



Chale Parish Council
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Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wed 13th March 2023**, commencing at 7.02pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

Present

Councillors: Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Liz Groves, Dian McWilliam, Chris Parker, Dr Jeremy Lockwood
IW Councillor: Claire Critchison
Clerk: Mrs Michala Bailey
Public: 2

26/23 APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: None

27/23 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

28/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th February 2023.

RESOLVED: Agreed.

29/23 PLANNING

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A. None

B. 23/00036/RVC. Land Adjacent 1 Spanners Close, Chale. Variation to 21/02345/FUL

To allow alterations to roof and profile. Granted.

RESOLVED: Clerk advised this is alteration to the roof of the proposed SWAY hub.

30/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Feb 2023

RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Mar 2023

RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:

Chq 1384	spoiled Chq	£ 0
1385	SSE – The HUt	£ 161.79
1386	Chale Churchyard Cmmt – s137 grant 36/23	£ 300.00
1387	WI Chale- Hall hire Feb & Mar	£ 30.00
1388	Community Action – payroll	£ 607.33
1389	P. Gosling – Fencing Pins Hoy Monument	£ 49.97
1390	M.Bailey – Expenses	£ 164.90

Total **£1313.99**

Clerk clarified the electricity rates to council due to the high bill. An explanation of the Clerks expenses were given in that the cost of the drone footage of the Hoy Monument was paid by bacs from the clerk own account and a new padlock was purchased as a gate had to be opened for access to the Hoy monument for emergency fencing.

5.3 To discuss new purchase of new notice board at Chale Green.

Clerk circulated details of various types of notice boards for purchase. The existing structure is in a bad state of repair. Remedial works have been carried out but more is needed. Councillors discussed a possibility of a wall notice board being placed on the new community hub when built or sharing with SWAY.

RESOLVED. Clerk to contact SWAY and discuss further.

5.4 To discuss Hoy Monument and ongoing repairs

Clerk updated council with current situation on the Hoy. Drone footage showed deterioration at the top with loose stone laying on the ledge and what appears more loose stone around it. The ball is cracked, possibly by the cable clips holding the lightning conductor in place. Clerk and Deputy Chairman has liaised with The National Trust, landowner, local farmers who graze cattle and a local Contractor, Mr Toby Barclay-Roper of Wight contractors to A. put emergency fencing around the monument for safety purposes, B. to look at removing loose stone and/or looking at remedial repair. Fencing pins were purchased, as agreed by Councillors, second hand stock wire was donated by The National Trust and Deputy Chairman Pete Gosling put up temporary fencing on Saturday. Warning signs were also placed on the fencing. Clerk advised Councillors that to enable vehicle access for works a gate located on Mr Browns land had to be opened but was locked by a rusty padlock. Permission to remove the padlock was granted by Mr Willis, who farms the land and a replacement was purchased by the clerk and placed on the gate by the deputy chairman. Clerk completed a risk assessment for the Hoy and contacted Council insurers to ensure all guidelines were adhered to.

Clerk then read an email from Mr Barclay-Roper of Wight Contractors who has offered to carry out necessary works on the monument at NO COST. Clerk spoke to Mr Barclay-Roper and was advised that he wanted to help the community and as he was the only contractor with the correct equipment to get up to the monument it made sense to him to carry out repairs to preserve the monument as much as possible whilst he was there.

RESOLVED; Clerk to note for minutes a public Thank You to The National Trust for their help and assistance and to Wight Contractors for their very generous gift to the Parish of repairs at no cost. Clerk to liaise with contractor to ensure that all insurance is valid and should a fee be required to ensure that the contractor does not breach their insurance requirements then the Parish Council will make payment towards the costs.

31/23 POLICY REVIEWS

Clerk circulated 3 policies for yearly review.

RESOLVED: 1.Risk Management. Council Records electronic section to include cloud storage. Reviews Dates for Members responsibilities to be included on schedule. Look at retention and disposal.

2. Asset Register. Christmas tree lights are held at Deputy chairman home NOT Chairmans.

3. Chale Emergency Plan. Clerk to look at other PC's and see if anything has been missed.

Ward Councillor Critchison will forward to IWC resilience officer for advice.

32/23 COMMON LAND – OLD CHALE GREEN STORE

To discuss ongoing issues of parking and recent meeting with legal services and parking services from IWC. Chairman advised that the IWC will not apply for ownership of the unregistered land, therefore, will not take on responsibility of the car park. Any repairs to cracked paving and removal of bollards would be down for Parish Council to pay for. A further meeting was held with Crown Park to get quote for works (removal of bollards and make repairs to slabs/tarmac). The quote was £300 to remove bollards, make good tarmac and replace slabs that may be broken in the process. A further £300 to remove slabs on parking area that are broken and hazardous, replace and remove all rubbish. Re-lining of bays will be re-considered later.

RESOLVED; Councillors agreed to have works carried out asap due to easter holidays and the increased use of the car park. Due to the quotes being under the Finance Regs limit then procurement rules were not relevant and Clerk to contact Crown Park and get the works completed.

