



Chale Parish Council  
www.chale.org.uk

Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024**, commencing at 7.00pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Chris Parker, Lynda Burroughs  
**IW Councillor:** Claire Critchison  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 1

**01/24 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED: Council Members Rodney Archer and Dr Jeremy Lockwood sent apologies.**

**02/24 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**

**03/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the amended minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 23.

**RESOLVED: No outstanding matters. Minutes approved**

**04/24 PLANNING**

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A

**RESOLVED: No applications to consider.**

B: 23/01660/HOU. Pineroft, Chale Street. Proposed loft conversion. Decision: Granted.

**RESOLVED: Noted.**

**05/24 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Dec 2023

**RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Jan 2024

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

DD.	SSE – Electricity supply-the hut (4 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	£71.00
DD	SSE – Electricity supply-the hut (3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan)	£71.00
Chq 1436	WI Chale – Hall Hire (Jan)	£15.00
1437	Community Action - Payroll	£705.70
1438	SLCC – clerk professional membership	£148.00
1439	Councillor Gosling –replacement for lost chq	£41.67
1440	Ron Groves – C4C mileage	£36.00
1441	M Bailey – Clerk Expenses	£350.85

**Total** **£1439.22**

Clerk advised Council that the direct debit for last month to SSE had been omitted from the payments and that £300 of food vouchers had been purchased for the food bank and being claimed on the clerk expenses. The clerk advised and showed Council Members a full breakdown of the food bank expenditure which is maintained by Mr Ron Groves. Recipients names had been redacted for privacy reasons.

### 5.3 Budget and Council Tax precept setting.

Clerk presented a forecast expenditure for 23/24 to Councillors. Ringfenced money was discussed for the Hoy monument, running cost for the hut, demolition of the hut, Connect 4 Communities food bank grant, public donations. Clerk also pointed out that there is an increase in the cost of bin emptying and grass cutting. The Clerk salary increase/national pay rise is unknown. Councillors agreed not to raise the precept from 2023 and to use reserves to cover any increase in expenditure. Clerk also advised Councillors that the tax base formula has not been issued by the IWC but was imminent and that the precept amount must be with the finance team at the IWC by The 1<sup>st</sup> week in February. Without the calculation, the Clerk is unable to advise whether the amount Per Band D property is increased, decreased or remains the same. However, as soon as it is released the Clerk will forward the calculations and figures to all Council members for ratification.

**RESOLVED; Councillors agreed that they did not wish to increase the precept due to the cost of living crisis being experienced by residents at his time, however would wait to finalise the figure until the tax base calculation is forthcoming from the clerk.**

#### 06/24 MEETING DATE 2024-2025

The Clerk presented meeting dates from April 24 to March 25. Two dates in April and May 2024 (APM and AGM) will take place on a Wednesday as this follows a bank holiday.

**RESOLVED: Date agreed. Clerk to confirm with WI for hall rental and post on website.**

#### 07/24 DEFIB TRAINING

Clerk confirmed that the training has been set for the 12<sup>th</sup> March at 10am at the WightMouse pub. It has been confirmed for 10 people. The cost is £150.00. 5 staff members from the WightMouse have been confirmed as well as Council member Pete Gosling, Chris Parker, Dave Stewart, Rodney Archer and 1 member of the public. Should any other person wish to be trained this will be at a cost of £10 per head.

**RESOLVED: Council Member Gosling suggested that a member of staff from Stubbings may wish to be trained as one of the defibrillators is on their wall. He will speak with them.**

#### 08/24 PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Clerk advised that the idea of Parish Councils paying the salary of an enforcement officer is still being discussed by other parish councils and that Nettlestone and Seaview have recently asked if any other PC would like to jointly pay and share this service. The Clerk advised that there has been significant communication amongst other Parish Council Clerks about this and the lack of communication by the planning management team at the IWC when asked to come along and discuss further. Other PCs are not happy with paying for this serviced from council tax precept funds. Ward Councillor Critchison advised Council members that planning enforcement is not a statutory provision for the IWC.

**RESOLVED: Council members agreed that unless the IWC planning management team respond to our request for further information about this then Chale PC will not be funding it at this time.**

#### 09/24 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The WI coffee morning will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan at the village hall, Chale Street. In addition there will be a talk on archaeology by Dr Ruth on the 18<sup>th</sup> Jan at 6.30pm. Tickets are £5 per adult and £2 for under 16's. Tea and cake will be served. Booking is required. A poster will be placed on the PC website.

