



Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023**, commencing at 7.00pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Council Members: Dave Stewart, Peter Gosling, Chris Parker, Dr Jeremy Lockwood  
Rodney Archer.  
**IW Councillor:** Councillor Claire Critchison  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 1

**122/23 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED: Council Member Lynda Burroughs sent her apologies.**

**Ward Councillor Critchison advised she may be a little late due to other Council meetings.**

**123/23 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: None**

**124/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023.

A short discussion took place regarding the item at 115/23, Chale Partnership/pepperpot funds.

**A member of the public voiced concerns about the publication of mis-informed and incorrect allegations of financial impropriety.** This sentence will now be added to the ratified set of minutes and published accordingly. An apology has been received by the former Chairman from the member of public involved.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to amend the minutes with the above wording.**

**125/23 PLANNING**

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

**A. 23/01660/HOU** Location: Pincroft, Chale Street, Chale

Proposal: Proposed loft conversion with front and rear dormers.

**RESOLVED: No Objection. Clerk to advise planning dept accordingly.**

**B. 23/01271/FUL.** Location: Land Adjacent 1 Spanners Close Chale Isle Of Wight

Proposal: Proposed single storey community building. GRANTED

**RESOLVED: Noted and welcomed by Council Members.**

**126/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Oct 2023

**RESOLVED: Noted**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Nov 2023

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

Chq 1423	S137 grant – Sight4wight	£100.00
1424	S137 grant – Citizens Advice(IOW)	£100.00
1425	Community Action – Payroll (Nov)	£619.03
1426	Chale WI – hall hire for Nov	£15.00
1427	Chale WI – C4C funding for Halloween tix	£25.00
1428	IOW Council – grounds maintenance	£948.00
1429	P.Gosling – new xmas tree lights	£41.67
1430	R.Groves – C4C mileage for food parcels	£33.75
1431	M Bailey – clerk expenses	£202.78
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2085.23</b>

Clerk advised council that her expenses included the purchase of the agreed printer for the office, Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Sunday and the Bus and Rail users group membership fee.

5.3 To note increase of payroll processing fee to £7.50 (£1.00 increase)

Clerk advised that the payroll fee to Community Action will increase from April 2024 by £1.00.

**RESOLVED: Agreed.**

#### **127/23 CAROLS ON THE GREEN – 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.**

Deputy Chairman Gosling advised that the root ball tree is no longer available but he will get a slightly smaller tree this year to cur costs. A gazebo will be erected for weather and cold protection for the band. Mr Tester from the church as arranged for the Vicar to attend and he will also provide song sheets. DC Gosling will provide the mince pies and a very generous donation of mulled wine is being provided from Meg and Ron Groves.

**RESOLVED: Noted. Posters to be placed on the green by the tree and in the Hut, Church and Wight Mouse.**

#### **128/23 WIGHTFIBRE UPDATE**

Clerk advised Council that emails had been received from SSEN and Wightfibre in relation to the Installation of the Wightfibre box and its electricity supply on the green by Spanners Close. It appears that Island Roads gave permission to install the box and realised they had no authority to do so and asked both companies to contact the IOW council, who stated it was Chale Parish Councils' responsibility. Clerk has advised both companies this is not the case that that IOW Council are the guardians of the green and that the secretary of state for DEFRA is the only authority who can give permission for this work. It has also been pointed out to both companies that this is a much-needed resource to the village and a prompt resolution would be appreciated.

**RESOLVED: Council members agreed with the Clerks response.**

#### **129/23 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

All events were noted. Council Member Archer advised that he can no longer host the Warm Hub event on the 17<sup>th</sup> Nov at Chale Village Hall. The Warm Hub event on the 24<sup>th</sup> is 7-8pm and not 10-11am as advertised. Council Member Dr Lockwood advised there were 35 tickets reserved for the curry night and he will run a raffle. Council Members volunteered to supply prizes for that. Council Member Archer confirmed he will attend the Bus and Rail users group meeting on behalf of the Parish Council but also advised this will be livestreamed by googlemet if anyone wished to join.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to cancel Warm Hub event on the website.**

### **130/23 S137 FUNDING REQUEST.**

Clerk confirmed that Sight4wight have responded to the Parish request for data on residents being assisted by them (not personal data). They have confirmed that they have 13 members within Chale and have completed 4 home assessments in the last 4 months.

