

Chale Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Chale Parish Council held on Monday, 9th October 2017 in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale commencing at 7 pm

Present

Councillors: Cllrs: Ron Groves, Liz Groves, Bernasconi, McWilliam and Paragreen
IW Councillor: Cllr Stewart (arrived at 7.25pm)
Clerk: Mrs Katie Riley
Public: 14

PRESENTATION

Police officers Ged Armitage and Tim Campany from Hampshire Constabulary's Rural South Wight were in attendance and listened to concerns from residents regarding the incidents of motorcycles speeding through the village and along the Military Road. This has been a problem for many years and education is very difficult. Tim goes out and does spot checks once a month on a Sunday when these incidents are mostly reported, but it doesn't seem to stop them and so far, has only caught one car. Ideas offered from residents included the use of dash cam footage, police officers on motorbikes to provide warnings and bookings, moving the signage on the Military Road ahead of Chale Recreation Ground instead of after it, enforcement of 30mph from one end of the village to the other, purchase of another speed camera, more signage including the number of fatalities on the given stretch of road and traffic calming barriers. Tim and Ged advised it is possible to request more speed checks - there is a speed watch community group who are trained to do these in 30mph zones and to talk to PCSO Stephen Oatley. They will take all ideas and concerns on board and advised to make sure we report every incident because there are resources that they can tap into such as mainland traffic teams but they have to have evidence. They also reassured that despite the frequency of these occurrences the number of serious accidents has been reduced. A report on the hazards of Tractors and Trailers going to and from the bio gas plant in Arreton was presented by local resident Mike Starke (appended to the minutes), proposing traffic calming measures for a limited section of Town Lane. It was agreed that education might be more successful with this issue through the employers themselves. Cllr Stewart agreed to take this on board and will correspond with the companies involved.

AGENDA

419/17

APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED

Apologies are received and approved for Cllr O'Harrow (work)

420/17

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON- PECUNIARY INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and written requests for dispensations on items forming the agenda

None

421/17

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

1. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2017

RESOLVED

The minutes of the Meeting held on 11th September 2017 are approved and duly signed

2. Matters arising not requiring a resolution

- Countryside Art who are producing our Tea towels have been able to amend the design to include Chale Bay Farm and 100 prints have been ordered

- The Clerk has delivered 2 large bags of Daffodils to the Chairman courtesy of the Best Kept Village Association (BKVA) for planting around the village in celebration of their 50th year next year.

422/17

PLANNING

To review planning applications and note any IWC decisions received by 9th October 2017

Application No: P/00883/17

Location: 1 and 2 Steyne Villas, Chale Green, Ventnor, Isle Of Wight, PO38

Proposal: Demolition of existing porches and outhouse at number 2. Proposed single storey extension to front elevation and on side of number 2.

Decision: Granted Plan Permission (or issue Cert)

RESOLVED

Decision noted

Application No: P/00826/17

Location: Chale Recreation Ground, Military Road, Chale, Ventnor, Isle Of Wight, PO38

Proposal: Sports pavilion; associated landscaping; parking

Decision: Refuse Plan Perm (or not issue Cert)

Reasons:

The proposed sports pavilion building and parking and associated access track would result in a visually prominent and incongruous development that would have a serious detrimental impact on the visual amenities and character of the landscape, designated AONB and Heritage Coast and would conflict with the intention of the Local Planning Authority to protect the natural beauty of the landscape, failing to preserve or enhance the character, context and appearance of the wider landscape, the AONB and Heritage Coast.

The need put forward by the applicant for this development does not outweigh this identified harm and has not established the specific need for this development, why it has to be in this location, or why an alternative site could not be used or shared.

As such the proposal would be contrary to Policies SP5 (Environment), DM2 (Design Quality for New Development), DM12 (Landscape, Seascape, Biodiversity and Geodiversity), DM13 (Green Infrastructure) and DM15 (Coastal Management) of the Island Plan Core Strategy as well as Government advice contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Chairman has received a formal letter from local resident and business owner asking the PC to review its support of this application should the decision be appealed.

RESOLVED

Decision noted and letter circulated to Councillors for their consideration should this application go to appeal

423/17

IWALC PLANNING TRAINING

To consider attendance at £50 per delegate

RESOLVED

The Clerk had forwarded details of this training to councillors prior to the meeting via email and there was no uptake. The course is now full.

424/17

FINANCIAL MATTERS

1 To note the bank reconciliations

RESOLVED

August and September's bank reconciliations are noted

2 To receive the half yearly financial report

The Clerk presented the half yearly finances against the budget, reporting no concerns.

RESOLVED

The financial report was received. Still to agree and purchase a new award for the Chaler of the Year having presented the last Churchyard print last year. The Clerk will contact Mr. Dave Badman regarding the commissioning of a new Chaler of the Year Award for 2018

3 To authorise payments

RESOLVED

The following payments are authorised:

Chq no. 1004	Community Action IW	£413.43
Chq no. 1005	Mrs K Riley	£123.50

425/17

HOY MONUMENT

To discuss the future of Hoy Monument which is on National Trust land
Hoy Monument was donated to the PC many years ago by the Deness family and there is concern that it will need substantial work in the near future. While the PC has raised funds over the years and ring-fenced reserves for this purpose, it would not be enough to cover the potential work required and so it was proposed, would Councillors agree to the donation of the monument to the National Trust on the basis that they are in a better position to maintain it?

RESOLVED

To offer Hoy Monument to the National Trust – the Clerk to contact the National Trust with this proposal.

It was suggested that if this was agreed that a ceremonial handover would be fitting.

426/17

UPDATE ON WHALE CHINE ACCESS

IW Councillor Stewart reported following his site visit with the Chairman and Darrel Clarke from Rights of Way to Whale Chine. Having looked at all possible access routes on the basis of whether the reasonable majority could get down, the conclusion was that it is just too dangerous as things currently stand. They will have another look in the Spring and make another assessment after the winter.

427/17

BT BROADBAND UPDATE

The Clerk shared an update from the IWC reporting the situation much the same as last month - that work cannot commence until a funding consultation has been carried out. However, she also contacted BT directly who reported that the work is planned and hoped to be live by Christmas and that the funding consultation should not be related to the Niton work. The Clerk to forward her correspondence with BT to IW Cllr Stewart.

428/17

SOUTH WIGHT HEALTH AND WELL-BEING PARISH FORUM

To consider the nomination of a second representative
Cllrs queried why there would be a need for two representatives given we are only a small parish.

RESOLVED

Cllr Paragreen to take this question back to the Forum at the next meeting on 15th October.

429/17

UPDATE ON CHALE COMMUNITY HUT

Cllr Bernasconi updated that a grant application has been completed for the Southern Housing group. The hope is to build a small wooden structure to house a toilet and improve the kitchen. Offers were made from two residents present at the meeting to help with plumbing and supply toilet, sink etc. and will liaise with Cllr Bernasconi directly.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

- 1 The Clerk with any correspondence received
 - Freedom of information request was received from a member of the public in relation to Chale Recreation Ground's planning application and a formal response has been provided
 - We have been invited to contribute to a Consultation Survey on possible changes to the way the IWC assesses its charges to people who receive non-residential care. The consultation period ends on 16 October 2017
 - Mobile recycling unit will be visiting Chale on 14th and 28th November, 13th December and 16th January
 - Information from Scottish Widows (part of Lloyds Banking Group) that our savings account has been transferred from Scottish Widows Bank Plc. to Lloyds bank Plc from the 1st October
- 2 Parish Councillors
 - Cllr Paragreen and Ron Groves reported local resident wandering around the village being a potential danger to both herself and others. Social services and police are aware. Suggestion to dial 101 each time there is any concern for the police to judge an appropriate response
 - Cllr Bernasconi reported her efforts with BT to fix the phone on the Green which is still not working after 2 months. The problem appears to be underground. Clerk to write a formal letter to BT
 - Cllr Ron Groves reported that he has planted some of the BKVA daffodils around the Chale Green sign already and asked for other suggested places to plant them that will include the whole village.
- 3 IWC Councillor Dave Stewart presented his report which included
 - Attendance at Dinosaur Day
 - CARS speed watch training
 - Conference for Chairs and Clerks of T&PCs on 20th November
 - Corporate plan
 - Reduction in number of people going into residential care
 - Budget challenges - £7.5 million savings required
 - Possibility of T&PCs needing to set their precepts to take account of the youth offer
 - Digital conference with Solent LEP

