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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, 6 April 2009, commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Malcolm Groves (Chairman), Mike Starke (Vice Chairman), Mrs Wendy Downes, Mrs Liz Groves

In attendance:

Mrs Barbara Herbert, Clerk and RFO
IW Cllr Mrs Wendy Arnold, Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

There were no members of the public present.

231/08-09 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Mrs Karen Le Brecht and David Overton, who were both unable to attend due to business commitments.

232/08-09 Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Groves declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute 250/08-09 b. iii. as he was the recipient of cheque No 000576 for £29.43

Cllr M Starke declared a personal interest in Minute No 235/08-09 a. i. as he was a near neighbour

Cllr Mrs W Downes declared a personal interest in Minute No 235/08-09 a. i. as she was a friend of the applicant

Cllr Mrs L Groves declared a personal interest in Minute No 235/08-09 a. i. as she knew the mother of the applicant

233/08-09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 March 2009

RESOLVED ;

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

234/08-09 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a. Minute 98/08-09 Gore Down – The IWC's Enforcement Officer had apologised for not providing any further update, since August of last year and advised that she intended to revisit the site over the coming weeks to verify the current situation.
- b. Minute 216/08-09 b. Whale Chine - Alex Russell, the IWC's Rights of Way Manager had again advised that the consultant's report had not been received. She had suggested the delay was due to difficulties in obtaining input from a contracting engineer, which was essential to enable any realistic assessment regarding the feasibility of reinstatement.
- c. Minute 216/08-09 c. Silo on Pyle Farm – The IWC's Enforcement Officer had advised that she had been liaising with the owner of Pyle Farm as the

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anticipated application for retention of the silo had not been submitted. Due to the complicated history of the silos on this site, the owner was requesting immunity due to the construction, some years ago, of the hard standing for the latest silo. This matter was to be discussed at the next case review meeting.

- d. Minute 216/08-09 e Annual Meeting of the Parish –The clerk advised that PCSO Chris Urry had agreed to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish to make a presentation on policing issues relating to Chale.
- e. Minute 230/08-09 Spanners Close – Confirmation had been received from PCSO Urry that the vehicles had now been removed from the roadway. The police were only anxious to ensure that the repair of vehicles did not take place on the carriageway. Any other issues were the concern of South Wight Housing Association and were a matter for them to pursue.
- f. Minute 219/08-09 – Mr Harry Dea, ENO – The clerk was requested to write to Mr Dea thanking him for his help in cleaning the bus shelter on the Green.
- g. Minute 219/08-09 – Blocked Ditches – The ditch in Southdown Lane had now been cleared. However the ditch at the southern end of the Green, on the eastern side still required attention. The blocked drains in Town Lane were also highlighted, which it was perceived could be undermining the stone walls. The clerk agreed to notify the IWC's Highways section.
- h. Minute 219/08-09 b. iii.- Maricourt – The clerk agreed to circulate the email she had received in response to the Parish Council's concerns in respect of condition 3, attached to the approval decision.

235/08-09 Town and Country Planning

- a. Consideration was given to the following applications received and comments made in accordance with the guidance for material planning considerations listed at

<http://www.iwight.com/council/departments/planning/appsdip/MakingComment/Info.aspx>

- i. TCP29527 Micklegate, Town Lane, Chale Green – Construction of stable block comprising of 3 loose boxes

RESOLVED :

THAT no material planning objections be raised to application TCP29527, Micklegate.

- ii. TCP/14269B Beamans, Chale Street, Chale Green – Proposed summerhouse

RESOLVED :

THAT no material planning objections be raised regarding application TCP/14269B, Beamans. However, the Parish Council recommended that conditions should be imposed preventing residential use, restricting the use to daytime only and for the summerhouse to have no external lighting, in line with Chale's dark skies policy.

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- iii. TCP/21071C Chale Farm, Church Place, Chale, PO38 2HB – Demolition of former cattle barn and adjacent lean-to structures; conversion of redundant barns into recording studio with ancillary guest suite accommodation to include extension and accommodation within roofspace

RESOLVED :

THAT no material planning objections be raised to application TCP/21071C, Chale Farm.

- b. The following decisions taken by the Local Planning Authority since the last meeting were noted:
 - i. TCP/16823/F Upper Bramstone Farm, Chale Street, Chale – Conditional Outline Planning Consent for the construction of a joinery workshop with mezzanine floor.
 - ii. TCP/02941/C Westward Ho, Chale Street, Chale – Conditional Planning Approval for the construction of field shelter/hay store

236/08-09 Update on proposals in respect of the Big Tidy Up to take place in Chale

Cllr Downes advised that arrangements had been made for the Big Tidy Up to take place on Wednesday, 15 April, meeting on the Green at 2.00pm. Harry Dea, the ENO would be attending, bringing along a number of litter pickers. A risk assessment had been undertaken and the children of Chale CofE Primary School had very kindly designed the posters and fliers advertising the event. Councillors thanked Cllr Downes for all her work in organising the Big Tidy Up event.

