

Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday, 11 February 2008 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr M Starke, Vice-Chairman

Councillors : Mr P Atkinson, Mrs W Downes, Mr D T Overton

In attendance: Mrs B Herbert (Clerk and RFO)
Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell Cllr Mrs W Arnold

There was one member of the public present.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, Cllr M Starke took the Chair.

150/07-08 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Mr & Mrs Groves, who were on annual leave.

RESOLVED :

THAT the reasons for the non-attendance of Cllrs Mr and Mrs Groves be authorised as approved reasons for absence.

151/07-08 Declarations of Interest

Cllr P Atkinson declared a personal interest in Minute 155/07-08 as he was the parish council's representative on the Chale Recreation Ground Committee.

152/07-08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 January 2008

RESOLVED :

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2008 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

153/07-08 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a) Min 137/07-08 b. No Parking signs - Cllr Atkinson advised of the disappearance of the 'No Parking' signs. He agreed to investigate the costs of replacement with a more robust type, possibly adhesive. Cllr Overton to supply a graphic which could be used. To be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
- b) Min 137/07-08 c. Viewpoint Car Park, Blackgang Chine - The Isle of Wight Council's Principal Waste Management & Contracts Officer had advised that as the hedge was on privately owned land, the IWC would not normally take on the responsibility of maintenance, as this was the landowners responsibility. The clerk to write to Mr S Dabell of Blackgang Theme Park

asking if the hedge could be trimmed regularly.

With regard to hedge cutting in general, the contractor was required to remove any debris from the highway, the IWC would welcome notification if this proved to not be the case. Councillors could also use the Silver Line to report any incidents of non-compliance.

- c) Min 137/07-08 d. Gladices Barn, Chale – An e-mail had been received from the IWC Development Control Manager, Mr A Pegram providing an update in relation to Gladices Barn.
- d) Min 147/07-08 Annual Parish Meeting – The Energy Advice Centre were unable to attend. The Footprint Trust had also been approached, but they too were unable to attend this year, although they did volunteer for 2009. To be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

154/07-08 To receive an update from Mr Andrew Davidson, Treasurer of the West Wight Methodist Circuit.

Mr A Davidson circulated a paper setting out the background to the trust fund, which had been set up by the West Wight Methodist Circuit and details of the proposal to purchase a 16 seater minibus. It was planned for the project to be overseen by a committee of at least 5 people, including a representative of the parish council. The timetable of meetings was reported, which would hopefully culminate in a decision being taken by the Methodist National Committee on the release of the money.

Mr Davidson expressed his interest in being appointed as the training instructor/assessor for all drivers, under the approved MiDAS scheme run by the Community Transport Association, a requirement of which would form part of the terms of hire.

155/07-08 Update on Sale of Chale Recreation Ground

Cllr Atkinson provided an update on the sale of the recreation ground. The finalisation of the Deed of Trust was still outstanding, although this work was in hand by way of a Mr David Townsend. A meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday, 15 February to complete the details. Councillors expressed the view that the final document should be presented to the parish council for approval before signing. Mention was also made of the lack of sight of the minutes of meetings of the Recreation Ground Committee, which should have been circulated to the parish council. Cllr Atkinson agreed to highlight the concerns to the Recreation Ground Committee.

156/07-08 Community Chest Parish Award Scheme

a. Monthly Bus Trip for Older People

It was noted that in written estimates received the two organisations concerned had quoted lower figures. Lazy Dayz Travel Ltd now confirmed their fee to be £70 based on 14 people, and the Ventnor Community Minibus to be £60 per trip for 12 persons. The total amount of the grant to be applied for was therefore reduced to £750. The Parish Council's commitment to contribute up to a maximum of 20% of the scheme would be reduced to £168.00.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT the application for grant funding of £750 be approved;
 - ii. THAT funding up to a maximum of £168.00 towards monthly bus trips for the elderly, be approved.
- b. Two applications for Parish Community Chest Award funding were to be made by the Chale Village Partnership (CVP). Under the specific criteria a statement of support was required identifying how the parish council were to contribute to the projects, whether financially or in-kind; and how the project would contribute to the IWC Agenda to improve the quality of life for young and old:
- i. Chale Day

Councillors expressed the view that support for this project would be in-kind, by helping out on the day. It was agreed that this was an important established event for the local community. It provided an opportunity for the whole of the village, which was fragmented both geographically as well as socially, to come together informally to just enjoy themselves.

RESOLVED :

THAT the application for grant funding of £335, submitted by the CVP, towards Chale Day be supported and that the parish council's contribution be by way of help in-kind.

- c. Chale Mail

Councillors expressed the view that a financial contribution was currently made towards the production of Chale Mail, for the costs of insertion of the contact details of the parish council. Councillors also provided the publication with a regular copy on a number of other subjects. Chale Mail was considered to be an important newsletter providing a vital link on local community issues to residents.

RESOLVED :

THAT the application for grant funding, submitted by the CVP, towards the production of the Chale Mail be supported and that the parish council's contribution be by way of the charge for the insertion of the contact details of the parish council and the regular articles provided by Councillors.

157/07-08 Awards for All application for funding of 'Pieces of Eight'

The financial details of the application for Awards for All grant funding were reported. The costs had been identified at £6,550 with the sum of £4,850 being requested. The Carnival Learning Centre, through an Adult and Community learning scheme,

had agreed to contribute £1,530 leaving a shortfall of £170. It was also reported that under the Awards for All scheme any project involving children must have a child protection policy in place. The clerk advised that she had received a copy of the IWC's Child Protection Policy and would submit a document based on this to the next meeting for consideration. Councillors considered that the Carnival Learning Centre should bear the full costs of the shortfall and that the parish council 's contribution could be made through volunteer assistance, subject to the limitations of any agreed child protection policy.