**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 £100.00 in respect of continuing support to residents of Chale Parish to Sight 4 Wight.**

### **131/23 RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:**

**The Clerk.** The Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. The matter of the phone box and the ongoing insurance claim for replacement is still not resolved and likely not to be for some time due to liability dispute between both parties involved in the RTA. Joint work with Ron Groves in relation to the foodbank has taken place and further funding will have to be sought as funds are running low. Island Roads have confirmed that the hedgerows/overgrown vegetation in Southdown has now been cut back. Clerk also received a late email today from Jo Richards asking for support for the SWAY build for funding.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Jo Richards in support of SWAY building.**

**Parish Council Members.** Council Member Archer advised that 7 warm hub events have now taken place with 2 remaining. 17 residents have attended. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of running the event and it will need reviewing for next year. Council Member Archer also advised the new Vicar, Rob Marsh will take over on the 16<sup>th</sup> January. Council Member Parker queried whether there is a set amount of funding for the C4C monies per family unit supported. Clerk advised that gift cards are set at £25.00 and appear sufficient. Chairman Stewart suggested setting a budget for next year for a welfare fund. Council Member Gosling suggested a winter plan in case of heavy snow/ice or severe weather. Clerk advised that the village emergency plan was shelved last year but could be resurrected.

**RESOLVED: Council Members agreed to look at a welfare fund within the Parish budget in 2024/25. Clerk to email a copy of the Village Emergency Plan to all members for review.**

**Chairman.** Chairman Dave Stewart expressed his relief at the granting of the build of the SWAY hub. He also asked for assistance in delivering up to 90 letters to properties on or near the common land (Chale Green) regarding parking issues.

**RESOLVED: Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Council Members Archer and Lockwood will meet and deliver the letters. Clerk to look for a map of the common land and put on the PC website. A copy will be placed on Facebook.**

**IWC Councillor.** Ward Councillor Critchison emailed her report prior to the meeting along with a copy of the Chale churchyard report. The report was as follows:

#### **Cllr community catch up/surgery sessions 2023**

**Niton:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 10.30- 11.30 am, Niton Exchange

**Chale:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 – 11.30am at the village hall

**Shorwell:** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 – 11.30am at the Crown Inn

#### **Church yard committee**

An Autumn report has been produced and I have circulated it to the Parish Council members.

#### **Military Road**

It has been suggested that a Task and Finish Group is established within the IW Council. Calling on the expertise of all implicated stakeholders to develop a forward strategy on the future of the A3055 coastal road. This would enable that in the event there is a sudden catastrophic failure, there is a plan on how to deal with the impact. This scheme has a lot of objections and Island Roads may come back with an alternative plan.

**Winter resilience plan**

I am advising all Parish Councils to consider having a local plan for dealing with flooding, ice, water shortages, power outages etc. This can include having a storage of sandbags, grit and emergency contacts for people affected.

Advice on disposing of used sandbags is available on council website and they are awaiting further details of financial relief for businesses affected by flooding.

**Ponies**

The ponies have been removed from the downs due to concerns with users of the public right of way. Other options and fencing may be considered.

**South Wight Youth Activities (SWAY)**

SWAY have been granted planning permission for the building of the community hub at Chale Green. They will be starting the build as soon as possible and I look forward to seeing it take shape.

**Remembrance Service**

I attended the service at St Andrews along with several of the Parish Councillors. Thanks to the Rev Whatley and the Church Wardens for ensuring the service was a fitting tribute to those we have lost.

**Bus Stop**

A dropped kerb as now been put on the bus stop at Chale Street for accessibility.

**132/23 Member of the Public Questions**  
**RESOLVED: None.**

The meeting concluded at 8.45.pm