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Chale Parish Council

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

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

Councillors: Mrs W Downes, Mrs L Groves, Mrs K Le Brecht

In attendance: Mrs B Herbert, Clerk and RFO
IW Cllr Mrs W Arnold, Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell
The Leader of the IW Council, IW Cllr David Pugh

There were five members of the public present.

146/08-09 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Overton.

147/08-09 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

148/08-09 IW Cllr David Pugh, the Leader of the Isle of Wight Council (IWC)

The Chairman welcomed IW Cllr David Pugh to the meeting. Cllr Pugh thanked the Parish Council for responding to his offer to attend, which formed part of an island-wide tour of parish and town councils to hear, at first hand those issues, which affected local communities and would enable him to take back comments to the IWC for consideration. Cllr Pugh accepted that Chale Parish Council had good communications with the IWC through the ward member, Cllr W Arnold.

Cllr Pugh provided a brief overview of how the IWC sees its relationship continuing to develop with parish councils, and how the IWC were keen to extend the partnership arrangement of the empowerment of parishes, the provision of certain services where Parish Councils could take a more active role. Cllr Pugh mentioned his recent visit to the impressive, newly extended Chale Stores.

Cllr Pugh then took questions from Councillors and Members of the Public. Topics included: Eco Island and the lack of clarity/progress of the pilot scheme, which the Parish Council had signed up to; the consultation exercise on school re-organisation, the poor communication by officers at the IWC regarding matters concerned with the future of Chale Primary school and the lack of a cohesive response to the suggested potential for federation of schools in the area, which Cllr Pugh agreed he would instruct officers to provide; the value of the Rural Sustainability Matrix, which contained a number of inaccuracies; Island Plan; wind turbines

The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Cllr Pugh for his attendance.

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149/08-09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2008

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2008 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

150/08-08 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a. Minute 128/08-09 a Maricourt, Town Lane, Chale – A recent update had not been received from the Planning Authority (LPA). However, the clerk had been made aware, shortly after the last meeting of the Parish Council, that a revised planning application had been submitted to the LPA.
- b. Minute 128/08-09 d. Sheep Lane Farm – The IWC's Area Enforcement Officer had advised that the retention of the shed had been refused permission and the owners requested to remove the structure; the field shelters/stables were considered to not be temporary and matters were in hand to address their removal; the caravan was a cause for concern as the enforcement notice might not be valid as it was thought it was no longer the caravan 'M', as stated on the notice; an application was awaited for the retention of the offices and proposed stables. Cllr Downes reported that a toilet block was being built on the site. The clerk agreed to pass this information to the Enforcement Section.
- c. Minute 128/08-09 e. Unauthorised silo on Pyle Farm, Atherfield Road – Little progress had been made on the most appropriate form of action to be taken. Consideration was ongoing of the extensive history of the site.
- d. Minute 128/08-09g School Re-organisation – The minutes of the meeting held on 22 August with Mr K Simmonds had now been received and circulated to councillors by email.
- e. Minute 140/08-09 – Village Design Statement – The A4A, Big Lottery Fund had advised that the Parish Council could keep the sum of £22.20, being the total of unspent grant.
- f. Minute 145/08-09 Overgrown brambles – It appeared that these had now been trimmed back.

151/08-09 Town and Country Planning

- a. 1907/F Chale Bay Farm Guesthouse, Chale, PO38 2JF – Proposed change of use from eight B&B Units to four holiday units to include four proposed sun rooms at Chale Bay Farm Guest House.

RESOLVED :

THAT although no material planning objections were raised, the LPA to be reminded of the dark skies policy in Chale, should they agree to approve the application.

- b. TCP/16934G Middle Bramstone Farm, Chale Street, PO38 2HG – Proposed conversion of the old barn to a holiday let.

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RESOLVED :

- i. THAT although no material planning objections were raised, the LPA to be reminded of the dark skies policy in Chale, should they agree to approve the application.
- ii. THAT the two large windows in the roof could emit an excessive amount of light, which would not be in accordance with the Village Design Statement for Chale

152/08-09 To consider Issues 2, 7 and 8 identified in the Parish Plan for action

Consideration was given to the remaining issues for action, which had been identified in the Parish Plan. A number of other issues arising from the Village Design Statement (VDS) would be included in a report to the next meeting.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT issue 8, Environmental Performance, be deferred to await information on the request by the Parish Council to be considered as a pilot low carbon community;
- ii. THAT issue 7, Signs, be deferred until the May 2009 meeting of the Parish Council, to facilitate a detailed survey to be undertaken of all the signs in the village;
- iii. THAT issue 2, Footpath/cycleway, be considered by a Working Party, the Terms of Reference and membership to be determined at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

153/08-09 To consider what action to take, if any, in respect of parking on the village green

Discussion ensued on the need to formalise the parking arrangements on the village green, specifically the area outside of the village stores. The IWC would be required to exercise their power under section 8 of the Regulations of Commons Act 1899 to regularise the situation.

