

# PAPER A

## Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday 12 January 2009, commencing at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Malcolm Groves (Chairman), Mike Starke (Vice Chairman), Mrs Wendy Downes, Mrs Liz Groves, Mrs Karen Le Brecht, David Overton

In attendance:

Mrs B Herbert, Clerk and RFO  
IW Cllr Mrs W Arnold, Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell  
Harry Dea, Environment and Neighbourhood Officer

There was one member of the public present.

### **179/08-09 Apologies**

There were no apologies tendered.

### **180/08-09 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

### **181/08-09 Presentation by Mr Harry Dea, of the Community Safety Service**

Mr Harry Dea made a presentation on the extension of the Town Centre Manager's Scheme, and his new role as the renamed rural Environment and Neighbourhood Officer (ENO) covering the Isle of Wight (IW) patrol area 5, one of fourteen ENO's established on the Island

Mr Dea explained that he worked for the IW Council's Community Safety Service, in a close working partnership with the police, community support officers and many other community organisations including the Probation Community Service, business associations, pub watch and neighbourhood watch. His powers include issuing fixed penalty notices for a variety of offences including littering, dog fouling, graffiti, fly tipping, smoking in no smoking areas, dogs not on leads or on beaches when they shouldn't be and also helped to deal with neighbourhood disputes and to combat anti-social behaviour. Mr Dea provided details of a number of projects he had taken part in and was a contributor in the application for funding to provide equipment for the youth in Wroxall. He worked a flexible 37hour week, providing a valuable link within the community. He was very keen to establish contact with the Parish Council for the mutual benefit of Chale and would be very willing to undertake the visual audit of the signage in the village in conjunction with the Councillors, in May.

Mr Dea responded to a number of questions posed and was thanked for attending the meeting. The clerk agreed to circulate his contact details to councillors.

### **182/08-09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 2008**

# PAPER A

## **RESOLVED :**

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 2008 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

### **183/08-09 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution**

- a. Minute 166/08-09 b. Unauthorised Silo on Pyle Farm, Atherfield Road - The IWC's Area Enforcement Officer had advised that prior notification had been granted for the siting of 4 silos alongside a barn. Three had been erected in 1994/5, all in the wrong position. Planning permission was required for these but not followed up. The 4<sup>th</sup> silo is unauthorised. Talks were to take place with her line manager and the clerk will be advised of the result in due course.
- b. Minute 166/08-09 c Parking on the Village Green – The clerk had emailed Oliver Dunne, of the IWC's Property Services for an update but was still awaiting a response.
- c. Minute 166/08-09 d 30mph repeater sign – This still had not been re-installed near to the top of Town Lane. The clerk was requested to write to the IWC.
- d. Minute 167/08-09 e Maricourt, Town Lane, Chale – The applicant had advised by telephone that the stables were not operating as a business.
- e. Minute 170/08-09 Litter around the village - Cllr Downes had not had the opportunity to have an informal discussion with users of the Mobile Youth Initiative bus.
- f. Minute 171/08-09 Christmas Tree Lighting – Gratitude was unanimously expressed for all the work of Mr D Whitehouse to enable the provision and lighting of the Christmas tree on the Green.

### **184/08-09 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/appsdp/MakingCommentInfo.aspx>

Cllr M Starke declared a personal interest in the following item of business.

- i. TCP21907/F Chale Bay Farm, Military Road, Chale – Alteration and conversion of 8 bed and breakfast units into 4 units of holiday accommodation to include 3 single storey extensions to form sun rooms (revised plans)(revised description)(re-advertised application)

## **RESOLVED :**

THAT no further comment be added to those previously submitted.

- ii. A/02371/B Chale Green Stores, Chale Green, Chale - Retention of and proposed signage consisting of 3 x wall mounted glazed display units 5

# PAPER A

x wall mounted signs 2 x wall mounted notice boards 1 x fascia sign 2 x glass transfer signs 1 x illuminated wall mounted sign and 4 x illuminated pole mounted banner signs

Mr V Tyerman, the applicant, addressed the Parish Council in respect of the proposal.

