



Chale Parish Council
www.chale.org.uk

Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 9th Sept 2024**, commencing at 7.00pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

Present

Councillors: Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Lynda Burroughs, Chris Parker & Dr Jeremy Lockwood
IW Councillor: Claire Critchison
Clerk: Mrs Michala Bailey
Public: 7

97/24 APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Council Member Rodney Archer sent apologies.

98/24 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: Council Member Lynda Burroughs declared an interest in item 11 of the agenda.

99/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th July 2024.

RESOLVED: Minutes agreed. Clerk reminded Council members that an agreement was made to create a finance sub-committee in order that Parish funds could be managed and the best account that suited the Parish needs to be looked into. Chairman asked Clerk to organise this.

100/24 PLANNING

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A NONE

RESOLVED: No applications to consider.

B: Appleford Hut, Appleford Road to be closed for culvert repairs.

RESOLVED: Noted.

101/24 FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for July and August 2024

RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for Sept 2024

RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:

Chq 1476	WI Chale – Hall Hire (Sept)	£15.00
1477	Community Action - Payroll	£718.83
1478	Rodney Archer -printing for mobile pantry	£38.00
1479	M Bailey – Clerk Expenses	£129.20
Total		£901.03

Clerk advised that a letter had received from Scottish Widows who hold a small amount of Parish funds in a savings account, advising that the interest rate was being reduced.

RESOLVED: Council chairman and Member Parker to look at finance sub-committee.

102/24 COMMON LAND CLEARANCE

Council Member Gosling will be looking at the issue in depth of Saturday and accessing the best course of action to take. He will be liaising with SWAY to ascertain what they will be removing. Landowners who abut the green will be contacted if necessary to ensure they remove any shrubs or overgrowth that encroaches onto the green. Prior to the meeting the Clerk circulated an email from a resident who resides next to the green which detailed her concerns about the cutting back. Clerk advised previously that this will be closely to get rid of cuttings and again reiterated that there were little funds to do this.

RESOLVED: Council Member Gosling will start work on Saturday 14th Sept. Volunteers welcome.

103/24 PHONE BOX

Clerk confirmed that the original quote for the replacement of the phone box has been accepted by our insurance company bar £250 excess. However, as the quote was over 1 year ago there is concern that it has now risen. Clerk has contacted the suppliers for confirmation that the original quote stands.

RESOLVED: Once price confirmed, Clerk to accept offer.

104/24 COMPLAINT FROM M.O.P

Chairman Stewart advised Council that a complaint email had been received by a Parish resident concerning a neighbour dispute over overgrown bamboo and ongoing issues. The other party involved relates to a Council member. The Chairman stated that he did not feel this was a Parish Council issue and purely a dispute between 2 neighbour's and therefore the matter will not be dealt with by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: None.

105/24 PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Stewart wished to discuss the issue over communication with the Parish residents. The PC has a website. Agendas and minutes of meetings are displayed on notice boards but felt that there may be another way of getting info to residents. It was agreed that the Chale Village facebook page will not be the way forward as this is privately owned, however, members of the public present were asked their views. Resoundingly 'facebook' was a way forward but the issue of who would be responsible to update and monitor it was then debated. Clerk wished to express her view that she is too busy in the limited paid hours to keep on top of this.

RESOLVED. MOP, Mr Burroughs volunteered to look at a facebook page. Who would run it will be debated at a later date.

106/24 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT CONSULTATION

Clerk circulated a letter from the IWC regarding this years Council Tax consultation. Council member Parker advised that it looked like it was going to remain the same. Council agreed to support this.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to IWC and confirm.

107/24 CO2 PIPELINE

Prior to the meeting an email was circulated from a resident of Ventnor detailing his views and concerns over this proposal with some information that he felt prudent to be shared. Chairman started the item by asking for an update from Council Member Burroughs as she attended a meeting set up for all Parish Councils in the West Wight to attend. There was an enormous amount of information and discussion which will be minuted and sent to the clerk. To sum up, it was agreed that all the PC's should act as one united unit. Not enough information was given by Exxon at the display venues, and that given was confusing and incorrect. Major questions on operation, storage, what ifs and what will this do for the island were not addressed. Most importantly Exxon do NOT have a licence to do any of this work yet! Council Members Dr Lockwood, Chris Parker did attend one of the many public events and it was obvious that there were many questions being asked by the public but no answers and it appeared no alternatives being considered to this. A lot of time has been spent producing a large glossy brochure but no time in explain why the 3 routes have been proposed, why not under the sea? What storage system will be used. Members of the public present also expressed concerns over safety of the project, lack of evidence that this will work. Lack of scientific evidence, who will pay for this (although it is thought that the

government will be heavily investing as part of their carbon zero policies. Local landowners have been contacted and offered financial incentives to allow exploration across their land/gardens. However, it has been noted that should that be refused then there could be compulsory purchasing. Ward Councillor Critchison advised that this is purely a fact-finding situation at present so that Exxon can choose a route. They have yet to make a formal application and to do that they must produce a statement of intent along with an environmental impact statement. Claire advised that it is important for every individual against this to make their views known.