RESOLVED :

- i THAT the application for funding of £4,850.00 from the Awards for All scheme be approved, subject to no financial contribution being made by the parish council;
- ii THAT the clerk produce a draft child protection policy for consideration at the next meeting.

158/07-08 Letter from the Mr A Turner MP regarding the IW ferry services

RESOLVED :

THAT Andrew Turner MP be supported in his campaign for the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) to investigate the Isle of Wight ferry services to ensure they provide a fair deal for Islanders.

159/07-08 Chale School Committee

The IWC's Cllr Mrs W Arnold stated that she had been misquoted in the response document and although a number of e-mails had caused the County Hall website to crash, these might not necessary have all been in protest. It was agreed for the error to be rectified.

RESOLVED :

- i. The minutes of the meeting of the Chale School Committee held on 25 January 2008 were noted;
- ii. The recommendations from the Chale School Committee in response to the IWC consultation on education reform be endorsed, subject to the deletion of the word 'protesting', on the last page.

160/07-08 Results of Speed Survey outside Chale CofE primary School

RESOLVED :

THAT the letter be noted and passed to the Road Safety Working Party for comment.

161/07-08 Village Design Statement Steering Group

Councillors noted the update on progress of the Village Design Statement for Chale. The next meeting of the Steering Group would take place in early March.

162/07-08 Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

No matters to report.

163/07-08 Road Safety Working Party

No matters to report.

164/07-08 Chale Village Partnership

No matters to report.

165/07-08 Correspondence

Correspondence received was listed in the report circulated with the agenda. Additional correspondence was referred to on an individual basis. It was agreed for the leaflet in respect of the LO-CO project, to be launched by the Footprint Trust in the Spring of 2009, to be considered further at the next meeting.

166/07-08 Town and Country Planning

a. Consideration was given to the following application –

TCP/21017B Chale farm Barns, Upper House Lane/ Chale Place. Chale – Conversion of redundant barn to recording studio and accommodation suite.

RESOLVED :

THAT the application be positively supported subject to conditions being imposed to prevent any noise breakout from the premises.

b. The following applications approved by the IWC since the last meeting of the Parish Council were noted:

- i. TCP/28665 TCP/28665 Trills, Church Place, Chale – Reinstatement of residential use to building and land; alterations and 2 storey extension to provide additional living accommodation; turning and parking area (revised description) (re-advertised application)
- ii. TCP/05077/N Chale Green Stores, Chale Green – Partial demolition of buildings and removal of storage container; single storey extension to form replacement shop, post office, wc's and tea room

167/07-08 Report of the IWC Ward member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Cllr Mrs W Arnold reported on a number of issues:

- A drink/drug free dance night for under 18s, to take place on 19 February at the Winter Gardens. Transport would be available to and from Chale.
- Mr A Pegram, the IWC's Development Control Manager had agreed to keep the clerk informed on issues in respect of Gladdices Barn. Councillors questioned if the views of the tourist industry were known as there had been no action since the success of the appeal. Cllr Arnold agreed to investigate.
- A meeting of the Community Forum for Chale was scheduled to take place on 3 April in Chale CofE Primary school at 7.30 pm. The Ward Member along with representatives of the police would be in attendance to receive suggestions for the progression of 3 priorities for the village. Councillors provided Cllr Arnold with copies of the Chale Parish Plan for information. Transport would be available from Chale Green to the school.
- A visit was planned by the enforcement officer for 26 February to investigate concerns of the parish council in respect of light spillage at the Wight Mouse Inn and the change of use at Sheep Lane Farm, Blythe Shute.
- Cllr Arnold would be unable to attend for the whole of the Annual Meeting of the Parish due to her attendance at another parish council meeting.

168/07-08 Clerks Report

a. Finance

- i The Interim Budget to 31 January 2008 and the Bank Reconciliation of Statement 270 were received and noted.
- ii It was noted that the Audit Commission had completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2007 and issued a certificate confirming that no matters had come to their attention, which gave cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.
- iii It was agreed to invite tenders, prior to the award of the grass cutting contract for 2008, in accordance with the council's financial regulations.
- iii. Authorisation of the following cheques was requested:

Cheque No 000500, £87.65 in respect of the clerks mileage, photocopying and administration.
Cheque No 000501, £180.50 in respect of the clerks additional hours for the Cilca training
Cheque No 000502, Isle of Wight Council in respect of Clerks salary

RESOLVED :

THAT the cheques, as listed above, be approved for payment.

b. Administration

A letter had been received from Mr C Joynes of the IWC, advising that the Amenity and Graveyard Grass Cutting Grant for 2007/08 would be maintained at the same level as last year.

169/07-08 Councillors Reports

Cllr M Groves reported that a parishioner had advised of two posts located in the pavement at Church Corner had both lost their reflective material strips and could be considered a danger to pedestrians at night. The Clerk was requested to advise the IWC's Highways department.

Cllr M Groves had also attended the meeting on rural regeneration, as part of the Island Core Strategy on 30 January. This was the first of a series of planned meetings. The outputs would be incorporated in the draft plan to be published later this year.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE COUNCIL ROSE AT 9.20 PM .

Signed

Dated