



Chale Parish Council  
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Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023**, commencing at 7.00pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Council Members: Dave Stewart, Chris Parker, Dr Jeremy Lockwood  
Lynda Burroughs, Rodney Archer.  
**IW Councillor:** Not Present  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 2

**Prior to the meeting a short presentation was given by Raymond Clark from Citizens Advice giving a brief overview of the services available and the current help being offered to residents of Chale.**

**109/23 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED: Deputy Chairman Pete Gosling , Ward Councillor Claire Critchison both sent apologies.**

**110/23 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**

**111/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023.

**RESOLVED: Agreed.**

**112/23 PLANNING**

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

**A. 23/01687/FUL Location: Emmett Hill Farm, Emmett Hill.**

Proposal: Agricultural barn for livestock and hardstanding for existing barns.

Whilst this was discussed in Sept, the planning has changed slightly.

**RESOLVED; No Objection**

**B. RESOLVED: NONE**

**113/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Sept 2023

**RESOLVED: Noted**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Oct 2023

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

Chq 1418	S137 grant – AB4YP (agreed Sept 106/23)	£100.00
1419	Community Action – Payroll (Oct)	£619.03
1420	Chale WI – hall hire for Oct	£15.00
1421	Rodney Archer – printing for hub leaflets	£58.00
1422	M Bailey – clerk expenses	£43.20
<b>Total</b>		<b>£835.23</b>

5.3 6 monthly budget update.

Clerk advised that the budget was set at £17900 for the year. Spend to date is £6302.18. Forecast expenditure for next 6 months is approx £5820 (depending on Grounds maintenance invoice) leaving an approx total spend of £16417. Council Member Parker asked why the Hoy monument had ringfenced funds. A brief history of the funding was given by Mr Starke and Mr Groves, both former Parish Councillors. In conclusion the money is not to be used for any other purpose.

**RESOLVED: Mr Starke to send Clerk information of the fund raising for the HOY and Council Member Gosling to look at the future of the HOY.**

#### **114/23 BUS USERS GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

This was carried forward from Sept meeting. Council Member Archer gave a brief overview of the Group. It is a nonpolitical group attended by Southern Vectis, County Council management, Island Line and lots of other community groups. Recent positive outcomes of the group was the introduction of a nightly service to rural communities. Rodney volunteered to be the representative for the Parish Council. He felt it would be very beneficial to Chale for the Parish Council to become a member and be the voice for Chale residents who rely on a good bus service. The cost being £10 per annum.

**RESOLVED; Chairman Dave Stewart proposed membership of the group. Agreed by all Other Council members. Clerk to complete application.**

#### **115/23 CHALE PARTNERSHIP/PEPPERPOT FUNDS**

This agenda item was raised by a member of the public during the Sept PC meeting. It was stated that money from the former Chale Partnership, in the sum of around £2000 was given to the PC for the purpose of marketing/communication and any future parish magazine. The member of the public suggested that this money and its whereabouts be looked into. At the start of this item the Chairman asked all Council Members and the Clerk if they were members of the Parish Council in when the Chale Partnership was dissolved. None were involved with the PC at that time. Dr Lockwood did however, confirm he was involved with Chale Partnership at the time.

The Clerk then advised Council that her investigation into the **alleged** missing money has shown the following: Minutes dated 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 show (98/19) that once Chale Together had finalised its remaining balance of funds the remainder will be transferred to the Parish Council to fund the production of the Pepperpot. (appdx 115\_23\_A). The funds of £1323.11 are shown as being paid into the Parish bank account on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 and accordingly recorded on the accounts system. (appdx 115\_23\_B). Throughout that financial year £160 was paid from the Parish funds for the printing of the Pepperpot which then dissolved in 2020 due to Covid and no further funds were spent. Whilst the remaining funds have not been allocated to any particular area **IT IS STILL HELD IN THE PARISH ACCOUNT AND HAS NOT BEEN SPENT OR GONE MISSING.**

During the discussion Dr Lockwood stated that as far as he was aware there was no proviso that the money had to be spent on marketing/communication or production of a magazine when given to the Parish. In fact, the only funds given back to the Parish for a specific purpose were £45.02 and that was for the Christmas Tree that year.