RESOLVED :

THAT a letter of thanks be sent to the pupils of Chale CofE Primary School in respect of the posters that they had designed to advertise the Big Tidy Up.

237/08-09 To consider the merits of staging a Community Advice Network (CAN) event in Chale

Cllrs M and Mrs L Groves had both attended a recent Community Advice Network (CAN) event, which had been held in Bembridge. The CAN, organised by the Rural Community Council (RCC), comprised of more than 20 partner organisations offering a wide range of services, which were keen to promote their assistance to residents living in rural areas on the Island. A list of those organisations that attended at Bembridge was circulated. Discussion ensued on the merits of staging such an event in Chale.

RESOLVED :

THAT Cllr M Groves, liaise with Philippa Daley of the RCC to prepare a proposal for consideration at the next meeting.

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238/08-09 To consider the letter received from Mr K Woods, the IWC's Director of Children and Young People's Services in response to the formal complaint submitted by the Parish Council

Councillors considered the response received from Mr K Woods, the IWC's Director of Children and Young People's Services, which explained why the IWC was not able to support the view that the Parish Council's representation and suggestion for federation had not been fully considered. It was disappointing that little explanation had been provided. The letter advised that a further opportunity to submit representation would occur following the publication of the statutory notice, scheduled for 10 July, which councillors viewed was the standard response now provided by the IWC to any representation made.

The clerk advised that if the Parish Council remained unsatisfied the next step was to refer the complaint to the IWC's most senior officers for review and independent appraisal.

Councillors were minded to try and seek clarification on the data that the IWC used to base their argument for rejecting the case put forward for Chale CofE Primary School.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Parish Council refers their complaint to the IWC's most senior officers for review and independent appraisal, while continuing to seek clarification of the data that had been used by the IWC to base their argument.

239/08-09 To receive an update on the Chale Primary School and Village Association

Cllr W Downes provided an oral update of the recent meetings held by the Chale Primary School and Village Association. The petition was to be taken by bus to the Houses of Parliament on 30 April. The RCC had assisted with finances for the transport. Mr J Brownscombe, the Rural Champion for the RCC, had expressed his support and willingness to become involved with the campaign.

At the meeting of the Cabinet, on 31 March, Mr A Lock had raised a question, followed by a supplementary, on the future of Chale CofE Primary School and the effect closure could have on the village.

RESOLVED :

THAT the clerk obtain a copy of the questions raised at the meeting of the Cabinet on 31 March and the responses provided by the Leader of the IW Council.

240/08-09 To approve the Annual Report for Chale Parish Council

The Chairman circulated a copy of the draft Annual Report for Chale Parish Council and requested any comments to be forwarded to him in due course.

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RESOLVED :

THAT the Annual report for Chale Parish Council be approved, subject to any comments received.

241/08-09 To receive a report from the Footpaths and Cycle Track Working Party

Reference was made to the report of the Footpaths and Cycle Track Working Party, setting out a number of options and their implications, to identify a safe route for pedestrians and bike riders between Chale and Chale Green. The Working Party confirmed that they had looked thoroughly at the issue, yet could not determine a practical means forward, although they would welcome any other suggestions.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Working Party be thanked for their efforts and the report be accepted.

242/08-09 To note the informal report in respect of the Hoy Monument and to decide on any action required

Councillors noted the informal report of Mr Terry Wren setting out his personal opinion on the reported damage to the Hoy Monument and his suggested proposal to enable a programme of works to be undertaken at some point in the future. It was noted that the funds, currently held ring fenced for any future repairs, had been raised by public appeal.

RESOLVED :

THAT this item be placed on the agenda for the meeting of the Parish Council to be held in December, with a strong caveat that this council recommends that further funding for repairs should not be precepted but raised in the same manner as previously undertaken.

243/08-09 Million Blooms project update

Cllr M Groves advised that the planned tree planting had nearly all taken place in line with the proposed timescale. There just remained eleven trees still to be planted. These being ten hawthorne whips and one spare holly tree.

RESOLVED :

THAT Cllr M Groves be thanked for all his hard work in completing the project successfully.

244/08-09 To consider what response, if any, to make with regard to the following consultations:

- a. The IWC's draft Planning Enforcement Policy

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The clerk referred to an email received from Mr P Salmon, the IWC's Deputy Head of Service (Development), which provided an explanation as to the consultation timescales.

RESOLVED :

THAT this Council welcomes the preparation of a document that makes it clear to all, the way enforcement will be dealt with. However, successful implementation will require a significantly more robust approach than that which the Council has seen in recent years and a more consistent level of resources.

