



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 8th JULY 2025 AT 6.30PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL HALL,
FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors Turan, Bamford, Chaucer, Cox, Hobbs, Jarman, Pakel

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Prior to the Council meeting commencing there will be a public forum of up to 15 minutes, if necessary, when there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Parish Council regarding matters on the agenda. – One member of the public raised a question.

1. APOLOGIES: Councillors Armstrong, Betts, Hinton, Seely, Whistance, Whyte

2. INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL BOBBY PC MATTHEW ROWLANDS - DEFERRED

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary (personal) interests relating to items on the agenda. **NONE**

4. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

To receive and consider granting any written requests from Members for dispensations in respect of disclosable pecuniary interests. **NONE**

5. GRANT APPLICATION FROM WEST WIGHT SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

To consider and approve the grant application from West Wight Sports and Community Centre. (**GRANT APPLICATION**) – Clare Griffin (Manager – West Wight Sports and Community Centre) gave a presentation ahead of the finance committee meeting on the 15th July 2025.

6. MINUTES

To agree the minutes of the Freshwater Parish Council meeting held on 3rd June 2025 (**PAPER A**). **AGREED (EC/CJ)**

7. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

To receive a written update from Ward Councillors (**WARD REPORT**)

Becca Cameron's Ward Councillor report

I officially became a County Councillor on Tuesday 6th May so here is my report of the first 6 weeks.

It has been a very full-on month with training and meeting people and lots of new exciting projects.

Bus Stop and Pavement: I managed to get the pavement for the bus stop on Victoria Road/Everard Close onto the Island Roads works schedule for next year. The locals have been trying to get this pavement built since 2010. I met with the planning department and island roads with all my documents and photos and they were so helpful. We all agreed an action plan. The next step will be a design statement which includes a safe crossing area before the scheduled build. The locals are very happy and said it's going to make so many people's lives easier and safer.

Military Road: I met with a lead geologist on the Military Road to see the extent of our latest cliff falls and to see how close the cliff edge to the road now. The flashing cliff warning lights along the Military Road haven't seen to be working during all our latest cliff falls. I had spoken to the lifeboat station and police to try and find out who gets any warning and neither did. So, I contacted the council and was told that the early warning system (EWS) installed at Afton Down in 1997 became redundant sometime before 2013, following the failure of the original extensometers. A stabilization scheme was undertaken in 2003 along two sections of the road, which included the installation of 44 inclinometers. These do form part of the PFI contract and are monitored by Island Roads on an annual basis. There are additionally six extensometers, and currently there is no sign of movement detected within these. Given that we have had several large cliff falls but no movement was detected in the current extensometers. Given the past history with Ventnor, their sensors failed before they had a cliff fall and no warning was given. I have called a public Military Road meeting for 7.15 pm on Monday 30th June at West Wight Community Centre. Hopefully we will get some answers to our questions. I have been asking the Council many questions and looking into the stabilization history of the Military Road to find out what the chances are of saving the road.

Heritage Centre –They are now being changed to a charitable status so hopefully they can apply for future funding. I was present when the Heritage Centre was discussed at the parish meeting and ideas put forward to support them. Please use the West Wight Heritage Centre as they need the community support.

I was asked to be on the steering group by a local film producer who is organizing a local festival down here, called West Wight CultureFest. It's going to be a festival of our cultural heritage as well as a celebration of the potential of the creative industries in 2025. So, another good way of promoting our local cultural heritage while exploring work opportunities for our youngsters in the creative industry.

Painting of the wall next to the green on Gate Lane in F/W bay – I am looking into doing something with the Freshwater Bay wall – nothing garish just something better than dirty white paint. Anna Keen has volunteered to produce a mural. Bob Seely has offered to help along with a local resident to help produce a plan.

Lifeboat asked for help with their new training rooms. We also agreed to collaborate with Adam Tucker to set up a talk on suicide prevention/mental health.

I have asked that the speed signs are changed, to slow people coming down to the bay area from the Military Road before they get to the car park. I have also asked for the wall opposite the Albion be repaired.

