

# Chale Parish Council

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Minutes of a **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday, 9 March 2020** in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale commencing at 7 pm.

## **Present**

**Councillors:** Cllrs: Ron Groves, Liz Groves, Dion McWilliam, and Pete Gosling,  
**Clerk:** Mrs Sue Waters  
**IW Councillor:** Cllr Stewart  
**Public:** 6

Before the meeting, a presentation was given by Matt Lloyd of BT Open Reach about the Gigabit Voucher scheme. He was introduced by Ashley Curzon and Jane Tyler from the IW Council. Superfast broadband speed was introduced to the Island in 2013 via a government funded scheme. Unfortunately, Chale was not connected before the funding expired. This new scheme should provide a way for both residents and business to connect to a superfast broadband fibre connection. The scheme provides a voucher for business's of £3,500 and residents £1,500 towards the building of the network. A pledge has to be made to take on a service for 12 months once connected (not necessarily with BT). Matt Explained that the build programme would take 9 to 10 months once sufficient pledges have been made to fund it. There are 72 properties effected in the Chale area. Matt is asking the Parish Council to publicise the initiative which is backed by the IW Council. To gain the voucher it is necessary to log onto the BT site, as this is not possible for many in Chale, hard copy forms will be provided and the clerk was asked to create a spreadsheet from completed forms and pass the information to BT. A letter will be provided from BT to inform people about the scheme.

**23/20**

### **APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence

### **RESOLVED**

Apologies were received from Councillors Brian Harding and Mary Kershaw

**24/20**

### **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**

None received

**25/20**

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2020

### **RESOLVED**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2020 are approved and duly signed

In view of a request to speak to the Parish Council regarding agenda item 8, the chairman used his discretion to bring that item forward and discuss it next.

**26/20**

### **CHALE STORES**

Richard from SWAY gave a short presentation advising of the planned public consultation for a Community Hub. Part of this is to find a suitable location for the scheme which could be the former Chale Stores. A press release had been given that day and the consultation started. Public meetings will also be held - in Chale on 19 March 2020 at 7pm at the WI Hall, plus one to be held in the afternoon at the Hut, date yet to be arranged. The Community Hub will provide a café, meeting rooms and possibly a shop and post office facilities. The consultation can be completed on-line, by telephone or by post. He will keep the Parish Council updated.

Two letters had been received from the owner of Chale Stores in recent weeks. With reference to Mr Tyerman's letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020. He clearly states that anything before November 2019, should remain under the NDA. But to move on he wants an open and transparent dialogue to discuss the future of the property Chale Green Stores, for the village. We cannot see how it can be open and transparent dialogue when the public are not allowed to know what has occurred in the past. Mr Tyerman wants to draw a line under the past and move on.

The public were well aware, as they agreed to it in a Public Survey, that the Parish Council applied for, and succeeded in arranging a Government Public Works Board Loan, to cover the purchase of Chale Green Stores. Once the price was raised by the owner well above the Government Loan limit, the Parish Council were in no position financially to meet the purchase price and had to decline.

Nothing has changed, the Parish Council cannot hope to meet the current purchase price and this was made clearly to the owner in an email from Councillor Harding on behalf of the Parish Council in November 2019.

There has been no shop or Post Office since it closed in September, this has caused a great deal of difficulties for many people in the village, who have had to seek alternatives elsewhere. The Parish Council is sure that there are people working to seek alternatives within the village to overcome these problems.

**27/20**

**PLANNING**

No planning applications were received this month but there was one decision to note.

**28/20**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 To note the bank reconciliation for February 2020

**RESOLVED**

The bank reconciliation for February is noted

2 To note the receipts and authorise payments

**RESOLVED**

The following payments are authorised:

Cheque No:

1193	Island Roads – Dog bin emptying	£132.30
11794	Community Action Isle of Wight	£369.00
1195	Coco Design – for the PepperPot	£ 40.00
1196	Chale WI – 3 Months Hall Hire	£ 45.00
1197	S A Waters – expenses	£ 53.53
1199	Netguides – domain name renewal	£ 48.00
1200	Community Action – additional hours for K. Riley	£ 76.21
1201	Ron Groves – Printer Cartridge	£ 12.99
1202	BT – Adopt the telephone kiosk	£ 1.00
	Total	£778.03

**29/20**

**TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:**

- 1 The Clerk provided a short-written report including correspondence received. She mentioned that the Police have welcomed the suggestion of parking on the Green for the IW Walking Festival walk in Chale.
- 2 Parish Councillors – Councillor Gosling advised that he attended a meeting at the Viewpoint Car Park but Councillor Stewart will update on that.
- 3 Chairman
  - VE day celebrations are progressing well but volunteers will be needed on the day to assist.
  - The day of the Chale walk as part of the Walking Festival on May 10<sup>th</sup> will also need volunteers.

4 IWC Councillor

IW Cllr Stewart presented his report which included details of the meeting at the Viewpoint Carpark. The meeting included IW Council officer Lee Matthews and Graham Biss from Gift to Nature. Gift to Nature have plans to extend the space by removing some hedging. The car park surface is not good, but the IW Council have no funds to carry out repairs. He is hoping that a solution can be found ahead of the cycle race in 2021. He is suggesting that the Parish Council might wish to take on the car park as an asset in the near future. An ice-cream concession has been granted and was in place on Sunday. Plans are still proceeding for the Tour of Britain stage on the Island. Local schools are to be involved with races prior to the event.

There will be required another 3.5 million pound savings for the IW Council next year, all are still hopeful of the Island Deal.

The IW Council is well prepared is the Coronavirus causes problems. Only one case has been confirmed to date. The message is “keep calm and carry on”. It is important to look after any vulnerable neighbours.

Some posts have been removed from rock at Castle Haven after an order by the IW Council.

An Expression of Interest has been lodged with the Department of Transport for works on the Undercliff road. IW Council should hear in July.

30/20

**GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN**

The Parish Council is supporting a litter pick in the village and suggested a date of Sunday 5 April 2020 at 10am. The clerk is to ask Amey for the loan of litter pickers and to supply and then collect the rubbish bags.

**RESOLVED: That the Parish Council holds a litter pick at 10am on Sunday April 5at 10am – meeting outside the former shop and that volunteers are requested to join them.**

31/20

**TELEPHONE KIOSK**

The Parish Council has been successful in it’s bid to take on the responsibility for the redundant telephone kiosk outside the former Chale Green Stores. This will provide a permanent home for the village defibrillator. The cost of the adoption is £1.00.

**RESOLVED: That the chairman signs the contract on behalf of the Parish Council for the formal adoption of the telephone kiosk to house the defibrillator and pays the £1.00 from Parish Funds.**

32/20

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Stewart was asked if there was an update from the Cars Safety Group. Several initiatives had been put forward to improve safety in the village. Councillor Stewart advised there will be an Island wide consultation on all traffic schemes which have been suggested. It was also mentioned that the sign advising of the danger of falling masonry has still not be installed at the Hoy Monument.

Lastly the Parish Council was advised that the Chale Recreation Ground Committee is looking for additional volunteers.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

Chairman.....

20 April 2020