made the above Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

In simple terms, it prohibits anyone from cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilfully damaging or wilfully destroying; or causing or permitting the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of any of the trees described in the Schedule and shown on the map without the council's consent.

The grounds for making the TPO are: The IOW council received a request for Tree Works under Section 211, Tree works within a Conservation Area. The work requested has been objected to and following due process a Tree Preservation Order is being placed on the tree.

The tree is at risk from: Potentially Inappropriate Works
The tree can be seen from Heatherwood Park Road

e. To note Appeals - None

f. To consider the Hutchison 3G UK Ltd notification under the Electronics Code Regulations 2003 to utilise permitted development rights - Upgrade of existing telecommunications base station at corner of Alum Bay New Road & Headon Rise, Totland

Councillors acknowledged that permitted development rights are given for this and that they have no power to stop this or authority to prevent or block the development. Councillors will engage with the Totland Community and talked about the best way to get the information to them.

It was agreed Totland Parish Council would facilitate only and would contact Hutchison 3G and ask if they would make themselves available through an online platform to answer questions on this mast.

Information will be added to the Totland website along with links to websites for people to find out some answers for themselves.

Totland residents could send the Clerk there questions which would be forwarded to Hutchison 3G in advance of the meeting and residents would be required to attend the meeting.

Councillors agreed on the importance of ensuring that the local community is informed and given the opportunity to engage. The Council discussed the most effective ways to disseminate information to Totland residents.

It was agreed that Totland Parish Council would act in a facilitative role only. As part of this, the Ward Councillor would contact Hutchison 3G UK Ltd to request that a representative make themselves available via an online platform to answer residents' questions regarding the proposed upgrade.

- Information relating to the mast upgrade, including relevant links to external websites for further details, will be published on the Totland Parish Council website.
- Totland residents will be invited to submit questions in advance of the online session. These questions must be sent to the Parish Clerk, who will forward them to Hutchison

3G UK Ltd prior to the meeting. Residents wishing to have their questions addressed must attend the online session.

The session will be held in the Village Hall and an internet connection will be installed immediately with Wightfibre.

AGREED.

143/25 REPORTS

To receive reports as follows:

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

Monthly report from Cllr Chris Jarman JP to Totland Parish Council 08Sep2025

Charity events:

I donated from my monthly IWC allowance to Friend of the Animals, Save the Daisy Bus and local scouting groups.

Social Rent Housing on IWC Land:

None of the opportunities for delivery of social rent housing on IWC land assets have been brought forward despite the new policy Empowering Islanders championed and fought for. Likewise opportunities to deliver social rent housing on lands acquired through local auctions has also failed due to internal challenges regarding risk assessments by officers and lengthy procurement processes.

For the past two budget cycles we have secured £10s of millions of investment potential but none of this has been achieved.

Coastal Loss.

Some documents relating to coastal erosion have been disclosed but others determined by officers to be confidential. Following successful enforcement of a clause in the IWC Constitution I now have the opportunity to 'inspect' but not copy or publish the contents of other reports paid for 'by the public purse'.

Coastal management documents related to local options in the West Wight including development potential, have also been determined to be confidential and privileged'. These are directly relevant to Totland Parish Council and to local residents and I sought further details of the coastal plan as it pertains to Totland and Colwell at the Coastal Loss Forum (which I have finally secured membership of) last week. Copies of the respective presentations and plans are to follow.

Footpaths.

Finally resolved action to clear and reopen the footpaths at and below Amos Hill. Arranged for local residents to attend both to take away the logged up wood.

IWC Finances.

I previously reported on the analysis of financial issues including discrepancies between figures quoted by different Officers. e.g. At a recent Education and Children committee meeting we were informed that the departmental budget was projected to be £12.3m overspent but a subsequent report a few weeks later from finances stated just over £2m overspend.

Further financial data has been obtained for the Policy Finance and Resources Committee this week and published online.

Additional data was obtained on the Camp Hill expenditures and revealed by myself and other Members during public committee meetings.

Specific information has been obtained and disclosed to enable press articles (with comments by me and other Members) relating to the accelerating use of taxis for school runs paid for 'by the public purse.' In the past two years this has grown to £4 million:

https://www.countypress.co.uk/news/25432537.isle-wight-council-spends-millions-school-taxis/?utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwY2xjawMjjzhleHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHvwZbA98JtgHwjb40Y8haPTLtclRByUoZuqGmdJ8peSB7jQlaW_3wg9SmkBr_aem_jv437Q-w89aYZe7perG3pw#Echobox=1756740130

