



News and Updates from Totland Parish Council September 2026

🔥 Fire Risk Warning 🔥

We were saddened by the fire at Headon Warren on 23rd July 2026, which is believed to have been started by a campfire, as evidence of a fire site was discovered by crews attending the incident. The fire destroyed approximately nine hectares of heathland and presented significant challenges for the emergency services due to the remote nature of the location. At the height of the incident, around 80 firefighters were involved in tackling the blaze.

Totland Parish Councillors would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service along with others brought in from the mainland, for their tremendous efforts in bringing the fire under control, as well as to the local businesses and organisations that provided valuable support to the crews throughout the incident.

Totland is fortunate to have an abundance of beautiful open spaces, including our beaches, cliffs and woodland areas. During this period of exceptionally hot and dry weather, we once again ask residents and visitors to refrain from lighting fires or using disposable or portable barbecues in these public spaces.

By taking these simple precautions, we can all help protect our local environment, wildlife, property and communities from the devastating impact of wildfires. Together, we can help keep Totland safe and protect the places we all enjoy.

Please think of others and help protect our community by:

- ✓ Not lighting fires or BBQs in public open spaces.
- ✓ Taking all litter home with you.
- ✓ Disposing of BBQs safely and responsibly.
- ✓ Remaining vigilant and reporting any fire concerns.

Car Boots – Colwell Common

2026 Car Boots – These continue to run every Saturday through to the end of September, weather permitting. As long as it is not raining the Car boots will go ahead and these are supported by 5 local groups; West Wight Men in Sheds who operate from the Recreation Ground Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, West Wight Nursery who are based on Summers Lane, West Wight Youth Football, West Wight Heritage Group who have moved into the Totland Parish Office and Yarmouth Guide and Scout Group in Yarmouth.

Recreation Ground Car Park

Thank you to all those who have removed their vehicles from this car park your actions have already been a great help please continue.

Totland Bay Post Office Opening Hours reminder.

Please note the new opening hours from 1st April 2026.

- **Monday, Tuesday and Friday**
- **8.00am – 12.30pm**

Totland Village Hall

The main hall is available for both regular and occasional bookings. A kitchenette is available for the preparation and serving of tea and coffee, and tables and chairs can be provided for your event.

To hire Totland Village Hall, please contact the Parish Office at: totlandvillagehall@totlandparishcouncil.gov.uk

The planning application for the proposed extension is now almost ready to be submitted, and we look forward to hearing residents' feedback once the application is available for public consultation.

In addition, the front of the hall has recently been repainted, giving the building a much fresher and more welcoming appearance. Signage will follow shortly.

Totland Craft Market takes place on the last Saturday of each month from 10am to 1pm. The organisers work extremely hard to run this popular event, and everyone is welcome. Tea, coffee and cake are also available. Please come along and support the group and the talented local stallholders. We hope this event will continue into 2027 as well.

Public Toilets: At the July meeting, Councillors agreed that the Totland Beach public toilets will be refurbished to include an accessible toilet. The project will commence following the completion of the Village Hall project and will begin with the submission of a planning application. A draft design has been prepared, and the scheme will also include the provision of an accessible access path. We recognise that the current toilet facilities are not of the standard that residents and visitors would expect, and we appreciate your patience while plans for the refurbishment are progressed. In the meantime, we will continue to maintain and operate the facilities to the best of our ability. We would also ask all users to help us keep the toilets clean and in good condition by leaving them as they would wish to find them for the next visitor.

Beach Buoys: The safe swim buoys have been deployed to Widdick Chine for the summer, please enjoy.

Totland Christmas Fair: We are sorry to mention the 'C' word!! but 'Expression of Interest' are now open for stall holders. This is not done on a first come first serve basis and therefore the completion of this form is important. The website link is here for the form <https://www.totlandparishcouncil.gov.uk/visitors-information/christmas-market/>
If you are unable to access this web address please email totlandxmasfair@gmail.com.

Defibrillator Locations: The Waterfront Bar, Needles Battery, Memorial Hall, Colwell Public toilet block, Christ Church, St Saviours Church/School car park and Totland Parish Office. All are easily accessible 24/7.

Photocopier Service: We also offer photocopying in the Parish Office and with notice we can also laminate.

Freshwater and Totland Heritage Centre:

Councillors welcome the Freshwater and Totland Heritage Group to Totland. This group continues to call for support from the community. They are appealing for financial help to secure their future and to preserve and share our local history for future generations. If you can help in anyway please drop into their new home next door to the Parish Office on The Broadway.

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

Help with recycling centre bookings: Contact information - Contact Waste and Environment 01983 823777

Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5.00pm and Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

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 9.00am to 12.30pm.

Email: clerk@totlandparishcouncil.gov.uk. 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.

Parish Council meetings commence at 6.00pm and remain the second Monday of the month subject to change, with no meetings held in August, October or December. Meeting location is now the Village Hall on The Broadway unless otherwise notified.

Your Parish Councillors': Chairman Gareth Wyre, Elaine Smith, Jan Cave, Vince Fennell, Steve Blamire, Chris Jarman, Marcus Pipe and Carol Johnson.