33/23 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Clerk advised Council that a copy of the original agreement with IWC for additional grass cutting of the green has now been found dated 2016. A recent email from Lee Mathews, strategic manager from the IWC confirmed that the contract was billed in arrears for invoicing period Jan-Dec and that it covers around 12 cuts per year with the majority between apr-oct. Further discussion on whether this was an additional 12 or just 12 and what do the IWC do without charge.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact grounds maintenance team and ask for a schedule of works so, Council can determine whether it is value for money and whether to seek alternative an contract.

34/23 COST OF LIVING

Chairman circulated a copy of his letter to be hand delivered to residents along with a leaflet from IWC on where to seek help. Clerk advised that the IWC will be giving the Parish 550 leaflets for free so the only cost will be printing the letter. Clerk has approached St Marys Hospital printing dept for a quote to print 300 a4 letters. Mr Rodney Archer, resident, updated council on the Warm Hub event that he has held for the last 2 Fridays and will continue to do so until the end of April at the Hut, Spanners Close. Held 10am-12, free refreshments and a chat or playing a game or cards. Ward Councillor Critchison has been present for both events and PCSO O'Keefe also attended. Those that attended (12) raised various issues within the Parish and Rodney suggested that it may be a way of carrying out a parish survey on the needs and wants of the residents if the PC wished.

RESOLVED: Chairman to add further info to his letter regarding the living well van, Warm Hub event and the Parish AGM in May. Councillors will hand deliver letter and leaflets when printed. Councillors to attend warm hub events when available. Council to pay for any refreshments or out of pocket expenses for the running of the Warm Hub.

Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Rodney for his kindness, time and effort in running the event.

35/23 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

King Charles III Coronation discussed. Council member Dr Lockwood advised that he has spoken to Lynda Burrows, president of Chale WI who has expressed a wish to do a joint event. It is still an idea to have a bring your own picnic with music either on the green or at the WI hall but this only has a small capacity if the weather is against the day and the event has to take place indoors. Councillor Critchison advised what days Niton and Whitwell will be having events. SWAY appear to be organising something but it is unknown what currently. Clerk advised that SWAY will be delivering cream teas (via Ron Groves, Chale Food bank) to those in need. Clerk confirmed that no extra insurance is required as long as risk assessment considered.

RESOLVED: Coronation event date agreed on the 8th May 12-3pm. Councillor Gosling to contact SWAY and see if a joint event is possible. Dr Lockwood to liaise with WI and organise event at the hall. Some refreshments to be supplied by PC. Bunting etc to be purchased. policy for the event. License for playing of music to be checked by Ward Councillor Critchison. Event to be advertised on website and in Chairman letter to residents.

36/23 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS

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 £300.00 in respect of continuing support to residents of Chale Parish to Chale Churchyard Committee.

37/23 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

The Clerk. Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk still awaiting reply from Cllr Phil Jordan on speeding sign policy/procurement. An invitation to Lord Lieutenant celebration of the Kings Coronation on May 7th has been received. A meeting of the Wightlink Cycle race will be held at the cafe, Chessell Pottery on 30/3 between 1-3pm and Council members were invited to ask questions.

RESOLVED. Clerk to advise that Chairman Dave Stewart will attend celebration of the 7th May but Council Member Dr Lockwood will attend should he not be able to attend. Chairman Stewart will attend the drop in regarding the Cycle race.

Parish Councillors. Councillor Groves advised that she has received a complaint from a resident at Eastview Lane regarding rubbish being dumped in the hedge. Councillor Gosling advised that the padlock on the gate is now in place at the Hoy and code set.

RESOLVED: Rubbish complaint sent to Island Roads by Ward Councillor Critchison. Councillor Gosling to advise farmer of code on new padlock. Clerk to advise contractor of code for completion of repairs.

Chairman – Dave Stewart. Date for Annual Parish Meeting and AGM for Parish Council confirmed for 10th May. Chairman asked Councillor and Council members to let him know if they will be remaining on the council.

RESOLVED: NONE.

Ward Councillor – Report was forwarded to Clerk prior to the meeting and circulated to all Councillors. Cllr catchup/surgery sessions will be held in:
Niton on Wed 28/3 1030-1130 at The Exchange.
Shorwell on 31/3 1030-1130 at The Crown PH
Chale on 15/4 1030-1130 at the WI Hall.

There will be a Road Safety meeting at Wilberforce Hall, Brighstone on 22/3 at 6pm to discuss traffic management, quiet roads, road safety and community speed watch. Feedback from residents is sought.

Claire attended the Warm Hub events at the Hut and enjoyed meeting residents. She expressed her thanks to Rodney for organising.

The Dark Skies event took place at IOW Pearl and was well organised. The lighting replacement Programme is now complete on the island and the Council are looking to have the form the International Dark Skies Association completed and submitted by end of Feb. Claire will be holding a Civic Service to celebrate her year as Chairman of the IW Council at St Andrews Church, Chale on Sunday 30th April at 2pm. The service will be followed by afternoon tea. Everyone is welcome to attend but please let her know so she can ensure numbers are catered for.

RESOLVED: None

38/23 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED. NONE

The meeting concluded at 9.32pm