We have also continued to expose concerns relating to the return to increasing debt at IWC, the corresponding increase in interest liabilities and the impact on provision of local services: https://www.islandecho.co.uk/new-data-shows-isle-of-wight-councils-debt-has-risen-by-860000/? https://www.islandecho.co.uk/new-data-shows-isle-of-wight-councils-debt-has-risen-by-860000/? https://dbclid=lwY2xjawMijx5leHRuA2FlbQlxMQBicmlkETFPajvYUUt1TWtxcU1Dbk53AR7V4NyNTTTS2Buk72BkeHbYv4taTcJwDB6mxM3V0nAd33r7W1HX0bu4iLHvjQ_aem_q6Mh96wjEficGAT0XH7rwQ#google_vignette">https://dbclid=lwy2xjawMijx5leHRuA2FlbQlxMQBicmlkETFPajvYUUt1TWtxcU1Dbk53AR7V4NyNTTTS2Buk72BkeHbYv4taTcJwDB6mxM3V0nAd33r7W1HX0bu4iLHvjQ_aem_q6Mh96wjEficGAT0XH7rwQ#google_vignette

Local and IW Demographics.

Noting that the impact of our skewed local demographics has an impact on services from school provisioning through health services to Adult Social Care, I have sought to publicise the matter more forcefully at IWC and online.

The West Wight is especially impacted by the changing demographics with some of the highest proportion of older residents in the UK.

The topic includes the need for significant regeneration investment and a strategic approach to supporting local businesses that will bring full time well paid jobs to help retain young people and hence families. The announced 17% reduction in recent years of tourism only amplifies those concerns.

IWC Constitution.

The work on rewriting the IWC Constitution is starting in preparation for the establishment of a regional mainland based mayor and a combined authority of Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight. Few details are yet public but the decision whether to continue or to seek establishment of a **Devolved** Isle of Wight Unitary Council will come to IWC Full Council later this year. We have been promised an all options report and this has been chased during the summer but is yet to materialise. I have replied to the claims of additional funding should devolution proceed and my reply is attached below.

Key updates from issues in August 2025:

04Aug - Responsible Investment Workshop following challenges from IWC Officers to my motion on Israel-Palestine and IWC Pension Fund Investments.

07Aug - Visit at own expense to mainland authority regarding local government restructuring and pension fund status.

08Aug - Further support for our additional NHS only dentist.

09Aug - Inspection of additional cliff falls at Colwell and Linstone

10Aug - Supported Freshwater Horticultural Show

11Aug - Led West Wight Walking for Health Group

12Aug - Inspection of footpaths including conclusion of agreements for upcoming works and tree disposals.

13Aug - Supported Save the Daisy Bus meeting at Riverside and agreed to provide options in following days regarding finances and logistics.

13Aug - Review sessions of pension fund material from other authorities, LGA and Pension Forum.

14Aug - Ward Surgery

14Aug - Supported and donated to Green Meadows Coffee Morning.

14Aug - Pensions briefings on Israel / Palestine and reorganisation of local government pension funds.

15Aug - Stood down from regular sittings as a local magistrate and on the Family Bench dealing with Island children after almost 20 years of engagement and volunteering roles.

16Aug - Supported Day at the Bay.

18Aug - Led West Wight Walking for Health Group

19Aug - Hosted informal session of governance issues of IW Pension Fund at County Hall

19Aug- FPC meetings evening

21Aug - Ward Surgery

21Aug - Joint Member discussions re Floating bridge

21Aug - Attended IWC Economy Regen Transport and Infrastructure Committee

24Aug - Hosted Charity FundRaising BBQ event at my home for 110 guests in aid of Friend of the Animals and donation to Save the Daisy Bus.

25Aug - Led West Wight Walking for Health Group

28Aug - Ward Surgery

28Aug - attended online Environment and Community Protection Committee having submitted questions regarding coastal erosion.

30Aug - Supported Colwell Carboot sale

01Sep - Led West Wight Walking for Health Group

02Sep - Participated in the meeting at Albion, Freshwater Bay to resolve ownership, covenants and parking issues in the area.

02Sep - Attended the Environment Regeneration Transport and Infrastructure briefing to discuss Island wide regeneration and investment opportunities.

02Sep - Attended Freshwater Parish Council meeting - planning and main.

03Sep - Chaired IW Pension Fund Committee with main topics being the implications of the Government reorganisation proposals for local authority pension funds and investments in Israel 03Sep - Attended afternoon of additional pension fund training.

03Sep - Found myself reporting traffic chaos the the junction of the Avenue, Princes Road and Avenue Road and directing traffic from 16:45-19:15 until Island Roads and the SSE contractors arrived ahead of the police.

04Sep - Participated in Policy Finance sna Resources Committee with key issues of budget

preparation.

05Sep - Participated in Landslides and Coastal Loss Forum with key discussions on Colwell and Ventnor coastal erosion.

