



Chale Parish Council
www.chale.org.uk

Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wed 12th April 2023**, commencing at 7pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

Present

Councillors: Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Liz Groves, Dian McWilliam, Dr Jeremy Lockwood
IW Councillor: Not Present
Clerk: Mrs Michala Bailey
Public: 2

39/23 APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Council Member Chris Parker and Ward Councillor Claire Critchison.

40/23 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.

RESOLVED: None

41/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March 2023.

RESOLVED: Agreed.

42/23 PLANNING

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A. Street Trading Application

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Schedule 4

Application for a new Street Trading Consent: **Desserts To Doors, Island Wide Mobile Consent**. Please note that when determining an application for street trading consent the licensing authority can only consider comments relating to the following:

Public Safety, Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Prevention of Public Nuisance, The Visual Impact.

RESOLVED: No Objections.

Clerk advised Council that 1 additional application and 1 planning decision had been received today. Councillors agreed to discuss it.

23/00556/RVC. Location: Silver Birch Chale Green Chale Ventnor Isle Of Wight PO38 2JN
Proposal: Variation of condition 2 on 21/02167/HOU to allow alterations to external finish of garage and part of the chimney stack from brick to waterproof render.

RESOLVED: No objections.

B. 22/02246/FUL Land Rear Of Maricourt Town Lane Chale Ventnor Isle Of Wight PO38 2JS

Proposed residential development of 7 dwellings with parking; formation of vehicular access (revised scheme) Proposal: Decision Date: 06/04/2023. **REFUSED**

RESOLVED: Noted.

43/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Mar 2023

RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for April 2023

RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:

Received:	IWC Precept	£17900
	Scottish Widows interest	£ 22.24
	Total	£17922.24

Payments

Chq 1391	IWC – Dog bin emptying	£ 208.80
1392	Community Action - payroll	£ 619.03
1393	M Warr – internal; audit	£ 75.00
1394	inv 16/3. Crown Park – repairs car park	£ 360.00
1395	inv 29/3. Crown Park – removal of bollards	£ 360.00
1396	M.Bailey – Expenses	£ 57.78
	Total	£1680.61

5.3 To receive and approve the end of year accounts

RESOLVED. That the end of year accounts was noted and agreed. A difference of £58 from 2021/2022 to 2022/2023 was highlighted due to an uncleared cheque in 2021/2022 that cleared in May 2022.

5.4 To receive and approve VAT claim for 2022/23

Clerk advised that the VAT claim had been made and a total of £346.90 is due back to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED. That the refund of VAT was agreed.

5.5 To discuss any potential conflict of interest with BDO LLP (new auditors)

RESOLVED; No conflict of interests declared.

5.6 To note all spending over £100 for the year 2022/23

RESOLVED: all payemnts over £100 noted.

5.7 To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

RESOLVED. That the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 was noted and agreed.

5.8 To resolve that Chale Parish Council meets the exemption criteria for 2022/23 (total gross income and expenditure below £25K) and wishes to be an exempt Authority, not subject to a limited assurance review (page 3 of AGS above)

RESOLVED. That the Parish Council met the exemption criteria and wished to be an exempt Authority.

5.9 To receive and consider the findings in the internal audit report

RESOLVED. The internal audit report was discussed. Recommendation on agenda for further discussion.

5.10 To Discuss Scottish Widows Account.

Clerk advised Councillors that research into current business savings accounts have shown that most providers now charge a monthly fee, a minimum of £10K must be kept in the acct and the interest on those accounts are around 2.5. If the above criteria is not met then interest is around 1% on average. The Scottish Widows interest is now 0.75%.

RESOLVED; Councillors agreed to keep the account for now and re-visit this later in the year. Dr Lockwood and Clerk would now become signatories on the account. Clerk to complete necessary documentation.

5.11 To review Insurance renewal questionnaire.

RESOLVED. Renewal agreed.

44/23 POLICY REVIEWS

Clerk circulated 3 policies for yearly review.

1. Parish Privacy Notice.

RESOLVED: Agreed.

2. Accessibility Policy.

RESOLVED: Agreed.

3. Chale Emergency Plan.

Clerk has looked at other PC's. Some have an emergency plan, most don't. It appears that the IWC asked local PC's to create a plan to booster the IWC general plan. Ward Councillor Critchison has forwarded our plan to the IWC resilience officer for advice.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that an additional plan was not required and Clerk to write to IWC advising them of this.

45/23 REGISTER OF INTERESTS REVIEW

Clerk asked Councillors to review their register of interests in readiness for the May AGM.

Councillor Gosling verbally advised that there is no change to his register. Council Member Parker advised by email of no change. Council Member Dr Lockwood delivered a hard copy of a new form to the clerk.

RESOLVED: Chairman to update his form by May. Clerk to forward new ROI's to monitoring officer after AGM.

46/23 .ORG EMAIL ADDRESSES. (Audit recommendation)

Clerk advised Councillors that the only recommendation from the internal review was Councillors should not be using their own private email addresses for council business. Whilst this is not mandatory it is considered best practice. Mike (website manager) advised that it was not necessarily the best option to create and pay for separate email addresses bearing in mind the level/level/number of emails councillors receive. A discussion took place and it was agreed that personal email addresses and telephone numbers were to be removed from the councillor page of the website and all email/correspondence to be directed through the parish email only. Councillors agreed to discuss further at the May AGM.