Chairman asked Council Members if they were happy with the information supplied by the Clerk and whether they wished for an independent audit of the accounts. Council Members felt that the explanation was more than sufficient but all paperwork relating to this should be placed on the Parish Council website. He then asked whether the funds should be allocated to a specific area within the budget. All Council members agreed to allow funds to remain within the general budget and not be allocated at this time. A member of the public voiced his concerns about the publication of mis-informed and incorrect allegations of financial impropriety.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to place all paperwork on the website as Appdx and remaining funds to be left for general use.**

### **116/23 DEFIBRILLATORS**

Clerk advised that the Ambulance service had called her to state that the defib at The Wight Mouse was offline and required checking. They stated that all defibs require checking on a monthly basis. Further discussion on whether more training should be given and this will be looked into for the future.

**RESOLVED: Council Member Dr Lockwood agreed to check the defib at Stubbings monthly and Council Member Parker will check the one at the Wight Mouse and report back to the Clerk so she can update the national database.**

### **117/23 LICENSING ACT POLICY REVIEW**

A discussion took place on the Policy as circulated by the Isle of Wight Council. Council members felt that very little had changed and had no concerns or comments to make on the matter.

**RESOLVED: None.**

### **118/23 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

All events were noted. Council Member Burroughs asked that an additional email address be added for booking seats at the Halloween Party. The Curry night will be set at a cost of £7 per head of which £3 will cover the cost of providing food and £4 to the repair funds of the hall. But all profit will go to the hall fund. Council Member Archer advised that only Council Member Burroughs and himself turned up at the sponsors Warm Hub event.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to place additional email for booking seats onto website along with details of all upcoming events. All Council Members to actively promote all upcoming events as listed.**

### **119/23 S137 FUNDING REQUEST.**

Clerk advised that in addition to the information provide by the guest speaker on behalf of Citizens Advice, an email had also been received from Sight4Wight asking for support for this year's story writing competition. Clerk advised that the PC had supported this for the last 2 years.

**RESOLVED. Clerk to ask Sight4wight to provide evidence of them supporting local Chale residents before any consideration be given for funding this year.**

**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 Citizens Advice.**

### **120/23 TO 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.

**RESOLVED: None**

**Parish Council Members.** Council Member Archer advised that 145 leaflets for the warm hub Events have been posted through letterboxes in Chale green but there is still 163 that require posting. He stated that it may be an opportunity to review the Parish Plan at these events and see what the residents' needs are. Council Member Burroughs suggested inviting MP Bob Seely to the Wight Mouse (if they agree) for a surgery. As requested by him in his latest letter. She also asked that all Council members attend the Halloween party if possible and to help promote the event. Council Member Dr Lockwood will be cooking for the curry night and will be providing a meat dish and 2 vegetable dishes. There will also be a quiz a raffle and attendees will be able to bring their own drink Total maximum will be 40 people.

**RESOLVED: Council Members agreed to review Parish Plan in the near future. Chairman Dave Stewart to speak with Wight Mouse regarding MP surgery.**

**Chairman.** Chairman Dave Stewart apologised for not being at the last meeting. advised that he had recently spoken to SWAY about the new building and it looks like it will start next year. He also read out a draft letter that will be going to every house on or near Chale Green reminding them that there is to be no parking on the green except for deliveries/unloading which is only a temporary issue.

**RESOLVED: Chairman to complete letter as agreed by Council Members and send to Clerk for printing off.**

**IWC Councillor.** Due to ongoing incapacity Ward Councillor Critchison sent a short report to the Clerk prior to the meeting which was circulated. The report was as follows:

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

**Whitwell:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 – 11.30 am at the church

**Niton:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 10.30- 11.30 am, Niton Exchange

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

**Warm hub/Coffee House**

Thank you to Rodney for putting this together.

I can attend the following dates. Chale Hut 7-8pm 10<sup>th</sup> November

Village Hall 10-11am 20<sup>th</sup> October and 17<sup>th</sup> November

**Sway**

The updated application consultation date has now passed.

The planning department are awaiting the receipt of additional information requested by Environmental Health. If Environmental Health are content with the information supplied then the application will be recommended for conditional approval.

**Community Road Safety Meeting**

The meeting on Thursday was well attended with around 50 people. Positive to know residents are interested in seeing improvements and changes. Notes will be written up and an action plan created. A joint community effort is required. I have attached the Community speed watch information. If you are keen to join the teams, please complete the forms and return to Holly from the Police.

**121/23 Member of the Public Questions**

**RESOLVED: None.**

The meeting concluded at 9.03.pm