05Sep - Participated in group leaders meeting to update proportionality changes to IWC committee following the resignation of a member from IWC and the resignation of another from their group and party to become ungrouped (now 6).

06Sep - Supported Colwell Car Boot

Reply to claim of potential investment dividend from 'devolution'.

b. Open Spaces

- To consider registering land from Colmar Way to Court Road - footpath area
It was noted that the recent works were funded by a one-off payment from the Isle of
Wight Council, this funding will not be repeated. Therefore, should the path become
unsafe again in the future and be closed by Island Roads, it could remain closed.
Councillors agreed the closure of this path to Totland residents had caused a great deal
of problem and would like to explore the possibility of registering the first section of
the path bank. This decision will be considered once a quotation for ongoing
maintenance has been obtained.

If Councillors are satisfied with the quotation, a formal request to register the bank could be made. At that stage, the Council will initiate conversations with households that have direct access onto the bank, to discuss the implications and any future arrangements.

The Timebank bench has been installed on Turf Walk and looks great. Other memorial benches need works carried out and this will continue throughout the Autumn. The path leading from Stokes Green to the sea front remains closed.

c. Clerk

- Contact with Probabtion Services will be made to ask them if they could clear the stones from the esplanade over the winter. Land owners will also be asked permissions.
- It was reported that Corporate Stores had a supply of out-of-date face masks which they were giving away. Two boxes were successfully obtained and have since been donated to the PSA Blood Testing Team via Mrs Everson.
- Obstructions on paths Residents complained to the Clerk regarding the area around the bus stop and shop on The Broadway this has been reported and resolved.
- Overhanging vegetation on various roads also reported.
- Dog bins full throughout the summer and all reported the 3 dog bins without lids were finally replaced at the end of July.
- The clay 'Totland Parish Council logo roundall' has been given to Boris Moscroft to carry out some repairs, cost to be around £100.00.
- Totland Village Trust Ltd As agreed an application to strike off and dissolve this company has been made, this was accepted and currently following this process should be completed November/December 2025
- I have booked myself on some Digital and Data Complaince training on 16th October, this will include details about the new Assertion 10 on the AGAR for 2025/2026. Cost $\pounds 53.50 + VAT$.
- EDF Energy have now agreed to the closing figures and will be returning the money they have taken.
- Best Kept Village Awards Thursday 2nd October Cllr Wyre and Fennell to attend.
- d. ROSPA 2025 WORKS UPDATES
 Playbuilder works have been completed, and other works are now being carried out.
- e. Weston School Development To receive the notes from this meeting. It was noted that the attendance names were incorrect and should be updated. Cllr Fennell was not in attendance however Cllr Pipe was. Councillors agreed that as no application has been made there was little they could do for now.

Works continue and should be completed by the end of this month.

The Real Junk Food project will commence later this month on a Friday afternoon from 1pm.

The Community Connector is also looking at a possibe Uniform Swap for West Wight this could be something we could incorporate with the Friday afternoon project, however, we would struggle for storage which could be a problem. Councillors agreed this would be a great to do this on a Friday afternoon along side the Real Junk Food project, however, they cannot offer storage.

The next meeting would be to discuss hire charges and Terms and Conditions for hiring.

145/25 **ARCHIVE GROUP**

To receive a verbal report from the Clerk regarding the Archive Group It was reported that the Freshwater & Totland Archive Group are planning to vacate their current premises in July 2026, which is the earliest opportunity available for them to break their existing lease. The group currently requires approximately £10,000 per year to cover rent and utility costs, which is becoming increasingly unsustainable. In addition to premises-related challenges, the group is also in need of a new computer and photocopier to support their ongoing work.

They have submitted an application to become a registered charity and are awaiting confirmation and documentation. However, it was noted that charity status will not resolve their immediate need for a more affordable base of operations.

The group expressed their sincere thanks to Totland Parish Council for its continued support, particularly through funds raised via the car boot sales.

146/25 **INSURANCE**

- a. To accept the renewal for insurance due 14th September 2025 £3383.10 Councillors agreed to this renewal fee. **AGREED**.
- b. To receive updates on the Bowling Club Insurance.

The Bowling Club has increased their insurance and the Clerk is waiting for the documentation as evidence for this. They have also agreed that the Parish Council will take back the insuring of this building from 1st April 2026.

147/25 **CORRESPONDENCE**

To receive correspondence and agree responses as required. None

148/25 **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.

Councillor Cave asked about the troughs being moved.

This was ongoing

Councillor Cave has asked for the roundabout by the War Memorial to be cleared again. Councillor Fennell - will the War Memorial troughs be planted.

	This will take place as soon as possible.	
	Closed 8.30pm	
Signed Chairm	an	Date