



Chale Parish Council  
www.chale.org.uk

Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025, commencing at 7.00pm. The Meeting was recorded for the purposes of accuracy.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Cll Members: Dave Stewart, Pete Gosling, Chris Parker, Lynda Burroughs, Andrew Burroughs and Dr Jeremy Lockwood.  
**IW Councillor:** Not Present.  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 3

The Meeting was due to commence with a short talk from Councillor Leigh Jackman, Godshill Parish Councillor on the merits/benefits of Parish Futures. This did not take place.

**34/25 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED: Ward Councillor Claire Critchison sent apologies.**

**35/25 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**

**36/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**RESOLVED:**

**37/25 PLANNING**

To review any planning applications and note any IWC decisions:

A **25/00317/FUL**. Location: The Green Barn, Upper House Lane, Chale

Proposal: Proposed alterations and conversion of workshop/storage to form residential dwelling, with new access and parking. Case Officer: Charlotte Howlett

**RESOLVED: No objections raise**

B: NONE

**RESOLVED: No applications to consider.**

**38/25 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for March 2025

**RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for April 2025

**RESOLVED: The following receipts were noted**

25.3.25	HMRC vat refund	£2107.34
07.4.25	IWC Precept	£18500.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£20607.34</b>

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

Chq 1519	WI Chale – Hall Hire April	£15.00
1520	WI Chale – Hall Hire for food pantry (Mar)	£60.00
1521	Community Action - Payroll	£793.62
1522	Island Roads – dog bin empty service	£239.76
1523	M. WARR – internal auditor fee	£75.00
1460	M. Bailey – clerk expenses	£87.38
<b>Total</b>		<b>£1270.76</b>

5.3 To receive and approve the end of year accounts

**RESOLVED. That the end of year accounts was noted and agreed.**

5.4 To receive and approve VAT claim for 2024/25

Clerk advised that the VAT claim had been made and a total of £2107.34 has been refunded to the Parish council.

**RESOLVED. That the refund of VAT was agreed.**

5.5 To discuss any potential conflict of interest with BDO LLP (new auditors)

**RESOLVED; No conflict of interests declared.**

5.6 To note all spending over £100 for the year 2024/25

**RESOLVED: all payments over £100 noted.**

5.7 To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

**RESOLVED. That the Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25 was noted and agreed.**

5.8 To resolve that Chale Parish Council meets the exemption criteria for 2024/25

(total gross income and expenditure below £25K) and wishes to be an exempt Authority, not subject to a limited assurance review (page 3 of AGS above) and that the Notice of Public Rights will be issued and dates set from 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE 25 to 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 25.

**RESOLVED. That the Parish Council met the exemption criteria and wished to be an exempt Authority. NOPR to be issued on 15<sup>th</sup> April.**

5.9 To receive and consider the findings in the internal audit report

**RESOLVED. The internal audit report was discussed. Clerk to explore .gov.uk email addresses and report back. Clerk also currently updating Finance regs which will be presented at the AGM**

5.10 To discuss the Clerk extra hours worked in preparing the end of year audit.

Council Member Gosling advised Council that the Clerk had worked a lot of extra hours to complete the end of year audit with additional pressure of the May election paperwork. He requested that those extra hours be considered for payment. Clerk advised that an additional 28 hours over the month of March and beginning of April had been worked.

**RESOLVED: Chairman voted to pay an additional 20 hours to the Clerk. This was unanimously agreed.**

**39/25 POLICY REVIEWS**

6.1 Email Privacy and Privacy Notice

**RESOLVED: Agreed. Clerk to remove summary box as it was only repeating the previous Paragraph.**

6.2 Accessibility Policy

**RESOLVED: Agreed.**

**40/25 SPEED REVIEW**

Chairman clarified that at the previous meeting Council Members were asked to think about actions required in response to the recent speed review by IWC, whereby the 40mph limit in Chale Street was not recommended for a reduction. Council Members agreed that it made no sense why there is a short distance of 40mph even though previous advice was that it gave a buffer prior to going into

the 30mph zone approaching Newman/Gotten Lane junctions which are particularly problematic. It was agreed that better signage is required when approaching these junctions, Road Narrows, 30mph roundalls in the road, white lining to be renewed as well as the slow signs. Due to the potential increase in traffic due to holiday season, Blackgang Chine, visitors to the pub, car boots and to the new SWAY building once completed, the speeding potential has not been considered. It was also raised that the speed review in February was carried out at the wrong time of year and could not be considered a true reflection of the situation. MOP JM asked why the IWC were not adhering to their own policy for rural roads, which is taken directly from national policy in that the stretch of 40mph does meet the criteria for a reduction to 30mph.

