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Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the WI Hall, Church Place, Chale on Monday, 10 March 2014 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Liam Cumming (Chairman), Alan Lock (Vice Chairman), Mrs Liz Groves, Ron Groves and Stephen May

Also in attendance:

Mrs Barbara Herbert, Clerk and RFO

Ms Tina Bailey, Clerk and RFO designate

Mr Malcolm Smith, Island Roads for the presentation

There were no members of the public present

219/13-14 Apologies

There had been no apologies tendered

220/13-14 Co-opted Councillors

- a. To consider all applications received and to approve the appointment to the position of co-opted councillor
The clerk advised that only one application had been received for the position of co-opted councillor by the due deadline

RESOLVED :

THAT Mr Stephen May be approved as a co-opted councillor on Chale Parish Council

- b. To receive their declaration of acceptance of office and their signed register of financial interests

RESOLVED :

THAT the signed declaration of acceptance of office and their signed register of financial interests be duly received

- c. To consider the deadline for applications for the outstanding vacant position of co-opted councillor

RESOLVED :

THAT the deadline for applications for the vacant position of co-opted councillor be extended until Tuesday, 8 April

221/13-14 To receive any declarations of Members' interests and written requests for Dispensations on items forming the agenda.

No declarations of members' interests were made at this stage. There had also been no written requests for a Dispensation received.

222/13-14 To welcome Mr Malcolm Smith of Island Roads to discuss any highway issues within the parish

The Chairman welcomed Mr Smith, a consultant for Island Roads to the meeting to

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provide an update on anticipated works to be undertaken in the Chale area and to listen to any highway concerns that the Parish Council wished to raise. Mr Smith began by way of introducing himself and his role since leaving the IW Council. He referred to the personnel forming Islands Roads senior management team and to Stewart Martin, the steward for the Chale area. It was the intention that Mr Martin would attend meetings of the Parish Council, on an informal basis one or two times per year

Mr Smith explained the progress made over the past year. It had been intentional for a slow start, building up over the first seven years of the contract. Planning Permission had now been granted for the asphalt plant on St Georges Down, which should enable a noticeable escalation in works undertaken, as from April the surfacing gangs will increase by two, to five gangs operating across the Island.

Four local areas were in the schedule of works to be undertaken this year, these being Blythe Shute, Upper House Lane, part of Appleford Road and the car park. An explanation was provided as to how the timescale for works had been determined, based on the most cost effective and advantageous time for each area. Due to the recent weather the programme was being reviewed but could not be changed drastically. The most obvious works commenced was the installation of LED street lighting.

Mention was made of the road surface in Spanners Close. However, works here were not scheduled until 2016. A flickering lamplight outside of No 24 was reported to Mr Smith. A series of major pot holes in East View were also raised. In discussion questioned the way pot holes were filled compared to the method used in other countries.

Mr Smith went on to advise that the PFI contract had quite strict guidelines as to how the monies could be spent. It could not be used to improve the shape of a road, or install a pavement or footpath if one did not previously exist.

Reference was then made to the cats eyes at the edge of the car park. Mr Smith agreed to investigate the matter. However he was not too hopeful as the Department for Transport had confirmed that the green road studs were not lawful markings for a car park.

The Chairman thanked Mr Smith for his attendance and facilitating such an informative discussion.

223/13-14 To confirm the appointment of Ms Tina Bailey

Ms Bailey would shadow the current clerk until her departure on 31 March 2014.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT Ms Tina Bailey be appointed as the parish clerk and Responsible Financial officer elect, with effect from 10 March, for 7½hours per week on the salary scale SCP 19 – 23 range in scale LC1, as set out in the 2004 National Agreement on Salaries and Conditions of Service of Local Council Clerks in England and Wales
- ii. THAT it be noted this included one additional salary point for Ms Bailey successfully obtaining the Certificate in Local Council Administration
- iii. THAT it be approved for the Chairman to sign the Contract of Employment on behalf of the Parish Council

224/13-14 To confirm and authorize the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2014

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RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2014 be confirmed and the Chairman authorised to sign them as being a true record

225/13-14 To consider any matters arising, not requiring a resolution.

- a. Minute 190/13-14 b v Chaler of the Year – The clerk reminded that the closing date for suitable nominations was 28 March 2014. To date no suggestions had been put forward. The proposed judges had all confirmed that they were willing to stand.
- b. Minute 197/13-14b Cat's Eyes along the edge of carpark – The clerk read from an email received from Rebecca Tuck advising that the Department for Transport had confirmed that the green road studs were not lawful markings for a car park. Therefore, unfortunately, these would be removed and not replaced when island Roads re-surface along this stretch of the highway.

226/13-14 To receive a report on any local safety neighbourhood issues occurring since the last meeting held of the Parish Council

Councillors noted that there had been no issues reported on the crime reports website covering the previous four week period, from 3 March. Cllr Lock mentioned the incident in Chale that had occurred approximately 2 days after the last meeting of the Parish Council involving three teams of armed police.

227/13-14 Town and Country Planning

- a. The decision taken by the Local Planning Authority since the last meeting of the Parish Council was noted
P/01583/13 The Finches, Pyle Shute, Chale – Conditional Planning permission granted for the retention of garage
- b. To comment on the following consultations

- i. Draft Children's Services Facilities Contributions

RESOLVED :

THAT councillors make individual responses on the draft Children's Services Facilities Contributions document, which set out a proposed level of developers contributions to meet the cost of children's services facilities required as a direct result of development

- ii. Draft Solent Special Protection Area Supplementary Planning Documents

RESOLVED ;

THAT councillors make individual responses on the draft proposals for the IW Council's approach towards mitigation of recreational impacts on Solent Special Protection Areas from residential development

228/13-14 Following the resignation of Paul Gower-Johnson, to appoint a councillor to working parties for the remainder of the ensuing year

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RESOLVED :

THAT the appointment of a councillor to the Bio Diversity Working Party and the Parish Plan Working Party be deferred until the Annual Meeting of Chale Parish Council

229/13-14 Bank Accounts

- a. To appoint a further signatory to the bank account held with Lloyds Bank and up to two further signatories to the Scottish Widows Bank account and the account held with the Cambridge Building Society

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT Cllr L Groves be appointed as a signatory to the account held with Lloyds Bank
- ii. THAT Cllr Ron Groves be appointed as a signatory to the account held with Scottish Widows Bank
- b. To consider the re-investment of funds held in the Cambridge Building Society Councillors noted that the Cambridge Building Society 2 Year Council Bond (Issue 6) had matured on 2 March 2014. Reference was made to the report which provided details of three council accounts currently offered by the Cambridge Building Society, where the monies could be re-invested. As the interest rates offered were relatively low it was suggested that further investigation be made, particularly of accounts held with Lloyds Bank to ascertain if a better option was available.

RESOLVED :

THAT the clerk elect make further inquiries of interest rates currently available for the re-investment of the funds held in the maturing Cambridge Building Society 2 Year Council Bond (Issue 6) and to report back to the next meeting.

230/13-14 To consider how best to take forward the proposed extreme weather support scheme, suggested as an addendum to the Parish Council's Emergency Plan

Unfortunately contact had not been made with Mr Tony Bryant, the Emergency Plan coordinator who had proposed the suggestion to establish an extreme weather support scheme. Cllr L Groves agreed to pursue this.

RESOLVED :

THAT further discussion on the proposal to establish an extreme weather support scheme be deferred until the April meeting of the Parish Council

231/13-14 To give consideration to organising a "Big Tidy Up" event

Discussion ensued on continuing with the Big Tidy Up events that had been held on a regular basis in the past. Thought was given to the purchase of a small supply of litter pickers and bibs so that such events could take place with little organisation. The main problem however would be the collection and disposal of the rubbish collected.

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RESOLVED :

THAT Cllr May to enquire with Island Roads to establish the level of assistance they would provide in the disposal of any rubbish collected as part of a Big Tidy Up event

232/13-14 To note the report on the meeting with Mr Alex Minns, Strategic Manager for Recreation, Leisure and Public Spaces held on 21 February

Councillors noted the report for information on the discretionary services provided in Chale and the possible impact on these for the financial year 2014/15 and beyond. The clerk reminded that Mr Lee Matthews, the IW Council's Recreation and Public Spaces Manager had agreed to attend the April meeting of the Parish Council. This would aid discussion on the approach made by the IW Council for a contribution towards the level of service currently provided at Chale Green

233/13-14 The proposed Consultation Protocol between Isle of Wight Town and Parish Councils and the Isle of Wight Council

The proposed Consultation Protocol between Isle of Wight Town and Parish Councils and the Isle of Wight Council was noted without comment.

234/13-14 Bio Diversity Working Party

Cllr Lock advised that no further progress had been made by the Working Party.

235/13-14 Parish Plan Update Working Party

Cllr Lock reported that the Working Party had made no further progress.

236/13-14 Hoy Monument Working Party

Cllr Lock advised that there was nothing to report. He had still not been able to make any contact with Mr Terry Wren.

237/13-14 To receive an update on the No 6 bus service scheme

In the absence of Cllr Stewart no report had been received.

238/13-14 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Chale Village Partnership held on 17 February

Reference was made to the minutes of the meeting of the Chale Village Partnership held on 17 February. Particular mention was made of

- Proposals for the Chale Day event
- The interesting bench marking exercise undertaken of other Community Partnerships across the island

239/13-14 To receive a report from the IW Councillor for Chale, Niton and Whitwell, Cllr D Stewart

In the absence of Cllr Stewart no report had been received.

240/13-14 Clerks Report

- a. Finance
 - i. The interim budget to the end of February 2014 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 54 were received and duly noted

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- ii To authorise payment of cheques

RESOLVED :

THAT the following cheques be approved for payment
000800, £86.73, Clerks Expenses
000801, £5.00, IW Sports and Recreation Council, Annual
Subscription
000802, £48.00, Net Guides, Domain Name

- b. Administration
To consider the appointment of an Internal Auditor for the 2013/14 accounts
The internal auditor who acted for Niton and Whitwell Parish Council would be willing to undertake the task. However, he would charge £105 plus mileage at NJC rates. Previous internal auditors had waived their charges.

RESOLVED :

THAT the clerk elect to investigate other options for a person suitable to act as Internal Auditor for the 2013/14 accounts

- c. Personnel Matters
To consider end of contract issues for the Parish Clerk
The clerk reminded that arrangements would need to be made to relocate the Parish Council's photocopier from her home to that of the replacement clerk. She also advised that she had accrued over 36 hours over her contracted hours, with little opportunity remaining to reduce them to an acceptable level.

RESOLVED :

- i THAT Cllr Lock to kindly assist in the removal of the photocopier from the current clerks home;
- ii THAT the Chairman and Vice Chairman be authorised to sign a letter to Douglas Tonks, the payroll bureau, instructing the payment of all accrued hours by the clerk on her final day of employment.

241/13-14 Correspondence

Correspondence received was updated further at the meeting.

242/13-14 Councillors' reports

Cllr Lock raised a question with regard to updating the contact details on the Parish Council's website. This would be undertaken by Mike Matthews.

Cllr Cummings, on behalf of the Parish Council thanked Mrs B Herbert, the clerk and RFO for her work to the Parish Council and the community of Chale and presented her with a token of their gratitude. The clerk responded accordingly.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8. 25 PM

Signed -----

Dated -----