

Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday, 14 December 2009, commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Mike Starke (Vice Chairman),
Tony Bryant, Liam Cummings, Mrs Wendy Downes

In attendance:

Mrs Barbara Herbert, Clerk and RFO
Mr Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer for Chale

There were no members of the public present.

129/09-10 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs M Groves and Mrs L Groves and from IW Cllr W Wyatt Millington.

130/09-10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

131/09-10 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2009

RESOLVED ;

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2009 be confirmed as a true record and that the Vice Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

132/09-10 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a. Minute 62/09-10 Island Insulation Scheme – The clerk had previously circulated an email advising that the thermal imaging of all properties in Chale was due to commence during the week commencing 30 November. The company, the Mark Group, were currently being audited, so to receive the 'Buy with Confidence' registration and a copy of the letter they intended to circulate to residents was due to be forwarded to the clerk, prior to them actually doing so. It was not envisaged that there would be any problems in the Mark Group joining the scheme.
- b. Minute 80/09-10 e, Gotten Lane – The IW Council's Planning Officer had advised that an application for the retention of the barn, as built, had been received on 8 November. However, due to the application being incomplete it had not been validated on that date. The required information had subsequently been received and the application validated on 8 December, and due to be advertised in the County Press on 18 December. Details would shortly be sent to the Parish Council.
- c. Minute 107/09-10 Post Office Services in Chale – A letter was sent to Andrew Turner MP and acknowledged on 23 November. The MP agreed to seek further information on this matter and will respond fully in due course.
- d. Minute 103/09-10 e Allotments – The clerk had written twice to Mrs K Burgess, of the PCC and was still awaiting a response.
- e. Minute 113/09-10 Unmonitored Southern Water overflows – The clerk had

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written twice to Southern Water and was still awaiting a response.

133/09-10 To receive the report of Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood officer (ENO) for Chale

Mr Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood officer for Chale reported that he had been fairly quiet since the last meeting he had attended. However, particular mention was made of the following:

- The Big Tidy Up in October
- The removal of fly tipping at the top of Spanners Close and in Whale Chine car park
- Request received from a resident for the clearance of the ditch in front of the property Hawthorne Cottage
- Overgrown ditch, which he would ensure was cleared by utilizing the probation service, if the IW Council's Highways section were unable to undertake the works
- A report of cars parked on the Green
- Mud patch on the Green, left following works by contractors. This to be reported to Neil brown, the IW Council's Highway Superintendent.

134/09-10 Feasibility Report for Footpath at Whale Chine, Chale

Councillors regrettably noted the conclusions set out in the feasibility report of the consulting engineer, Opus International and acknowledged that the estimated cost of £100 K would be prohibitive in enabling the reinstatement works to be undertaken, particularly in the current financial climate. It was highlighted that vestiges of step work still remained, which were being used by fishermen and members of the public to unofficially access the beach, albeit with some difficulty. Councillors expressed their concern as to the risk to those using that dangerous route and proposed that a letter be sent to the IW Council to emphasize that it was their responsibility to prevent a possible accident and not the parish councils.

RESOLVED :

THAT the clerk write to the Rights of Way Manager reminding of the IW Council's duty to take urgent action to prevent any possible accident by persons unofficially accessing the beach at Whale Chine.

135/09-10 To receive an update on the future of Chale CE Primary School

Reference was made to the letter dated 29 November 2009 from Mr Alan Lock, the Chair of Governors of Chale Primary School to Cllr David Pugh, the Leader of the IW Council. Disappointment and regret was expressed that the IW Council were not prepared to have any regard to this submission, as the new Chairman of Governors had worked tirelessly to achieve a successful outcome, since taking office

RESOLVED :

THAT the letter of the Chairman of Governors, of Chale CE Primary School, dated 29 November, in response to the IW Council's decision to refuse to accept an 'in principle' federation with the new primary school in Godshill, be supported.