Southern Water agreed to supply more water butts for our residents and to make some

changes to our infrastructure. I spoke to Southern Water on the 22nd of May and they are making the adjustments I asked for. They are adding a computer system to our storage facilities at Madeira Road, School Green Road, Norton Green, Kings Manor Farm and the Institute at Yarmouth. This will enable all the storage facilities to talk to each other to prevent spills. They are also going to finish what they started and supply water butts to those houses that wanted them but didn't get them in our area. I have collated a list of households that want them and passed the list on to Southern Water. SW have said they plan on installing the butts in July and August. SW are going to contact the Parish councils to ask the residents if anyone else needs water butts. I have asked Southern Water to the FBRA meeting so he can update the residents on the results.

I attended the West Wights Village Association to put forward a question to our MP Richard Quigley re housing quotas. I explained that we are not being NIMBY's but realistic and told him how these proposed developments will destroy our area forever. I explained the lack of infrastructure we have, the lack of social resources for our current residents, and the devastation to our wildlife and protected species. I pointed out the unnecessary unaffordable houses that need to be built to produce a few affordable ones. I asked him if he was going to fight for us and stand up to his government before the Island is ruined forever? He seemed to understand and agree and said the housing quotas were down to the Council and not his government. I also asked for the data for council house swaps to be removed from the housing needs register and to be moved to a separate register as it is misleading.

At the end of May I made my inaugural speech at the IOW Council meeting. I spoke to try and save our West Wight from mass planning developments. I had just 3 minutes to get all our relevant points across. I didn't vote for the proposal of 703 houses because it will devastate the area and we haven't the infrastructure to cope. If we don't reach the Island housing target, I think the government will take away our protection of our wildlife and green fields. I chose to vote to take the Government to court, joining with all the other councils, to oppose these aggressive development targets, targets that we can't possibly deliver - if we can't deliver them, we then lose all our protection of our development plan anyway. I have to say a big thank you to Chris Jarman and Peter Spink for their hard work in fighting for our area.

I attended the Councils Scrutiny Committee re cut of funding to the pantries from the government's poverty fund.

I managed to help a local couple obtain accommodation for in Sandown; the man has just had his leg amputated and his wife is deaf and has a hearing dog and they were being made homeless. I collaborated with the social services/housing and Adam Tucker. In my search I visited care homes/local accommodation sites. Inglefield had spaces but couldn't allow a dog. They are now on the waiting list for Green Meadows unless a more permanent suitable place can be found.

W Hurst and Sons: I wrote to Jevon Kennedy and to the board of Hurst to respectfully request that they reconsider any potential plans to close Hurst at Freshwater. This wonderful shop has been our premier hardware and home improvements establishment for over 38 years. It is a vital part of our community, providing not only tools, paints, screws, kitchenware, light bulbs, gardening products, key cutting and so many DIY products but also the friendly staff who are always there to give friendly professional advice and help. The loss of this shop will be devastating to our community and to the 4 workers that are employed there. I asked locals to email their requests to keep this shop open to jk@hurst-iw.co.uk and address it to Jevon Kennedy. I also asked the locals to use the shop and

increase footfall. I spoke to Jevon and he emailed me “said the power of the community is a strong one” “Great news regarding our Freshwater Branch!!!! “We will review the financial viability of our Freshwater branch in January 2026. Despite expecting many concerns being voiced, the Community spirit and support received has been overwhelming. We have reviewed all suggestions and ideas that were put forward and have found a way to keep open for the short-term at least”

Jevon followed up with an invitation “THANK YOU for the making a difference to help keep the Freshwater branch. We would like to say THANK YOU in person and we invite you to the following event:

W Hurst & Son (IW) Ltd Community Open Evening

Wednesday 30th July 18:00 – 20:30

EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE COMMUNITY OF FRESHWATER

W Hurst & Son

The colleagues at W Hurst & Son Freshwater – John, Chrissy & Amanda will be on hand and the Managing Director – Jevon will also be there.

So, fingers crossed, if we all continue to use the shop, we will hopefully get to keep it. Well done to everyone that wrote in and shopped.

I promoted the Open Studio's in our area and met the wonderful talented local artists.

I helped at the Freshwater Bay Open Gardens Sunday. The sun shone, the gardens looked beautiful and it was very well attended. They raised a grand total of £3300 for West Wight Dementias group and choir. I also attended the big Lunch at Freshwater Bay.

