



Newport Parish Council ANNUAL REPORT 2015 / 2016



General Information

PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Julie Jones-Evans (Chairman)
Lois Prior (V/Chairman)
Mary Craven
Tony Coburn
Debbie Dixcey
Roger Dixcey
John Hobart
Richard Hollis
Geoff Lumley
Terry Martin
Jane Perry
Matthew Price
Shirley Smart
Peter Whiteman

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OFFICERS:

Maxine Yule, Parish Clerk – 559119
Chris Hougham, Technical Officer - 525781
Alan Tombleson, Allotments - 07580032216
Laura Jones – Admin Assistant
Parish Office - 559119

Website - www.newportwight.org.uk
Facebook - www.facebook.com/newportwight
Twitter – www.twitter.com/newportiwpc

Chairman's Report April 2015 / March 2016

Hard to believe another year has gone by and I have almost reached the end of my tenure at Parish Council Chairman. The Council has gone through enormous change in these past two years and is becoming a more integral part of life for Newport, Carisbrooke and Gunville.

We are responsible for the public flower beds and planting and working with the Community Interest Company, Care in the Garden to maintain the schemes and local businesses contributing to the cost of them. Our long term plan is to have a sustainable planting scheme with drought resistant plants in alignment with our Green Town credentials. There were some teething problems regarding the planters around the Minster and we decided to take these back in house and so the square was looking it's best for the Remembrance Day parade/service (I planted them up myself the day before)

Our first year of responsibility for Newport Victoria Recreation Ground has been a success with many of the repairs and renewals having been completed and thanks must go to Councillors Whiteman and Dixcey for all their hard work related to the pavilion and grounds. Our Summer Fair and grand opening was slightly blighted by the weather but was enjoyed by those that came. It was a proud personal moment for me having my grandfather, Neil Shutler cut the ribbon, he first played as a child in 1922 at the Rec and many years beyond for Newport Cricket Club of which he is a Life Vice President. As a local baker, his cricket teas at the Rec were legendary in both their quality and quantity! The decision to hold our Spooks and Sparks fireworks display to the Rec was carefully considered given the close proximity of residents, but Jubilee Fireworks overcame this issue and did us proud (only a small bit of damage to the cricket square) and the event was a huge success. We all pitched in and were so happy to see so many residents arrive and enjoy the display. Lots of lessons were learned and I am sure that this year's event on 5th November will be even better (though of course a blessing from the weather gods always helps!)

The transfer of the public toilet estate to the parish has been a huge undertaking but one we were expecting. Carisbrooke and Post Office have been fairly straightforward but Seaclose and South Street more difficult due to the Isle of Wight Festival and future site developments. However we have negotiated and weighed up the benefits to the community against the long term aspirations of the IW Council. This coming year we can look at how to deliver an improved service for residents and to make the most of these locations.

It has been good to make some steady progress on 3 of my own projects. The memorial to the victims of the 1943 bombings in Newport is due to be completed in May, on the site of Dr Stratten's house which was destroyed on that morning. My mother was a baby living across the road from the park in Clarence Road and their house narrowly missed being hit, so again a personal side to this story. This memorial was the suggestion of Mrs Pascoe who lost her mother that day, so it is a real pleasure to bring this to fruition, for her and the other Newport families who were affected. The youth shelters you will all be pleased to hear are getting very close to being installed and having the extra grant funding from Awards for All and the Isle of Wight Council has certainly helped expedite matters.

The first visitors sign to assist visitors in Newport and help address the proliferation of A Boards in town has just had its planning consent and we are working with 2 Newport business Solent and AJ Wells who will be designing and manufacturing the sign which will be located at the top of Holyrood Street.

We are very fortunate to have a talented team working for our Council, adapting and rising to these new challenges most ably. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maxine, Chris, Laura and Danny for their hard work and good humoured attitude.

Julie Jones-Evans, Chairman Newport PC

Parish Council Accounts

The table below follows the receipts and payments for 2015/16 financial year; these are provisional accounts that have not been audited. Local electors will have the opportunity to question the auditor about them and full details of how this can be done will be posted on the parish council website. The Council Tax precept for 2016/17 is £296,298 which equates to £19.97 per household at Band D for the year or 38p per week.

Any questions regarding the accounts can be directed to me by telephone at the parish office on 559119 or email clerk@newportwight.org.uk
Maxine Yule, Clerk and Responsible Financial officer

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016		
31 March 2015		Current year ended 31st March 2016
RECEIPTS		£
273,473	<i>Precept</i>	156,035
4,927	<i>Grants</i>	37,545
191	<i>Repayments and contributions to works</i>	17,751
6,704	<i>Allotments</i>	7,349
2,290	<i>Ticket sales and stalls from events</i>	5,710
4,233	<i>Parkhurst dog bins transfer</i>	0
0	<i>Clatterford Recreation Ground Use</i>	600
8,344	<i>VAT Refund</i>	11,197
1,119	<i>Bank Interest</i>	386
301,281	TOTAL INCOME	236,573
PAYMENTS		£
73,116	<i>General Administration incl. salaries, training and audit</i>	78,376
16,769	<i>Payments incurred due to previous payroll provider</i>	0
1,923	<i>Communications</i>	2,907
23,950	<i>Maintenance of Dog Bins, Xmas Lights, and Summer Flowers</i>	26,874
13,688	<i>Allotments</i>	12,321
36,914	<i>Projects including devolved services</i>	89,010
4,984	<i>Meeting Room Hire and Parish Office</i>	4,933
2,600	<i>Donations to Community Activities</i>	13,088
2,437	<i>Elections</i>	1,913
176,381	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	229,422
YEAR END TOTALS		£
71,784	<i>Balance at 1st April 201</i>	196,684
301,281	<i>Add total receipts</i>	236,573
176,381	<i>Deduct total payments</i>	229,422
196,684	BALANCE AT 31st MARCH 2016	203,835

Meetings

The full Parish Council meet on the second Monday of the month, in every month except August, when no meeting is held. We rotate the locations around the wards and start at 6.45pm. Members of the public are able to participate in meetings and there is 15 minutes public question time at the start of every meeting, where issues can be raised that are not on the agenda.

The Planning Committee meet once a fortnight on a Thursday at 6.30pm at the Riverside Centre. Members of the public and press are welcome at all meetings.

Parish Councillor Attendance at Meetings

Of the 11 scheduled full council meetings held between 1st April 2015 and 31st March 2016 Parish Councillor attendance was as follows:

CURRENT COUNCILLORS:

Tony Coburn - 10	Mary Craven – 11	Debbie Dixcey – 9
Roger Dixcey - 6	John Hobart – 10	Richard Hollis – 8
Julie Jones-Evans – 11	Geoff Lumley - 8	Terry Martin – 11
Jane Perry – 8	Lois Prior – 11	Matthew Price - 10
Shirley Smart - 10	Peter Whiteman - 10	

Questions relating to this report can be addressed to any of your Parish Councillors or the Parish Clerk.