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136/09-10 To consider any further action to be taken in respect of the unauthorized developments at Pyle Hall Farm

An email had been received from IW Council's Deputy Rural and Compliance team leader advising that although a request had been made to the owners of Pyle Hall Farm for access to view the alleged outbuilding, a response was still awaited. Due to annual leave and commitments relating to a planning hearing it was not anticipated that this would be followed up until after the Christmas break. However, an assurance was given that the site would be inspected early in the New Year and an update provided accordingly.

RESOLVED :

THAT a letter be sent to the IW AONB Partnership advising them of the alleged unauthorised building works being undertaken at Pyle Hall Farm and a further request made to IW Councillor W Wyatt Millington for his assistance in resolving this matter.

137/09-10 To consider the adoption of the telephone kiosk at Chale Church on the A3055 for £1.00

Councillors welcomed the positive response from the IW Council's Conservation and Design team and noted the costs to insure the telephone kiosk to cover any material damage. In discussion it was agreed to accept the invitation from BT Payphones to adopt the telephone kiosk for £1.00 and for this to be an agenda item for the next meeting, when suggestions for its use could be considered.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT the invitation from BT Payphones to adopt the telephone kiosk at Chale Church be accepted;
- ii. THAT this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to enable discussion on suggestions for the future use of the telephone kiosk.;
- iii. THAT insurance cover of the telephone kiosk, up to £800, be agreed at a cost of £25.00 per annum.

138/09-10 To note receipt of the replacement green solar powered studs and to consider their installation

The IW Council's Traffic Section had advised that the green (motorway) studs were not for use on the Isle of Wight road network and as such they were unable to recommend any particular contractor to facilitate their instalment. The clerk had contacted the supplier, unsuccessfully, for them to undertake the necessary works. Cllr T Bryant agreed to investigate as to how the six studs could be fixed without using the special compound, which was only supplied in 25 litre drums. Mr H Dea, the ENO for Chale, also agreed to make inquiries of a possible contact and would liaise with Cllr Bryant, if successful.

RESOLVED :

THAT the receipt of the studs and the efforts being taken to facilitate their instalment be noted.

139/09-10 To note the response of the IW Council following the request for a

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bus shelter at Chale Green, on the same side as Chale Stores

The IW Council's Assistant Road Safety Officer had agreed to add the request for a bus shelter at Chale Green, on the same side as Chale Stores, to the bus shelter request file and, as and when budget allowed, an engineer would look at the location to assess the suitability for a shelter. It was noted that it would be unlikely for this to occur in the current financial year, as the budget for bus infrastructure and shelters was nearly all spent. The request would go forward to the 2010/2011 Capital Programme.

Cllr Mrs W Downes, who had been presented with a petition signed by local residents in support of the application, was advised to return it to the petitioners for them to send on to the IW Council's Road Safety Officer.

RESOLVED :

THAT the report be noted.

140/09-10 To note the outline proposal of the Chale Green Community Project and to approve the letter of support submitted by the Chairman

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT the outline proposal of the Chale Green Community Project be noted;
- ii. THAT the letter of the Chairman, dated 25 November, be endorsed as an accurate response on behalf of the Parish Council.

141/09-10 Re-registration of Common Land – area of land by Southdowne Lane/Pyle Shute

Councillors considered the resolution agreed at the meeting of the Parish Council on 8 June 2009 and agreed that the area of land by Southdowne Lane/Pyle Shute could well be suitable for being added to the commons registers.

RESOLVED :

THAT it be agreed for steps to be initiated to enable the registration of the small parcel of land by Southdowne Lane/Pyle Shute as Common Land.

142/09-10 To consider the resolution agreed at the April meeting in respect of the Hoy Monument

Reference was made to the report presented to the Parish Council in April, which had suggested that the monument at some point in the future could require further works. It had been estimated that a sum of at least £25,000, at today's prices, would be needed to undertake any useful programme.

RESOLVED :

THAT a Hoy Monument Working Party be established, comprising of Cllrs M Starke and T Bryant, to consider the way forward of the Hoy Monument in the light of the unofficial report indicating the need for comprehensive conservation work to be undertaken within the next 15 to 25 year period.