RESOLVED: Mike to remove email address and phone numbers for now. Mike to send to Clerk the pros and cons of three options discussed. Clerk to look at setting up a shared councillor gmail acct.

47/23 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Clerk advised Council that 12 cuts are made each year 8 of which are paid for by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that due to the size of the area, the cost to the PC was reasonable at this time.

48/23 VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN.

Clerk reminded Councillors that the village spring clean date was yet to be set.

RESOLVED: Councillor Pete Gosling will carry out a spring clean of the green on the 23rd April at 10am. Clerk to deliver litter pickers and arrange collection of waste after the event.

49/23 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

11.1 IOW Action Challenge walking event 29-30th April. Chale Rec

RESOLVED: Noted.

11.2 King Charles III Coronation discussed. Council member Dr Lockwood advised that he has Sourced chairs and bunting from Ward Councillor Critchison. Sandwiches will be provided but attendees will be advised to take their own picnics. The WI have offered to provide hot and soft drinks. A poster has been created and will be distributed as well as an announcement of Facebook. Coronation mugs have been purchased as gifts for children. The event will take place at the WI hall on the 8th May 12-3pm and will be inside should the weather be against it. Booking will be necessary due to the limited number allowed in the hall. Councillor Gosling advised that he did place the event

on Facebook but there was general apathy regarding it. Councillors considered cancelling the event and organising a Chale village event in the summer.

RESOLVED: Council Member Dr Lockwood to liaise with WI with a view to cancelling the event.

**50/23 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS
RESOLVED. None received.**

51/23 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

The Clerk. Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk still awaiting reply from Cllr Phil Jordan on speeding sign policy/procurement. However, Clerk made direct enquiries with Island Roads. They would require a site survey, £5-6K to erect a device and ongoing yearly maintenance plus planning permission will be required. To purchase privately, £3k plus planning and a site survey which will be invoiced plus maintenance.
Clerk confirmed that a thank you has been sent to National Trust for all their help with the Hoy monument. A report of fly tipping at the old shop was made to IR but according to Claire report they could not find it. The bollard that has been dumped is still in situ? Councillors have been invited to a training event with IWALC over 2 evenings at a cost of £75.00 each. Clerk also advised that an enquiry as to the update of the village plan has been received. It was last updated in 2017. Councillors have been invited at a Dark skies TEAMS event on the 20/4 at 3pm. Finally, Councillors were asked to consider nominations for Chaler of the Year.

RESOLVED. Clerk to write to Mr Colin Rowlands at IOW asking for information on speed signs. Advise that Council Member Dr Lockwood will log into the TEAMS dark skies meeting.

Parish Councillors. Councillor Gosling asked if repairs at the Hoy are still diarised for the end of the month. He also advised that he has sourced an 8ft rooted Christmas tree on the mainland for £150. An unknown resident is parking their vehicle on the common land/Green. This is unlawful.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to purchase the rooted tree. A letter asking residents NOT to park unlawfully on the green will be distributed.

Chairman – Dave Stewart. Chairman advised that he could no longer attend the event with the Lord Lieutenant on the 7th May.

RESOLVED: Dr Lockwood agreed to attend the event on behalf of the chairman.

Ward Councillor – Claire Critchison. Report was forwarded to Clerk prior to the meeting and circulated to all Councillors. Ward Councillor is available to help with the event in the WI hall on the 8th May.

Carbon Literacy Toolkits for Parish, Town and Community Councils

Aimed at councillors and officers working within Parish, Town and Community Councils. The course equips councillors and officers with the information they need to communicate the significance of climate change and achieve the behavioural change necessary in their local area to address the climate emergency.

[LA-Parish-Town-and-Community-Councils-Course-Overview.pdf \(carbonliteracy.com\)](#)

Cost of living information:

- Use the Isle of Wight [cost of living web pages](#) to see what's available near you. You can also call the council contact centre on 01983 823134.
Contact Citizens Advice Isle of Wight on 0800 144 88 48 or enquiries@iwcab.org.uk. Their advice is free, confidential and independent. They can help with debt, benefits, legal advice and much more.
- Check out [this video](#) with 3 energy saving tips from local experts The Footprint Trust. You can contact them for free advice on 01983 822282 or [via their website](#).
- Use the [connect4communities website](#) to see what other support is available in your area.
- The government [Help for Households website](#) has information about help with childcare costs, benefits and many other schemes.

52/23 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Rodney Archer gave a brief update on the Warm Space events held at The hut on the Green. 2% of those leafleted attended. No Parish Councillors were present. Claire Critchison was present as was the local PCSO who expressed an interest in running a surgery in the future along with some speed enforcement in the village. Sway also attended. The general feeling of those attending was not apathy but one of dismay at the lack of communication and a feeling of isolation.

RESOLVED: Warm Space event now closed for the summer but every intention to re-open in the autumn. Councillor to discuss community communication further as an agenda item in May.

The meeting concluded at 9.19pm