

Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday, 10 March 2008 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs M Groves, Chairman, M Starke, Vice-Chairman

Councillors : Mrs W Downes

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

There were no members of the public present.

170/07-08 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors P Atkinson and Mrs L Groves on medical grounds, and Cllr D Overton.

RESOLVED :

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

171/07-08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

172/07-08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2008

RESOLVED :

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2008 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

173/07-08 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a) Min 155/07-08 Sale of Chale Recreation Ground – To be placed on agenda for the next meeting.
- b) Min 156/07-08 Community Chest Parish Award Scheme – A decision would not be made until 27 March 2008
- c) Min 157/07-08 Awards for All application – Since the last meeting the Carnival Learning Centre had revised the costings for the project. The total cost had now been identified as £6,050, with £5,050 being applied for from the Awards for All scheme. The shortfall would be met by the Isle of Wight Council's (IWC's) Adult and Community Learning section.
- d) Min 159/07-08 Chale School Committee – An informal response had been received from the IWC's Chief Executive to the parish council's recommendations, submitted in response to the IWC consultation on education reform.

- e) Min 167/07-08 Gladdices Barn – IWC Cllr Mrs W Arnold was still awaiting a response from the Planning Authority in respect of the views of the tourist industry.

174/07-08 Minutes of the meeting of the Chale School Committee held on 11 February 2008

The minutes were noted.

175/07-08 To approve the costs of replacing the ‘No Parking’ signs

It was suggested that the proposed signs should also include the wording ‘No Parking’. To be placed on agenda for the next meeting.

176/07-08 Award of Grass Cutting Contract for 2008

RESOLVED :

THAT Brighstone Landscaping Ltd be awarded the Grounds Maintenance contract for 2008 as, after due consideration of all tenders received, it was agreed that their tender presented the best value for money and that they had provided a satisfactory, quality service over the past year.

177/07-08 Child Protection Policy

RESOLVED :

THAT the draft Child Protection Policy be approved and reviewed again in March 2009.

178/07-08 LO-CO project, to be launched by the Footprint Trust in 2009.

Councillors expressed their interest in taking part in the LO-CO project, which aimed to reduce carbon emissions and to seek to reduce fuel poverty in rural areas. It was agreed for the clerk to make contact with Mr David Whitehurst to request his assistance in taking forward the idea.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT it be agreed for Chale Parish Council to express an interest in taking part in the LO-CO project and for Mr David Whitehurst to be contacted to seek his support in taking the project forward;
- ii. THAT the Footprint Trust be invited to make a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Parish to be held in April 2009.

179/07-08 Isle of Wight Musical Competition Festival (IWMCF)

RESOLVED :

THAT the request for grant funding be refused.

180/07-08 Annual Meeting of the Parish

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT Mr J Brownscombe of the IW AONB or his replacement be invited to make a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, to be held on 28 April 2008;
- ii. THAT, in the event of a representative of the IW AONB being unable to attend, a representative from the IWC to be invited to advise on proposals for the Isle of Wight to become an Eco Island.

181/07-08 Village Design Statement Steering Group

Encouraging feedback had been received from both the IW AONB and Planning Services. A meeting of the Steering Group would take place next week to consider the comments received and to identify a detailed plan, including budgetary implications for approval by the parish council at the next meeting.

182/07-08 Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

A positive meeting had been held with Sharon Packer the previous week. Work was continuing in the identification of a possible suitable site. Interesting comparisons had been made with the more advanced similar project being undertaken in Nettlestone.

183/07-08 Road Safety Working Party

No matters to report.

184/07-08 Chale Village Partnership

Cllr Mrs W Downes referred to the draft minutes of the meeting of the Village Partnership, held on 19 February 2008 and highlighted matters of particular note that had been reported.

185/07-08 Correspondence

Correspondence received was listed in the report circulated with the agenda. Details of the Older Voices Empowerment Workshop, to be held on 14 March, at the Riverside Centre to be forwarded to Mrs Isobel Thorp, the Older Persons Champion for Chale for her information.

186/07-08 Town and Country Planning

Consideration was given to the following applications –

- i. TCP/10522/E Blackgang Mission Hall, Blythe Shute, Chale – Change of use and conversion of existing church hall and outbuildings to holiday home and photography studio.

RESOLVED :

THAT no material planning objections were identified.

- ii TCP/22092/G The Wight Mouse Inn, Chale – Retrospective installation of 7 1015mm tall lighting columns along access drive.

RESOLVED :

THAT strong objections to the retrospective planning application be submitted for the following reasons:

- The written arguments were not impressive;
- The premises was in an area of AONB and a dark sky environment;
- Light spillage was highly visible, particularly during the winter months;
- The hedgerow would not provide adequate screening, the lights were very visible along the Military Road;
- The access to the premises is a road, additional lighting was therefore not necessary;
- There was adequate lighting emanating from the premises itself for security purposes;
- Further additional lighting would not prevent crime;
- The representations made last time were still relevant, including the reasons outlined by the Planning Inspector when dismissing the subsequent appeal against refusal;
- Unimpressed that works had been undertaken in view of the history to the premises.

187/07-08 Report of the IWC Ward member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Cllr Mrs W Arnold reported on a number of issues:

- The matter of a caravan at Sheep Lane Farm was still being investigated.
- It was Cllr Arnold's intention to vote when consideration of education proposals on the Isle of Wight takes place, on 19 March, in favour of the motion for additional Option 4, which called for a referendum to be held on all the educational options.
- The recent Emergency Planning session, which she had attended along with Cllr M Starke. It had been recommended for all Parish and Town Councils to develop their own emergency planning plan. However, in discussion, Councillors did not consider this to be of primary importance to a small community such as Chale, which had very good network of communication.
- Option 3 in the consultation exercise had received the highest poll of those islanders who had completed the IW Council's education questionnaire.
- The clerk was requested to forward the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of all the parish council councilors.

188/07-08 Clerks Report

a. Finance

- i The Interim Budget to 29 February 2008 and the Bank Reconciliation of Statement 271 were received and noted.
- ii Isle of Wight Sports and Recreation Council

RESOLVED :

THAT the continued membership of the Isle of Wight Sports and Recreation Council be approved.

- iii. Authorisation of the following cheques was requested:

Cheque No 000504, £85.79 in respect of the clerks mileage, photocopying and administration.

Cheque No 000505, Isle of Wight Council in respect of Clerks salary

Cheque No 000506, £5.00 in respect of the affiliation fees for 2008 to the Isle of Wight Sports and Recreation Council

RESOLVED :

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

b. Administration

The clerk advised of works, which had been undertaken in 2005, to refurbish benches and seats in the parish and questioned as to whether this furniture still came under the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was agreed for the Chairman, Cllr M Groves to investigate and report back his findings at the next meeting.

189/07-08 Councillors Reports

Cllr M Starke agreed to check on progress of the descriptive boards and provide an update at the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs W Downes reported on issues relating to stables in Town Lane. Cllr M Groves confirmed that he was in receipt of a letter concerning the same matters.

Cllr M Groves advised that the work to repair the pothole in Atherfield Road, outside the entrance to Pyle Manor had been completed.

Cllr M Starke declared a personal interest in the following item, as he was a close neighbour.

Cllr M Groves read from a letter received concerning the parking of a horse box in Town Lane and possible planning issues in respect of the erection of a stable block at Maricourt. The clerk was instructed to seek confirmation with the Planning Authority that planning permission had been granted and to clarify with the IWC Highways department the highway issues outlined.

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

Signed

Dated