## **RESOLVED :**

THAT the Parish Council expressed their continued support for Chale Green Stores and considered that all the signage proposed to be appropriate, with the exception of the four illuminated pole mounted banner signs. Concerns were expressed that

- i. The illuminated poles went against the dark skies policy upheld by Chale;
  - ii. The scale of the proposal was inappropriate for a rural locality within an AONB;
  - iii. The poles were planned to be located on the village green.
- b. The decision taken by the Local Planning Authority since the last meeting to refuse application P/01892/08 land to the rear of 1 Sheep Lane Farm Cottage, Blythe Shute – Demolition of derelict pig shed, proposed stable block comprising 3 loose boxes, tack room/food store, was noted.

### **185/08-09 The lack of the cohesive response to the suggested potential for federation of schools in the area**

Since the despatch of the agenda a response, written by Mr K Simmonds, assistant Director of Children's Services, had been received and circulated by email to councillors. Mr Simmonds referred to his original analysis of the Chale representation, highlighting that the IWC's proposals were fully supported by the Diocese. He also suggested that if the local community were to fund the difference per pupil head over that of the average budget provided by the IWC, there might be an argument to be made in the retaining of Chale primary school.

Cllr Pugh had also advised that according to the IWC's records the majority of school age children living in Chale preferred to attend a school outside of the catchment area. This raised questions about the viability and popularity of the school. However, he had added that even if all children attended the local school it would still not bring the numbers close to the IW Council's policy.

Cllr M Groves advised of a presentation he had attended, along with Cllr Mrs W Downes, about the new campaign to keep the school open. A community based representative body was to be formed to take the campaign forward and the Parish Council had been invited to appoint a representative to it.

Councillors, in discussion, considered the response received from the IWC to be wholly inadequate and unsubstantiated. It was felt that the points put forward by the Parish Council and the school had been ignored repeatedly and no consideration had been given as to the serious impact that the closure of the school would have on the sustainability of the community.

# PAPER A

Cllr M Groves agreed to draft a letter of complaint to the IWC, which he would circulate to councillors for comment.

Mention was made of the Parish Council website, which could be utilised to host accessible information in respect of the campaign to retain the school.

## **RESOLVED :**

- i. THAT Cllr M Groves draft a letter of complaint to the IWC in respect of the lack of response received to questions raised regarding the proposals for school reorganisation, this to be circulated to councillors for comment;
- ii. THAT Cllr Mrs W Downes be appointed as the Parish Council's representative on the newly formed community based representative body;
- iii. THAT it be agreed for the Parish Council's website to host details of the campaign to retain Chale primary school.

## **186/08-09 To consider arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Parish**

### **RESOLVED :**

- i. THAT arrangements be made for the Annual Meeting of the Parish to take place on Monday, 20 April 2009 commencing at 7.30 pm in the WI Hall, Chale;
- ii. THAT Philippa Daley, the new Rural Services Officer at the RCC be invited to make a presentation on villages under threat.

## **187/08-09 Request for the installation of a dog bin at the end of the Terrace**

The Chairman reported on a request he had received from a resident for the Parish Council's support to have a dog bin installed at the bottom of The Terrace.

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the IWC's Dog Warden section be requested to consider the installation and emptying thereof of a dog bin at the bottom of The Terrace.

## **188/08-09 To consider what response, if any, to make with regard to the following consultations:**

- i. Island Plan Core Strategy

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT no comment be made.

- ii. Communities in Control: Real people, Real power: Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity

# PAPER A

## **RESOLVED :**

THAT no comment be made.

- iii. The "Model Standards 2008 for Caravan Sites in England under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 – Section 5

## **RESOLVED :**

THAT no comment be made.

### **189/08-09 To receive an update on the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground**

Cllr M Groves referred to the decision taken at the last meeting in respect of the proposed Garden Licence. He was scheduled to attend a joint meeting with Mr & Mrs Dale and with Mr B Cooke, the IWC's Head of Property Services to discuss the matter.

### **190/08-09 To receive the report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party**

There was no further action to report.