**RESOLVED: Council Member Burroughs to send copy of poster to Clerk for website.**

#### 10/24 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS

Scout Jamboree. Clerk advised that further information was requested and confirmed that 1 scout leader will be attending the Jamboree from the Chale Parish.

**RESOLVED. Council Members discussed and agreed that they would not fund this and the applicant to be notified.**

## 11/24 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

**The Clerk.** The Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk advised that she had contacted WightFibre for an update and had received no reply. The Clerk conference is at the end of January and in Kenilworth at the cost of £360.00 + vat. Clerk felt this was expensive and would prefer to do some online webinars. One particular on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan on VAT. The guest speaker on Emergency planning is confirmed for the next Parish meeting. The request for details of the grass cutting have been received and circulated. The clerk received a complaint regarding the lack of glass in the bus stop in Chale green so has contacted Island Roads who have referred it to the IWC. A second complaint regarding the bus stop at the top of Town Lane was received regarding passengers having to stand on wet grass and wait for the bus and why can it not be a hard standing like the one further down the main road. Clerk also advised that the insurance claim for the telephone box outside St Andrews has now been referred to another insurance company.  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to contact WightFibre again. Clerk to contact Island Roads about the bus stop hardstanding and find out why only one was done. Clerk to register for the VAT webinar. Clerk to liaise with new insurance company.**

### **Parish Councillors.**

Council Member Burroughs asked for clarification as to what IWALC was and what it provided to the parish. Chairman Stewart gave a brief overview. Council Member Parker asked whether a letter of thanks has been sent to the anonymous donor of £300.00 to the food bank. Council Member Gosling asked if the Parish Council had received any information as to when Pyle Shute will re-open.

**RESOLVED: Clerk is aware of identity of donor of £300 and will send a letter on behalf of the Chairman. Clerk to make contact with Island Roads and obtain update on Pyle Shute.**

### **Chairman – Dave Stewart.**

Chairman asked if everyone had seen the flooding leaflet sent out by IWC which he thought was a good idea. Chairman also confirmed he would be attending the Licensing of the new Vicar.

**RESOLVED: Nothing to report.**

### **Ward Councillor – Claire Critchison**

**New Vicar Ceremony.** Claire will be attending the new Vicar Ceremony for the Rev. Rob Marsh on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at St Johns Church Niton at 6pm. This will be a welcome appointment to the area, he will oversee the churches of Chale, Niton, Whitwell and St. Lawrence. Claire looks forward to working with Rob.

### **Budget consultation**

Isle of Wight residents and organisations, council tax and business rate payers are invited to have their say on the council's budget and council tax for 2024/25.

Over 1000 responses were received for the last budget consultation. It would be great to increase that number and hear from more of residents.

The IWC won't get all the information from Government that we need to complete the budget until the New Year. Whilst we carry on working on it we would like to hear your views about the important choices we need to make. This short consultation should take less than five minutes of your time to complete. This survey runs from 18 December 2023 to 26 January 2024.

Complete the budget survey online [www.iow.gov.uk](http://www.iow.gov.uk)

You can also email any comments or suggestions to [budget@iow.gov.uk](mailto:budget@iow.gov.uk)

### **Flooded roads**

Claire has asked for the continued rain affected areas at Emmet Hill, Appleford Road and Leechmore Cross to be investigated. Drainage clearance and improvements to be identified and carried out where possible.

### **Warmer homes scheme**

The scheme is first come, first served so apply now by visiting the Warmer Homes website [www.warmerhomes.org.uk/apply](http://www.warmerhomes.org.uk/apply) or calling the freephone number 0800 038 5737. People can also email: [retrofit@warmerhomes.org.uk](mailto:retrofit@warmerhomes.org.uk).

**Have your say on local community safety priorities**

Residents are being asked to complete a short survey about their feelings around community safety on the Island. The online study has been launched today (Tuesday 5 December) by the Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and seeks views from everyone living and working on the Island.

It can be completed at the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/teeF4Zp0E5> and it ends on Friday 12 January

**12/24 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC  
RESOLVED: NONE.**

The meeting concluded at 9.21pm

DRAFT