

# Chale Parish Council

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Minutes of the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday, 17 August 2020** via zoom due to the ongoing restrictions because of the corona virus pandemic, commencing at 7.00pm

## **Present**

**Councillors:** Cllrs: Ron Groves, Liz Groves, Dian McWilliam, Mary Kershaw, Pete Gosling and Brian Harding

**Clerk:** Mrs Sue Waters

**Public:** **6 and a County Press reporter.**

**71/20**

### **APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence

**RESOLVED: Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dave Stewart who was on pre-booked Annual Leave.**

**72/20**

### **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:**

- 1 Councillors Ron Groves, Mary Kershaw and Dian McWilliam all declared a non-pecuniary interest as they all live on the proposed Diamond Motorcycle Race route.**
- 2 Councillor Pete Gosling declared a pecuniary interest in that he both lives on the route but also has an Air B & B also on the route.**

**73/20**

### **DIAMOND MOTORCYCLE RACE**

Councillor Groves opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and stating that no recording or taking of photographs was permitted. The minutes will be published on the Parish Council website later this week.

He advised that the Parish Council had received many emails and telephone calls both in support of and against the event, from both Chale residents and others on the Island, but also with a lot of safety concerns being raised.

He asked for comments from members of the public first.

All members of the public expressed their concerns about the safety of the event in particular the problem of speeding though the proposed route already. Many raised the problems of resident's lives being impacted by the event, but several were in favour of the amount of economic benefit it could bring to both Chale and the wider population of the Island. It was also expressed that as a Biosphere area, how could the IW Council be promoting a petrol driven event. Many questioned the route through the narrow winding roads of Shorwell, Brighstone and Chale. Concern was also raised about the race potentially clashing with the October half term, the noise and disruption to residents, but the most concerns were about the safety of both the race and the roads in general. The chairman of Niton and Whitwell Parish Council closed the public session by saying about his interest in motor sport and that the event could bring great economic wealth to the Island , but he was concerned that the event was advertised before the Town and Parish councils had been told of it, and defiantly had not been involved in consultation. He advised that some of the elite riders who will be involved in the race are already talking to motor cycle groups on the Island about their speed and safety on the roads. He is now talking to the organisers to ensure that the event does not clash with the very successful event of Beer and Buses which is also held in October. He did also advise that the Isle of Man is also a Biosphere area.

Councillors were then asked in turn for their comments. All felt that the event could bring much needed income for the village and the Island but were concerned about the lack of information and public consultation from the organisers. Their main concern is for the safety of residents before, during and after the event. The problem of access to Brighstone surgery and dispensing chemist was also mentioned.

In summary, Councillor Groves said that the Parish Council could not make a decision about supporting the event or not, until further detailed information has been forthcoming.

It was

**RESOLVED:**

**That Chale Parish Council requests an open meeting with the organisers (Diamond Races) for Chale residents as it is the village with the largest amount of the proposed track running through it, to answer the questions raised. It must be a safe meeting under covid restrictions but that further detailed information is required.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.31pm

Chairman.....

14 September 2020