



Chale Parish Council  
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Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wed 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023**, commencing at 7.02pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Liz Groves, Dian McWilliam, Chris Parker, Dr Jeremy Lockwood  
**IW Councillor:** Claire Critchison  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 2

**13/23 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED: None**

**14/23 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: Councillor Dian McWilliam declared an interest in Agenda item 4A2 and refrained from any vote on the matter.**

**15/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**RESOLVED: Minor typos highlighted and wording at 4/23 to be changed to 'no need in that Location', 11/23 to read '3 inconsistent responses. Changes made.**

**16/23 PLANNING**

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A. **23/00036/RVC.** Location: Land Adjacent 1 Spanners Close Chale. Proposal: Variation of condition 2 on 21/02345/FUL to allow alterations to roof profile and fenestration.

**RESOLVED: No Objections raised to application.**

B **23/00011/TW.** Town Lane Cottage. Town Lane, Chale. Proposal: Tree works

**RESOLVED: No objections raised.**

**17/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Jan 2023

**RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Feb 2023

**RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:**

Chq 1378	WI Chale – Hall Hire (jan x 2)	£ 30.00
1379	Community Action – Payroll	£ 868.99
1380	IWC – Grounds maintenance	£948.00
1381	SSE – Electricity at the Hut	£ 7.99
1382	R. Groves – C4C food bank purchases	£400.00
1383	M Bailey – Clerks expenses	£ 54.00

**Total** **£2308.32**

5.3 To discuss Backpay of increments for Clerk.

Clerk advised council that due to an admin error the yearly pay increments for the Clerk In 2021 and 2022 had not been paid so backpay was due. The increase for February has been Included in Februarys pay as usual. Another increment will be due in April.

**RESOLVED. Backpay and increments noted by Councillors.**

5.4 Budget and Council Tax precept setting.

Clerk presented a forecast budget to Councillors which included extra money for the purchase of new laptop, software and printer for the clerks office, removal of bollards on the car park at the old shop along with replacement slabs, and money for the Kings Coronation. Ringfenced money was discussed for the Hoy monument and 25% of previous precept money to be kept in hand as good practice. Clerk also pointed out that the increase in cost of bin emptying and grass cutting was unknown at this time so a guesstimate of 5% has been added to the budget. Councillors discussed the variables of not raising the precept from 2022 and using most of the reserves or raising the precept sufficiently to cover all costs for 2023/2024. Clerk also advised Councillors that although some remedial repairs had been made to the notice board, more was required which may not be cost effective.

**RESOLVED; Councillors voted to raise precept to cover whole budget costs which would Include additional money for a replacement notice board to be included in the Parish projects budget and to include extra money for Defibrillator sundry items. Therefore precept will raise to £17900. Clerk to explore replacement notice board costs and place copy of budget on Parish website for transparency.**

5.5 Discuss cost of Drone service for Hoy Monument.

Clerk advised that contact has been made with Procam who have a drone which will be able to take video footage of the top of the monument. Approx cost of £100.00 which can come out of the monument budget. Once this has been completed Wight Masonry are happy to take a look and make an assessment of the current state of disrepair and advise whether any further repairs are needed. Councillor McWilliam suggested applying for funding from English Heritage for future repairs.

**RESOLVED: Councillor McWilliam will research funding if required. Clerk to organise drone Survey.**

#### **18/23 COST OF LIVING**

Chairman suggested that the IWC leaflet recently circulated could be utilised along with a letter from the Parish Council advising residents who are suffering hardship to make contact rather than creating a survey and wasting anymore time.

**RESOLVED; Chairman will put a letter together for door-to-door delivery.**

#### **19/23 SPEEDING IN CHALE STREET**

Clerk advised Councillors that more complaints of speeding have been received. One complainant has been advised by Cllr Jordan (IWC) that should speed reminder signs be required then these must be funded by the Parish Council. Councillors discussed that recent activity by the Police appears to have had no impact on the speeding through the village.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to research cost of speed reminder (solar powered) signs and report back to council.**

#### **20/23 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT – DRAFT POLICY**

Chairman asked Councillors for feedback on the recently circulated policy from the IWC. Council Member Parker suggested that a timetable be attached to the process.

**RESOLVED: No feedback to report back yet but Councillors given to beginning of March to send any comments to Clerk for response.**

### 21/23 COMMON LAND – OLD CHALE GREEN STORES

A meeting was held on site with Mark Downer from Parking Services, IWC and Ward Councillor Critchison regarding the loss of spaces and re-lining to the area to make it more usable to visitors. This is possible with all the correct permissions BUT could not be funded by Parking Services. This would now have to be dealt with by the Legal Dept at IWC due to the nature of the land being Common Land and being unregistered.

**RESOLVED: Clerk and Chairman will be meeting with Justin Thorne, Legal Dept on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, on site to discuss a way forward.**

### 22/23 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

King Charles III Coronation discussed. Clerk advised that a small amount of money had been put in the budget for an event. However, any event considered would have to be insured so there may be a further cost implication. Council member Lockwood suggested a picnic on the green with a band.

**RESOLVED: Councillor Gosling and Lockwood to look at cost of band, health and safety policy for the event.**

### 23/23 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS

Clerk reminded Councillors that a previous request from Chale Churchyard Committee had been deferred and due to the end of the financial year approaching, it was appropriate to decide whether to approve any donation.

**RESOLVED. That in pursuance of the powers conferred by S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, the Council approved expenditure of £300.00 in respect of continuing support to residents of Chale Parish to Chale Churchyard Committee.**

### 24/23 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

**The Clerk.** Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED. None.**

**Parish Councillors.** Council Member Lockwood advised that the old defib pads at Stubbings have been removed but the new ones expire at end of June 23. Clerk advised that new pads are now approx. £50 a set so this has been factored into the Parish Projects budget.

**RESOLVED: None**

**Chairman – Dave Stewart.** Chairman reported that the Cost-of-Living meeting received good Support from the community with some excellent ideas. Clerk appraisal is near completion but a Meeting had been held with the Clerk last week to discuss.

**RESOLVED: NONE.**

**Ward Councillor –** Report was forwarded to Clerk prior to the meeting and circulated to all Councillors. Claire confirmed that the request from the Clerk for information of planning enforcement cases in the parish have been dealt with and emailed to the clerk. In addition information on the number of 2<sup>nd</sup> homes and holiday lets within the parish could not be specific but in general numbers for the ward which included Shorwell, Niton and Whitwell parishes. This amounted to 84 2<sup>nd</sup> homes along with 7 empty properties. Holiday lets do have an impact on the amount of precept as council tax is not paid on holiday lets.

There will be a community meeting regarding speed watch and road safety in conjunction with Brighstone, Calbourne and Shalfleet on the 22 March at 6pm at Brighstone Hall. There is a possibility that another meeting will be held in Niton at a later date.

Claire also confirmed that she had sent notice to the Case Officers at IWC planning regarding the application for Town Lane that should consideration for approval be considered then it go to planning committee.

Early help service will be told who the vulnerable people in the area are and their details should be on the letter from the Parish. Dark skies promotion event at IW pearl coming up on 17 and 18<sup>th</sup> Feb from 3-8pm.

**RESOLVED: Claire will try and find out the exact numbers of holiday lets in Chale Parish. Claire to send details to Early Years to Chairman.**

**25/23 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC  
RESOLVED. NONE**

The meeting concluded at 8.51pm