RESOLVED :

THAT the clerk contact the IWC to advise of the situation outside of the village stores and the need to formalise the parking arrangements.

154/08-09 To appoint a representative on the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC)

RESOLVED :

THAT Cllr Downes be elected as the representative on IWALC for the November meeting and other councillors, with the exception of Cllr Starke, be

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considered as an alternative representative to attend meetings for the remainder of the ensuing year.

155/08-09 To consider what response, if any, to make with regard to the following consultation - Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power: Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees

RESOLVED :

THAT the Parish Council respond in the affirmative to Questions 1 and 10, listed in Annex A., and that it was considered that a mandatory model code of conduct for local government employees was not needed, as any issues should be addressed through their contract.

156/08-09 To receive an update on the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground

Cllr M Groves reported on a meeting held with Mr & Mrs Dale, the owners of Erewebe. Mr & Mrs Dale had expressed their discontent with the proposed Garden Licence, as approved at the last meeting. Cllr M Groves had invited them to submit a response to the Parish Council, which could be discussed at the December meeting.

157/08-09 To receive the report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

There was no further action to report.

158/08-09 To consider any issues arising from the Chale Village Partnership

There were no issues to consider.

159/08-09 To receive the report of Cllr Mrs W Arnold, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Cllr Mrs W Arnold made mention of the following matters:

- Christmas dinner at Chale Primary School on December 17 at 12 noon. Bookings had to be made in advance by contacting Reception.
- Signs recommending a speed of 20mph outside of Chale Primary School would be introduced during the first quarter of the next financial year. The installation of advisory signs in both Chale and Niton fell during year two of a three year programme by the IWC.
- Attendance at the IW AONB Open Forum
- Attendance at the funeral of IWC Cllr Brian Mosdell

160/08-09 Correspondence

Correspondence received was listed in the report circulated with the agenda and updated at the meeting. It was agreed for Harry Dea, the Community Support Officer, for Chale to be invited to the January meeting in order that he could explain his new role, in more detail.

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161/08-09 Clerks Report

a. Finance

- i. The interim budget to the end of October 2008 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 278 were received and noted. The clerk was thanked for the clear presentation of accounts.
- ii. To confirm payment of cheque No 000550 for £20.00, to the Royal British Legion in respect of a poppy wreath

RESOLVED :

THAT payment of the cheque No 000550 for £20.00 be confirmed.

- iii. Authorisation of payment of the following cheques was requested:
000551, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for October
000552, Mrs B Herbert, £122.95 Clerks Expenses
000553, Mr I Richardson-Smith, £30.00, repairs to the notice board
000554, D G Badman, £230.00, repairs and maintenance to street furniture
000555, IW Gateway Club, £38.00, trip for the elderly under the Community Chest award scheme. This invoice had been received after the despatch of the agenda, but required approval to enable the trip to take place.

RESOLVED :

THAT payment of the above cheques be approved.

- iv. To approve, on maturity, the reinvestment for a further year of the balance of the Guaranteed Reserve Account less £870.00 being the cost net Vat for the Hoy Monument repairs

RESOLVED :

THAT it be agreed for the balance of the Guaranteed Reserve Account, less £870.00 being the cost net Vat for the Hoy Monument repairs, to be reinvested for a further year.

- iv. The clerk was requested to notify Gurnard Parish Council of the offer of £25 for the second-hand photocopier. Councillors to advise the clerk if they wished to receive an emailed version of the agenda and reports.

b. Administration

- i. To approve the Equality and Diversity Policy

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RESOLVED :

THAT subject to the first line of the paragraph under the heading 'Accessibility' on page 2, being placed under the new heading 'Reasonableness', the Equality and Diversity Policy be approved.

- ii. To approve the Health and Safety Policy

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT the Health and Safety Policy be approved, subject to the amendment that the Council's Designated Safety Officer to be a councillor, replacing the clerk;
- ii. THAT Cllr Mrs W Downes be appointed as the designated councillor.
- iii. It was noted that Mrs Liz Murray, clerk to both Bembridge and Brading Parish Councils, would deputize for the clerk during her period of holiday

162/08-09 Councillors' reports

Cllr M Groves reported damage in the recent high winds of the finger post at Southdown. The road sign was also listing at an angle and required straightening. Cllr D Overton advised that when the Highways Department relocated the Chale Green sign in Town Lane, they also took with it, in error, the 30mph repeater sign. This needed to be replaced.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.50 PM

Signed -----

Dated -----