- b. UK consultation on European Commission proposal on bus and coach passenger rights

RESOLVED :

THAT the UK consultation on European Commission proposal on bus and coach passenger rights be noted.

245/08-09 To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Chale Village Partnership on 17 February

Councillors were reminded that 'Chale Day' was planned to take place this year on Sunday 21, June – Fathers Day.

246/08-09 Update on the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground

An exchange of emails had taken place between Cllr M Groves and Barry Cooke, the IWC's Property Services Manager. Mr Cooke had received responses to some questions he had raised, but still not to all.

247/08-09 To receive the report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

There was no further action to report.

248/08-09 To receive the report of Cllr Mrs W Arnold, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Cllr Mrs W Arnold made particular mention of the following matters:

- At the Cabinet meeting on 31 March, Cllr Arnold had raised a number of questions relating to the report on School Organisation – School Transport
- The Highways PFI – Cllr Starke referred to the recent meeting of IWALC and highlighted several areas of concern, on which he had been trying to receive a response from the IWC, but to no avail. Cllr Arnold CC suggested for Cllr Starke to email her with his queries, so that she could take the matter forward on his behalf.

RESOLVED :

THAT the report be noted.

249/08-09 Correspondence

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

Item d. Re IW Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Grant – to be forwarded to the Village Partnership

Item n. Invitation from the IW Chamber of Commerce, Tourism and Industry – Cllr Mrs W Downes to attend.

250/08-09 Clerks Report

a. Administration

- i. To consider paying for the emptying of the proposed dog bin, along the Terrace, at a cost of £1.70 per empty.

RESOLVED :

THAT the IWC be informed that as it was proposed for the dog bin to be installed on the IW Coastal Footpath, the charge for the emptying of the bin should fall to the IW Council.

- ii. To consider the purchase of the Local Council Review

Consideration was given to the purchase of the Local Council Review, the quarterly official publication of the National Association of Local Councils. Copies were available at a cost of £13.50 per annum or, if four or more parish councils on the Isle of Wight subscribe the cost would reduce to £12.00 per annum.

RESOLVED :

THAT no action be taken.

b. Finance

- i. The interim budget to the end of March 2009 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 284 were received and noted. The clerk advised that she had received a cheque for £500.75 from HM Revenue and Customs being the repayment of VAT paid, since February 2008.
- ii. Cheque No 000569 for £38.00 issued to IW Gateway Club in respect of a trip organised under the Community Chest grant scheme.

RESOLVED :

THAT retrospective approval be granted in respect of cheque No 000569 for £38.00 to IW Gateway Club from the Community

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Chest grant funding as payment for the trip was required prior to the meeting.

Cllr M Groves declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item of business and left the meeting room. Cllr M Starke took the chair.

- iii. To authorise payment of the following cheques:
- 000570, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for March
 - 000571, Mrs B Herbert, £61.12, Clerks Expenses for March
 - 000572, The Island Copier Co Ltd, £34.50, Quarterly service charge
 - 000573, Liz Murray, £67.50, Locum Clerk costs
 - 000574, IW SLCC, £5.00, Annual subscription
 - 000575, Chale Parish Council, £9,000.00, Halifax Treasurers Account
 - 000576, Mr M Groves, £29.43, Sundry items relating to the Million Blooms project
 - 000577, Groundsells, £2,714.00, Trees for the Million Blooms project
 - 000578, Biffa, £157.44, Emptying of the dog bin located along the Military Road

RESOLVED :

THAT payment of the above cheques be approved.

Cllr M Groves returned to the meeting room and resumed the chair.

251/08-09 Councillors' reports

Cllr Starke advised that the horsebox had returned for three nights to Town Lane, being parked with no lights displayed. The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator had contacted PCSO Urry who has resolved the matter.

Cllr Starke mentioned the works undertaken by Southern Water and the lack of advance notice. The clerk was to request that in future any planned works should be communicated to the Parish Council in advance and to ask for a copy of Southern Water's Code of Practice.

Cllr M Groves provided a brief update on the meeting of IWALC, the last such meeting to be attended by a councillor from Chale.

Cllr M Groves advised of the meeting he had attended regarding the new project to be launched by the Rural Community Council to establish volunteer based Community Support Teams.

Cllr M Groves reported his attendance at a meeting of the Brightstone and District Newsletter Committee.

Cllr M Groves highlighted that the Chale Churchyard Committee were to hold a quiz night on Wednesday, 22 April at 7.30 pm.

Cllr M Groves reminded councillors of the forthcoming parish and town council elections on Thursday, 4 June. Packs for prospective candidates were available and he would be willing to assist with the completions of the forms.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.40 PM

Signed -----

Dated -----