### **191/08-09 To consider any issues arising from the Chale Village Partnership**

A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 16 December had been circulated by email. Particular mention was made of the £800 donation from the Horticultural Society, the scouts and the scout hut. Cllr Mrs W Downes referred to a volunteer who would be willing to assist in the running of the scouts and agreed to contact Liam Cumming.

### **192/08-09 To receive the report of Cllr Mrs W Arnold, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell**

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

- The date of the forthcoming elections had been set for 4 June 2009
- The annual grass cutting grant from the IWC would cease with effect from the next financial year
- The continuance of the Post Office in Newport
- Trading Standards wished to be advised of any scams in operation
- The restructure of Youth Services

### **193/08-09 Correspondence**

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

A copy of Paper D Rural Access to Services Programme – Small capital grants for community buildings to be sent to the WI.

### **194/08-09 Clerks Report**

# PAPER A

## i Finance

- a. The interim budget to the end of December 2008 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 281 were received. It was noted that there was a discrepancy of £210.00. The clerk would circulate a revised budget report. The clerk also advised that it appeared that the Halifax Building Society had made an error in the reinvestment of the balance of the Guaranteed Reserve Account. They had failed to deduct £870.00 being the cost net Vat for the Hoy Monument repairs and instead issued a cheque for £460.75 being the interest accrued. The clerk would report back at the next meeting.
- b. To authorise payment of the following cheques:  
000601, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for November  
000602, Isle of Wight Council, Clerks Salary for December  
000603, Mrs B Herbert, £108.61, Clerks Expenses for November and December  
000604, Isle of Wight Council, £2,673.70, Invoice 1 for the Pieces of Eight project  
000605, Isle of Wight Council, £815.56, Invoice 2 for the Pieces of Eight project  
000606, Awards for All, £1,789.74, being the under-spend on the project  
000607, Cllr M Groves, £30.00, costs of framing the painting used for Chaler of the Year award

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT payment of the above cheques be approved.

- c. The termination of the Amenity Grass Cutting and Graveyard Maintenance Grant provided by the IW Council, with effect from the end of this financial year, was noted.
- d. Consideration and approval of the Precept for 2009/10

Discussion ensued on the suggested proposal for the Precept for 2009/10. Councillors were informed of the letter received from Chale Churchyard Committee requesting a donation of £750 towards their grass cutting costs for 2009. Councillors expressed their reluctance to increase the Precept to include the cost for grass cutting over and above the total net spends incurred for the current financial year. In the light of the termination of the grass-cutting grant it was indicated that enquiries should be made on options to restrict the limit of expenditure. It was also highlighted that officially Chale Green fell under the management of the IWC. A further cost saving would be to resign from IW Association of Local Councils (IWALC).

### **RESOLVED :**

## PAPER A

- i. THAT the IWC be advised of the Parish Council's decision that the limit on its net expenditure for grass cutting during 2009/10, be restricted to the same level as the current financial year;
- ii. THAT options for grass cutting be submitted to the next meeting of the Parish Council;
- iii. THAT the Parish Council cancel their membership of IWALC with effect from 1 April 2009;
- iv. THAT the Precept for 2009/10 be set at £8,800.00.

### b. Administration

- i. Consideration was given to the date of the meeting of the Parish Council in April, as it was currently scheduled to take place on Easter Monday.

#### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the revised date of the Parish Council in April be agreed to take place on 6 April 2009

- ii. It was noted that the External Auditor had completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2008 and found the information provided was in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements.
- iii. Million Blooms application

The IWC had conditionally agreed the application for £2,500 to plant 50 native trees to mark the entrances to the village. The timescale for completion of the project was very tight as all works had to be completed by 22 March. The Chairman was to liaise with Mr D Whitehurst, the tree officer for Chale.

### **195/08-09 Councillors' reports**

Cllr M Starke reported the plea for assistance from a parishioner in respect of the newly erected electricity poles outside of his premises. The Chairman agreed to write to Southern Electricity and to the Planning Authority.

Cllr M Starke advised that the Neighbourhood Watch, in Town Lane are due to have a permanent co-ordinator.

Cllr M Groves mentioned that he held a copy of the DVD of the Chale Lantern Parade, 2007.

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

Signed -----

Dated -----