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm

Chairman.....

13th November 2017

TRACTOR AND TRAILER TRAFFIC HAZARDS

IN TOWN LANE, CHALE GREEN

The proportionate occasional use of the public highway by agricultural vehicles in rural areas is appropriate to the legitimate business of farming enterprises typically operating there.

What seems to be increasingly inappropriate in Chale, Chale Green and, indeed, elsewhere on the Isle of Wight, is the high level of tractor and heavy trailer traffic carrying locally-grown and harvested organic material to feed the Wight Farm Energy (WFE) biogas plant at Gore Farm, Arreton, some 6.3 miles away.

By way of background; WFE is partnered with Schmack Biogas UK Ltd, part of a vast German heating system manufacturer, The Viessmann Group, set up a century ago and now generating around £1.5 billion a year. Promotional material describes WFE as: "...made up of seven landowners and a producer and trade group for cereals..."

The regulations regarding the tractor-trailer combinations delivering to Gore Farm would seem to stipulate an all-up weight maximum of 31 tonnes to be driven at a maximum speed of 25mph on the public highway.

A spot check in Chale Green recorded a tractor-trailer speed up to 35mph (06 October 2017) up to and including the 30mph limit zone.

It is also a matter of concern to residents, as it apparently is to the established Isle of Wight haulage industry, that what many see as heavy goods vehicles (HGV) can be legally driven by anyone over 17 years old holding a licence for car driving.

These drivers are not subject to the specialist requirements applied to HGV drivers, in particular, they do not have their driving hours restricted and checked by tacograph. No wonder that Town Lane, Chale Green, has had tractor-trailer traffic in recent harvest weeks from early morning to as late as the last three vehicles of the day in quick succession at 2145.

This all poses a particular safety hazard in Town Lane. While the south side of the road is subject to double-yellow lines, the north side is unrestricted and is

constantly used for residents' parking. In at least two cases, properties concerned have no off-road parking facilities. In other cases, visitors have to use the road for parking legitimately as residents' vehicles occupy their properties' own parking.

An incident on the evening of 23 September 2017 serves to illustrate something of the problem. A visitor parked his car outside a Town Lane residence and the driver of a passing tractor-trailer stopped to inform him: "You'd be surprised how often I have to do emergency stops to avoid cars parked down here."

This begs two questions: 1) Does this imply tractor-trailers travel too fast down Town Lane? 2) Do tractor-trailer drivers ignore the safety precaution that vehicles should be driven in accordance with the prevailing road and traffic conditions? In the case of Town Lane, the tractor-trailer driver demonstrably admitted he was aware that vehicles were regularly to be found parked on the north side of the highway.

It should be added that other road users disregard the 30mph speed limit in Town Lane and fail to drive in accordance with the prevailing conditions. There have been instances of damage to parked vehicles over many years as a result and it is feared it is only a matter of time before someone is injured – or worse – unless measures are taken to avoid this.

Therefore, I suggest:

// *Agenda Le White?*

A PROPOSAL that Chale Parish Council consults with the appropriate authorities, including the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary and Isle of Wight Council, in consultation with residents, to investigate the installation of traffic calming measures for a limited section of the western end of Town Lane, Chale Green.

MIKE STARKE,

Town Lane,

Chale Green.

09 October 2017