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143/09-10 To note the Street Trading Consent issued to Mr Andrew Phillips trading as the Jolly Fryer to sell and offer for sale fish and chips and associated items

RESOLVED :

THAT the Street Trading Consent issued to Mr Andrew Phillips trading as the Jolly Fryer to sell and offer for sale fish and chips and associated items from 23 November 2009 to 22 November 2010, be noted.

144/09-10 Update of the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground

There was no further progress to report.

145/09-10 Report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

There was no further progress to report.

146/09-10 Update from the Parking and Signage Working Party

The Working Party had not met since the last meeting of the Parish Council. However, councillors had each continued with the area of responsibility designated to them. Road signage appeared to be in good order. Work was on going to identify a definitive source for the position of all the footpaths, bridleways and byways in Chale. Over the following months it was planned to look at all paths to check their condition and the accuracy and legibility of the signage. It was suggested Alex Russell, the IW Council's Rights of Way Manager could be a useful point of contact.

147/09-10 Update report from the Green Towns Project Working Party

The inaugural meeting of the Working Party had taken place on Tuesday, 10 November. Unfortunately, with the exception of an enthusiastic representative from South Wight Housing no one else outside of the Parish Council had attended. The project was to be raised at the next meeting of the Village Partnership.

It was noted that South Wight Housing had identified a scheme, which they could either develop as a stand-alone project or it could form part of the overall Green Towns project and councillors' views were requested.

RESOLVED :

THAT the South Wight Housing scheme be combined with the Green Towns project to form one overall scheme.

148/09-10 To receive the report of Cllr W Wyatt-Millington, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

In the absence of Cllr W Wyatt Millington a written report had not been received.

149/09-10 Correspondence

Correspondence received was listed in the report circulated with the agenda and updated at the meeting.

150/09-10 Clerks Report

a. Finance

i. The interim budget to the end of November 2009 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 4 were received and noted.

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- ii. Re-investment of funds from the matured Halifax Guaranteed Reserve Account

The clerk had compared the interest rates of three investment accounts and it appeared the Halifax Guaranteed Account provided the best rate available at 3% for a 1-year period. Due to the timescale involved it was suggested that the signatories remain unchanged, so to enable the funds to be re-invested speedily.

RESOLVED :

THAT the maturing funds be re-invested in a Halifax Guaranteed Reserve Account for a further year.

- iii. To authorise payment of the following cheques
000615, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for October
000616, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for November
000617, £71.20, Mrs B Herbert, Clerks Expenses
000618, £75.00, Chale Village Partnership, six insertions in the Chale Mail
000619, £58.75, NALC, cost of application for re-accreditation of Quality Status
000620, £25.00, IW Association of Local Councils, The cost of Cllr M Groves attendance on a course

RESOLVED :

THAT the above cheques be approved for payment.

- b. Administration

The clerk advised that the Parish Council's submission for re-accreditation of Quality Status had been handed in to County Hall by the due deadline. A date was now awaited for when the Chairman and the clerk would be required to go before the panel.

151/09-10 To consider assisting with the Scamnesty 2010 campaign

RESOLVED :

THAT the IW Council's Senior Trading Officer be advised to contact the owner of Chale Green Stores, this being the most suitable location for the Scamnesty campaign post bin to be situated.

152/09-10 Councillors' reports

Cllr Bryant advised that a resident had contacted him questioning as to why Chale did not have a 'No Cold Calling Zone'. This to be an agenda item for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Cllr Bryant reported on the Environment Agency Flooding seminar he had attended with Cllr M Groves. Although Chale had a fairly low risk of flooding, there was more

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danger of disruption to services arising from problems experienced in other areas. It was agreed to give consideration to establishing a Flood Plan for Chale at the next meeting of the Parish Council in January.

Cllr M Starke advised that he was to provide an alternative view on the anticipated Highways PFI to the next meeting of IW Association of Local Councils.

Cllr M Groves reminded of the carols around the Christmas tree, organised to take place on Tuesday, 22 December commencing at 6.30 pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.50PM

Signed -----

Dated -----