**RESOLVED: 4 Council Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the IWC requesting a reduction in speed to 30mph (throughout the whole village) along with better signage at the Newman/Gotten Lane junction.**

#### **41/25 THE GREENING CAMPAIGN**

A request from Chillerton and Gatcombe PC has been received for Chale to consider joining forces and applying for funding to run a Greening Campaign. The rules were forwarded to all members prior to the meeting. It was considered too constrictive and too time consuming to run such a campaign BUT it could be something that Sustainable Chale might be interested in.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to decline C&G request but to advise them of SC.**

#### **42/25 PARKING ISSUES – GRASS VERGES**

The ongoing issue of parking on grass verges, particularly opposite Lea Bank is of concern. Clerk advised that she had spoken to Southern Housing, as they have properties there, and a joint letter to residents was presented to Council. Signage was discussed but not appropriate at this time.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to print off letters to residents. Council Member Andrew Burroughs Volunteered to hand deliver to properties opposite the verge. Chairman to speak to IWC regarding the current nearby layby. Can it be extended? Can it be properly surfaced?**

#### **43/25 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

All events noted. AB advised that the food pantry will be closed this Friday (18<sup>th</sup>) due to bank holiday.

**RESOLVED: Events noted.**

#### **44/25 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS**

Clerk advised that a late request had been received in relation to Armed Forces Day. Council Members discussed and felt that due to the size of the event and the request for sponsoring a 'red arrow', there were insufficient funds to do this and the S137 funding available should be focused on Parish based events.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to advise organisers that CPC could not support this event.**

#### **45/25 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:**

**The Clerk.** Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. In addition, a complaint was received by IWC parking services regarding 2 vans parking overnight on the car park in front of old shop. As this is common land this is the responsibility of the IWC NOT the PC. The maintenance for the Green has now been agreed and in writing. This will include tractor and flail once per annum to cut back the hawthorn to the tree line. Council Member Gosling advised that the recent grass cut did not include the cleared area and now the hawthorn roots were growing again.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to contact IWC commercial services and query why the whole green was not cut?**

#### **Parish Councillors.**

Council member Lynda Burroughs advised that the bookings for the Hall are now online and that WI members attended a village halls day at Mottistone to promote Chale.

Council Member Andrew Burroughs advised that the Parish Facebook page is getting plenty of views and asked if other Council members would like access to write and post on it.

Council Member Dr Lockwood confirmed that both defibs had been checked and are in ready status. He also asked that the wooden bridge at the bottom of the drive of Hawthorn Farm that crossed the stream onto the footpath be looked at due to severe rot and possible safety issue.

Council Member Gosling advised that 3 persons helped with the litter pick and 4 large bags of rubbish was collected mainly from the edge of the Green. He wished to **Thank** all who attended.

**RESOLVED: None**

**Chairman – Dave Stewart.**

Chairman advised that he had chaired the SWAY meeting that was held to discuss resident issues. One resident had more than one problem and she was asked to put them in writing to the PC. Chairman has received her email and responded accordingly, ensuring that SWAY are involved and deal with the issues mentioned. There will be another meeting in May.

**RESOLVED: None**

**Ward Councillor Claire Critchison**

This report was circulated prior to the meeting and read out by the chairman

**“Landslide and Coastal Loss Forum**

The forum (LCLF) will focus specifically on Island-wide issues related to landslides, coastal erosion, and their impacts on the community and environment. The purpose of this forum is to bring together the community and the risk management authorities to collaborate, share best practices, update on current programmes of work, and engage with the local communities affected by landslides and coastal loss. I will attend the meetings to represent the area. If you would like to join please let me know.

Road works Closures on Main Road Chillerton through to Kennel Lane (Kingston Cross roads) for 2/3 days between 14 – 18th April for lining works. Closures in Niton and Rookley later in the month for resurfacing.

Wightfibre I have been in touch with Wightfibre to understand the connection issue. Delays are due to wayleaves and permissions. ‘Work in Chale, Chale Green and Niton was delayed by the landslip in Ventnor last year. (We were unable to work on either of the two main access roads to Ventnor whilst the third was closed by the landslip). Work in Chale was completed last year. Due to a lack of clarity over Wayleave requirements SSE are declining to connect an electricity cable to the cabinet there. Obviously, without power the cabinet will not work. We are now looking at relocating the cabinet to a location where it can be connected to power. This is likely to take until the end of the year.’

Cllr community catch up/surgery sessions.

Niton: Wednesday 30th April 10.30 – 11.30am. The Exchange

Chale: Chale food pantry every Friday 1-2 pm. Chale Village Hall

Email: [Claire.critchison@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.critchison@iow.gov.uk) Tel: 07855022429

For road closure updates and general information please visit:

[www.facebook.com/clairechalenitonshorwell](https://www.facebook.com/clairechalenitonshorwell)

Please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns”

**46/25 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A question was asked about the new phone box and what it was going to be used.

Council Members agreed to put a suggestions post on Facebook and see what residents want.

**RESOLVED: Council Member Burroughs to post suggestions on FB. Clerk to place as Agenda item for June meeting.**

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8.59PM