Meet with Adam Tucker (Our Place) to see what we can do together. I attended “meet the Councillors” at Shalfleet parish.

I attended Paddle out protest with SASlow in Ryde to support the protest against the sewage pollution.

I went to Dimbola to see their summer exhibition and Farringford to see their wonderful gardens.

I attended a meeting with Creative Island/local artists/community members to formulate some future ideas for the West Wight. Following on from that meeting Francis and I met with Sally Chauser to discuss using Calborne Mill as an education center for our children. I am also going to see if I can get the Circus Skills to our area for the kids.

I attended an informative talk on bipolar to get a better understanding of mental health.

I joined a meeting to discuss the digital switchover. BT is transitioning from the traditional analogue phone network (PSTN) to a digital one, called Digital Voice, by the end of January 2027. This means the current copper-based landlines will be upgraded to internet-based services. Customers will need to switch to Digital Voice to keep their landline service. Chris Jarman and I are going to have someone from BT to speak to our residents so they know the implications.

I have attended a planning training session and my first council committee meetings.

Francis Turin and I trimmed the entrances to the doctor's surgery from Moa Place car park.

This seems to be an area not owned by anyone. We also reported some of the overgrown footpaths together. There have been a number of reports of overgrown/closed footpaths/pot holes - The best way and quickest way to report these is to take a photo and report it immediately to FixMyStreet.

I am going to hold a surgery monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at Our Place at West Wight Community Centre. So my first surgery will be on Tuesday 24th June from 10.30am-12.30 pm.

Becca Cameron
Ward Councillor for Freshwater South
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Councillor Jarman gave a written update on Tuesday morning and an update regarding the Birch Close appeal – see appendix 1.

8. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. To receive a written update from the Clerk ([PAPER B](#)).

Clerk's Report July 2025

Proposal to Suspend Standing Orders and Terms of Reference to elect chair and vice-chairs of committees

As you may be aware there was some confusion at the annual meeting and some committees did not have their chairs and vice-chairs elected. This went against the standing orders and committee terms of reference. To enable the Councillors to elect these positions we will need to suspend the standing orders and terms of reference for part of the full council meeting. If it is decided not to vote for the suspension we will not be able to hold meetings for the committees with no chair or vice-chair.

Spinfish Culvert

The works have now been completed. They took a little longer than planned as the engineers found some sewage pipes when digging that were not on any plans. They had to dig around these pipes by hand which took a lot longer. The rain also delayed the work as the water table kept rising.

Stroud New Play Equipment

The new play equipment has now been installed ready for the children to enjoy over the summer.

Moa Place Phone Box

We are waiting for delivery of some Perspex glass to replace the broken glass squares and make it water tight.

Freshwater Bay Promenade Shelter

The shelter has now been painted and it is looking lovely. There have been many positive comments in the community.

Parish Van

We have purchased the new electric parish van. The old van has been sold for £800 and has been shipped to Africa.

MUGA Lights

When the new lights were being fitted it was discovered some serious issues with electric wiring. We have contacted all Councillors about this requesting additional fund approval to rectify this.

Water Bottle Filling Station Grant – Gate Lane Toilets We have been successful in applying for a grant from Sea-Changers to supply a water bottle filling station to be fitted at Gate Lane Toilets where the current water tap is located. The grant amount is just under £2,500 and covers the supply of the product only by their preferred supplier. This will hopefully be supplied and fitted by the end of July.

9. CHAIRS REPORT

To receive a report from the Chair, Cllr Frances Turan ([**CHAIRS REPORT**](#)).

This has been a very interesting month for me.

On Saturday 7th June, I joined our ward councillor Becca Cameron, on an open day at Shalfleet Town Hall. This was an inspired exercise in reaching out to and connecting with the local community. It was completely informal, inclusive and enjoyable. Something that could perhaps strengthen our local standing, as public participation in Parish Council business is essential.

Becca and I then moved on to Calbourne Mill where we had arranged to meet with Councillor Sally Chaucer. We spent a pleasant couple of hours, discussing her vision for the future of the mill, and her determination to encourage the younger generation to engage in the appreciation and protection of our environment and heritage.

Sunday June 8th was the Freshwater Bay Fun Day arranged by FEBRA. This was a very informal relaxing afternoon, appreciating the wonderful views in the company of friends.

Monday June 9th, I along with fellow councillors, attended a Creative Island event at Freshwater Library. This was facilitated by councillor Pakel and allowed our very passionate and highly talented artistic community to express their hopes and aspirations.

Tuesday June 10th, I joined our clerk for a meeting with Claire Griffin and her team at the West Wight Sports Centre. The discussion was honest, friendly and down to earth. Claire presented the many and varied services currently provided, and their future challenges and objectives. A very informative meeting indeed.

Saturday June 21st, I accompanied Councillor Cameron along with Councillor Chaucer, on a visit to on a visit to Kids Nature Zones in Blackwater. There we met Angela, a very determined, passionate, powerhouse of a lady whose brainchild this was. She dedicates her every waking moment to overseeing this child orientated, educational, nature awareness facility. It would be nice to raise the profile of this venture as I am convinced that the children of Freshwater would enjoy and benefit from the experience.

On a personal note, I was privileged to host a mother red legged partridge and her nine tiny chicks for a few days last week. They appeared in my front garden one morning but in no time at all the chicks had suddenly disappeared. They had played follow my leader and tumbled into a four-inch drainage pipe. The mother calmly watched as I knelt and retrieved them. After covering the pipe with a brick, I left plenty of food and water and left them alone. A few days later, after a couple of similar hair-raising incidents I could no longer see or hear them, I can only hope she and her chicks have found the adjacent field.

Date for your diaries, Monday 30th June, Military Road Meeting, 7-9pm sports centre

10. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

To receive any questions from Members concerning the business of the Parish Council or about a matter affecting the parish but which is not included on the agenda for the meeting or is not otherwise before the Council. **DEFERRED**

11. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive an email from the West Wight Heritage Centre ([**PAPER C**](#))

Email Correspondence Received 25th June 2025
Freshwater and Totland Archive Group

Dear Chairperson & Committee

As most of you are aware we are currently based in Shop Premises in Avenue Road.

Known as the West Wight Heritage Centre, in July 2024 The Archive Group, with the best of intentions, signed a five year lease for the shop from the owners Mr and Mrs David Barwell. This Lease Agreement with rent, utilities, and insurance is currently costing well in excess of eight thousand pounds per annum. Added to this any maintenance costs that may occur, as we have no regular income to furnish this expenditure it is totally unsustainable for the group to continue with the lease.

We approached the owners regarding the lease break clause intending to give the six months notice, as required, but a misunderstanding of the wording means we are committed to stay until July 2026. This was confirmed after discussions with a Solicitor. We then explained to the solicitor that our financial situation is dire and that after our next rent and expenses outgoings we will have just a few pounds left, possibly not enough to pay the utilities. She said as we are a LTD company we could file for Insolvency, or we could apply for charity status as soon as possible and if accepted could apply for funding wherever possible. Therefore we have made an application to the charities commission to become a CIO - Community Interest Organisation. Hopefully, if our application is successful, it will open up the opportunity for the group to apply for grants and donations. We have been fortunate these last few months to have received some small donations from the Rotary Club, The Freemasons, Totland PC and a generous donation from a local Business man, for which we are very grateful. This has just managed to keep us ticking over.

Our takings over the counter in the shop and membership fees are miniscule so contribute very little. The group are currently running six car boot sales on Colwell common (weather permitting) with permission of Totland Parish Council who also agreed to waive the hire fee. This and hopefully running our next quiz night will earn us a little bit of money but nowhere near enough. In the past most of the running costs of the Archive Group has been borne by a few of its dedicated members who give up their time and money to finance and save this incredible archive. As Chairman I feel this is no longer acceptable for this to continue as these retired members rely on their pensions as their only income.

The group is very determined to continue with this work to preserve and record this very valuable Archive for the community and future generations also to make it available and educational to all interested parties, however this can only be achieved with the necessary finance to enable us to move forward, once we have been able to address our current issues we hopefully would like to present the PC with costings for projects that we wish to pursue in the future and hopefully with your help we can continue to achieve our aims.

Yours Colin Piper Chairman Freshwater And Totland Archive group

12. COUNCILLOR MOTION

To consider the motion proposed by Councillor Whyte. ([PAPER D](#)) - DEFERRED

13. FINANCE

- i. To approve the Investment Policy ([PAPER E](#)) APPROVED (CJ/AB)
- ii. To approve the Reserves Policy ([PAPER F](#)) APPROVED (EC/CJ)
- iii. To approve the updated Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee ([PAPER G](#)) APPROVED (CJ/AB)
- iv. To receive and approve the updated Financial Regulations ([PAPER H](#)) APPROVED (EC/CJ)
- v. To receive and approve the list of payments for the periods ending 30/06/2025 ([PAPER I](#)) TO BE PROVIDED DURING THE MEETING APPROVED (CJ/EC)
- vi. To review and approve a list of the current Direct Debits and Standing Order payments in place for the council ([PAPER J](#)) APPROVED (EC/CJ)

14. REAFFIRM OR APPROVE OFFICERS PROPOSAL FOR THE PATIO AREA

If approved via email Councillors to reaffirm the decision for the patio area at the Memorial Hall. If no previous approval given Councillors to approve the officers recommendation for the patio area at the Memorial Hall. ([PAPER K](#)) APPROVED (C/AB)

15. REAFFIRM OR APPROVE OFFICERS PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL ELECTRICAL WORK ON THE MUGA LIGHTS

If approved via email Councillors to reaffirm the decision for the additional electrical work for the MUGA Lights. If no previous approval given Councillors to approve the officers recommendation for the additional electrical work for the MUGA Lights. ([PAPER L](#)) APPROVED (CJ/AB)

16. CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR

To approve the co-option of the new councillor in the South Ward Freshwater. ([PAPER M](#)) – Becca Cameron was co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Freshwater South Ward. APPROVED (SC/CJ)

17. TERMS OF REFERENCE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

To approve the amendment of the Terms of Reference to increase the number of Councillors on the committee from 3 to 4. ([PAPER N](#)) APPROVED (AB/CJ)

18. COLWELL BUOY IMPROVEMENTS REPORT

To approve the proposed upgraded buoy system at Colwell Bay. ([PAPER O](#)) APPROVED (EC/CJ)

19. PROPOSAL TO SUSPEND THE STANDING ORDERS AND COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO ELECT CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR POSITION – DEFERRED TO THE AUGUST 2025 FULL COUNCIL MEETING

- i) Planning Committee Vice-Chair Election
- ii) Land Management and Assets Chair
- iii) Land Management and Assets Vice-Chair
- iv) Personnel Committee Chair
- v) Personnel Committee Vice-Chair
- vi) Library Committee Chair – reaffirm decision to elect Councillor Whyte as Chair.

The meeting ends at 8.04pm

Should anyone require a copy of the minutes in a large print format please contact the Parish Council.

**Monthly report from Cllr Chris Jarman JP to Freshwater Parish Council of
08Jul2025**

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.

Cllr Chris Jarman JP
Independent Elected Councillor for Totland & Colwell Ward
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Birch Close Appeal Update 07Jul2025

The deadline for the LPA statement and interested party comments to the Planning Inspectorate is Wednesday 16th July. IWC Planning Department position continues to be as previously advised, which is that as we are of the opinion the consent has been invalidated there can be no condition to appeal.

The deadline for final comments (open to the appellant and LPA only following copying of our Statement and interested party letters) is Wednesday 30th July.

Following this, the case will be passed to an inspector for site visit (likely to be unaccompanied by either party) and determination. Although it's worth highlighting that appeal cases are currently taking over several months from validation to decision.

The dates and status for this case (Planning Inspectorate Reference APP/P2114/W/25/3367146) can be followed on the Planning Inspectorate's Appeals Casework Portal via the following link:

[Reference: APP/P2114/W/25/3367146](https://casework.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/casework/APP/P2114/W/25/3367146)

The application and appeal documents can be viewed via the 'search for a case' facility on the Council's website – Application Reference [24/01230/RVC](#), Appeal Reference [25/00019/REF](#).