A mop addressed the Council and explained that she had spoke to a renown expert on the geology of the island who has advised that as this is a government plan it will go ahead unless the Marine Organisation gets involved. It does not matter that the areas affected are designated Natural Landscape and have many protected species.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to secretary of State outlining the Parish Councils objection to the proposed project. Clerk to write to both island MP's and to invite Exxon Mobile to a Parish meeting to discuss further.

108/24 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

12.2 Clerk advised that Council Members were invited to attend the best kept village award event on the 25th Sept.

12.3 In addition, the Coastal team at the IWC will now be having monthly meetings via TEAMS, to address concerns and disseminate information regarding issues around the island. Council Members are to contact Clerk for TEAMS login details if they wish to attend.

12.4 The joint WI/PC event will be a Caribbean themed evening on the 16th November. Food will be provided. Bring your own drinks...Ticket prices will be £5 and numbers limited to 40. Booking is required and by email to jlockwood156@aol.com.

12.6 Council members Gosling advised that the first mobile pantry event was held on Friday 6th and went well. Lots of goods to purchase. £5 gets up to £15 of goods. Leaflets were distributed by Claire, Pete and Dr Lockwood. It is hoped more residents will use it. Claire served tea/coffee to those attending which gave it a real community feel.

RESOLVED: Council Member Gosling and Archer will continue to help with the pantry. Ward Councillor Critchison will be attending the BKVA event. Chairman Stewart will try and attend. Parish Council to fund the hall hire for the mobile pantry from October from the C4C budget.

109/24 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS RESOVLED; None received.

110/24 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

The Clerk. Clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting. In addition to that, she advised that 3 bills have been received from SSE regarding the closure of the account of the old hut. Hopefully a refund will be imminent. Her training has continued and more certificate's awarded. Complaints from residents in Spanners close have been received regarding the new building which has led to a recent meeting. Chairman to update. A letter in inviting the PC to become involved in the Mental Health Alliance has been received also.

RESOLVED: None

Parish Councillors.

Council Member Burroughs attended the West Wight Parish Council meeting on the CO2 pipeline. There was an enormous amount of information and discussion which will be minuted and sent to the clerk. To sum up, it was agreed that all the PC's should act as one united unit. Not enough information was given by Exxon at the display venues, and that given was confusing and incorrect. Major questions on operation, storage, what ifs and what will this do for the island were not addressed. Most importantly Exxon do NOT have a licence to do any of this work yet!

Council Member Gosling added that the tree warden scheme and red squirrel society are also alarmed as there appears that the mass destruction of hedgerows will cause an adverse effect on the squirrel population.

Council Member Dr Lockwood circulated a poster for the Caribbean evening.

RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate minutes of West Wight meeting as soon as received.

Chairman – Dave Stewart.

Chairman advised that he did attend and chair a meeting at the old hut at Spanners Close, regarding the new building that SWAY have permission to erect. There were lots of concerns from residents living immediately near the new building that they were not consulted, lots of potential noise, hours of operating, parking and that the area earmarked as a café or similar will in fact overlook some of the neighbouring gardens. All of the concerns were forwarded to the management team of SWAY as this is not a Parish Council project but one which is supported.

Chairman also advised that he did drive the minibus for SWAY for a weekend activities event for its users. He found it extremely informative to speak to some of the youths supported by SWAY and those who provide it to see the need and potential for it to continue.

RESOLVED: None.

Ward Councillor – Claire Critchison

Claire confirmed that her Local Councillor Update leaflet has now been delivered, by hand, to every household within her ward. There is lots of information regarding surgeries and how to get in touch with Claire on it. In addition, there is an update on the current situation with the CO2 pipeline, flooding, speeding and much more. A copy of the leaflet can be found on the Chale Parish Council website. Claire has been attending as many meetings and online meetings as possible regarding this matter. She did wish to reiterate to all present that the CO2 pipeline is not yet at the stage of seeking planning permission but it will be the Secretary of State who gives the go ahead and NOT the Isle of Wight Council.

RESOLVED: None

111/24 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Questions were allowed during the meeting and addressed accordingly.

RESOLVED: None

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm