

# PAPER A

## Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday, 11 May 2009, commencing at 7.30 pm

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

In attendance:

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

There was 1 member of the public present.

### **252/08-09 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mrs Karen Le Brecht, due to sickness and from Mr Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer (ENO) for Chale

### **253/08-09 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr M Groves declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No 270 a iv as he was the recipient of cheque No 000581 for £4.00.

### **254/08-09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 April 2009**

#### **RESOLVED ;**

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 April 2009 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

### **255/08-09 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution**

- a. Minute 234/08-09a. Gore Pit Down – The IWC's Enforcement Officer had been unable to provide a further update. She was intending to visit the site earlier in the day to assess the condition of the land and review from there.
- b. Minute 234/08-09 b. Whale Chine - Alex Russell, the IWC's Rights of Way Manager had advised of the receipt of the consultant's feasibility report. When the conclusion had been evaluated she would contact the clerk.
- c. Minute 234/08-09 c. Silo on Pyle Farm – The IWC's Enforcement Officer had advised that it was the Local Planning Authority's (LPA) view that as this case was inexpedient to pursue they would be taking no further action regarding the matter. The landowner was unwilling to submit a retrospective application for the retention of the silo, resulting in it continuing to be unauthorised. However, due to the informal view of officers that retrospective planning consent would be granted if an application was forthcoming, enforcement action was deemed inappropriate to pursue. Councillors were unanimous in the opinion that planning regulations must be strictly enforced and requested that the clerk write to the LPA in strong terms to that effect.
- d. Minute 234/08-09 h. Maricourt – All councillors confirmed the receipt of the email circulated from the IW Council's Planning Services setting out the justification for the planning authority's decision.

## PAPER A

- e. Minute 238/08-09 The formal complaint submitted by the Parish Council – The clerk advised that an acknowledgement dated 20 April, had been received from the Chief Executive of the IW Council.
- f. Minute 239/08-09 Copy of questions raised at a meeting of the Cabinet on 31 March 2009 – Councillors confirmed that they had all received a copy via the email. The Chairman had also forwarded a copy to Chale Primary School and Village Association
- g. Minute 250/08-09 Dog Bin on the Terrace – The Dog Warden Section had reported that several bin requests had been submitted, including one for Chale. It was hoped this would be installed within the next month or so, providing there were no problems with the IW Council funding it.
- h. Minute 251/08-09 Southern Water – The Clerk reported that she had received an acknowledgement from Southern Water. Normal practice was if the water supply was going to be interrupted for more than four hours or the works were to last for a long period their customers would be informed.
- i. Minute 220/08-09 Minute Grass Cutting – Confirmation that the Green had been measured up and added to Wyevale's grass cutting schedule had been received. As the main area of the Green had still not been cut the clerk was requested to seek the date as to when this would take place.
- j. Minute 238/08-09 Data used by the IW Council to base their argument – The clerk advised that she had circulated, earlier in the evening, the response she had received to her enquiry. Councillors requested that this forms an agenda item at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

### **256/08-09 To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on Monday, 20 April 2009 and to consider any matters arising**

#### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on 20 April 2009, be confirmed.

### **257/08-09 Town and Country Planning**

- a. Notification of the Planning Inquiry, due to take place at the Riverside Centre on 13 May 2009, commencing at 10.00 am in respect of the refusal of planning approval for the retention of 7 lighting columns to the access drive, at the Clarendon Hotel & Wight Mouse Inn, Church Place, Chale, IW, PO38 2HA, was noted. Councillors agreed that they did not wish to add any further comments to their original objection. Cllr M Groves advised that he would be prepared to attend the opening of the inquiry until 1.00 pm.
- b. The Isle of Wight Council's document entitled 'Development Control – Best Practice Guide' was noted.
- c. The decision taken by the Local Planning Authority since the last meeting to Conditional Planning Approval for the construction of a stable block comprising of 3 loose boxes at Micklegate, Town Lane, Chale was noted.
- d. 1 Sheep Lane Farm Cottages – Reference was made to the recent refusal of planning permission on this site. It had been noticed that an un-authorized motor-cycle repair business appeared to be operating from within one of the

# PAPER A

buildings to the front of the premises. The clerk was requested to advise the IW Council's Enforcement Section.

## **258/08-09 Update on the Big Tidy Up event**

Cllr Mrs W Downes reported on the very successful Big Tidy Up event, which had taken place on Wednesday, 15 April 2009. A number of volunteers, with their children, had provided assistance to Mr Harry Dea, the ENO and councillors to collect a large amount of rubbish in the hedgerows and wayside. It was suggested that consideration be given for a further event to take place later in the summer.

### **RESOLVED :**

- i. THAT a vote of thanks be recorded to Cllr Mrs W Downes, Mr H Dea, ENO and all the villagers and councillors who attended to make the event such a success;
- ii. THAT consideration of a further Tidy Up event be given at the meeting scheduled to take place in July.

## **259/08-09 To consider staging a Community Advice Network (CAN) event in Chale**

Cllr M Groves explained that the planned meeting with Ms P Daley, of the RCC, had only recently taken place. A number of options were being investigated that could enable a Community Advice Network (CAN) event to be held in Chale. These would be pursued over the next few weeks and reported back to a future meeting.

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT consideration of a CAN event in Chale be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

## **260/08-09 To consider the request received from Chale Churchyard Committee in respect of their costs of grass cutting**

Cllr Mrs L Groves declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item of business as she was a member of the Chale Churchyard Committee and left the meeting room prior to any discussion or decision thereon.

The Parish Council had previously taken the decision to not increase the spend on grass cutting costs above that incurred during 2008/09. However, in the light of the acknowledgement by the IW Council that the management of the Green was actually their responsibility and it was very likely that the Parish Council would receive a grant at the end of the year, it was therefore

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the sum of £750.00, be approved as a contribution to the Chale Churchyard Committee towards their costs of grass cutting during 2009/10.

Cllr Mrs L Groves returned to the meeting room.

## **261/08-09 To consider highway issues in Chale**

- a. Speed limits in Blythe Shute/Military Road

## PAPER A

Reference was made to email correspondence between the clerk and the IW Council's Traffic Section in response to the Parish Council's earlier request for a review of the speed limit along Blythe Shute. Councillors were reminded that as part of a national scheme, a review of all A and B roads was to be undertaken. However, any recommendations would not be implemented until 2010. Unfortunately, a serious road traffic accident had recently occurred in this area, which councillors considered justified their repeat call for a 50 mph limit to be implemented without delay.

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the IW Council be requested to implement, as a priority, a 50mph speed limit along Blythe Shute.

- b. Residents Parking in Blythe Shute  
The IW Council's Engineering Services had confirmed that the land registry search revealed that the land in question was unregistered, suggesting that no-one had the ability to prevent parking in the Blythe Shute 'lay by'. Further investigations would continue to try to clarify the situation, the results of which would be the subject of a future report.
- c. To undertake a review of car parking needs as well as a review of all signage

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

- d. Response from IW Cllr T Hunter-Henderson  
Cllr Starke tabled his response to IW Cllr Hunter-Henderson on anomalies over the IW Council's proposed Pathfinder Highways Maintenance PFI. The Parish Council's main concern remained unanswered - When would the roads in Chale be repaired? It was considered imperative to seek a definitive timescale from the IW Council, which set out details of the delivery of the proposed PFI.

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT Cllr Starke provide a response to Cllr T Hunter-Henderson and also request a timescale for the delivery of the Pathfinder Highways Maintenance PFI.

### **262/08-09 To receive an update on the Chale Primary School and Village Association**

Cllr W Downes provided an oral update advising that the petition had been delivered to the Houses of Parliament on 30 April. A response to this was awaited.

### **263/08-09 Changes to the Isle of Wight Council's Parish Team and the response of the Chairman of IWALC**

The report from Mr C Mathews, the IW Council's Head of Democratic Services, summarizing the responses received from Parish and Town Councils, IWALC and

## PAPER A

the Society of Clerks to proposed changes to the IW Council's Parish Team was noted. The list of responsibilities, subject to the one amendment set out in the report, would come into operation with effect from 1 May 2009. The response of the Chairman of IWALC to the changes was noted.

### **264/08-09 To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Chale Village Partnership on 21 April 2009**

The Chairman, who had attended the meeting on 21 April, made reference to the minutes, which had been previously circulated by email to all councillors.

### **265/08-09 Update on the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground**

There was no further action to report.

### **266/08-09 To receive the report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party**

There was no further action to report.

### **267/08-09 To receive the report of Cllr Mrs W Arnold, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell**

In the absence of Cllr Mrs W Arnold, the clerk read out the report submitted by email, in which Cllr Arnold promised her continued support for the retention of the school and included her best wishes for the future to the Parish Council.

### **268/08-09 To receive the quarterly report of Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood officer (ENO) for Chale**

During the consideration of the following item of business IW Cllr W Arnold arrived.

The report of Mr Harry Dea, the ENO for Chale, was noted. Councillors expressed their appreciation of all his good work around the village and requested that a letter extending the thanks of the Council be forwarded to the IW Council's Director of Environment and Neighbourhood.

Mention was also made of the recent vandalism to the bus shelter on Chale Green, which was being investigated by the Police. The South Wight Housing Association had a CCTV camera in the vicinity and it was suggested that Mr Dea should contact them with the intention to discover if the footage covered the bus shelter.

### **RESOLVED :**

- i. THAT the clerk write to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood expressing thanks for all the good work undertaken by Mr H Dea;
- ii. THAT Mr H Dea be advised of the CCTV camera owned by SW Housing Association.

### **269/08-09 Correspondence**

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

### **270/08-09 Clerks Report**

- a. Finance

## PAPER A

- i. The interim budget to the end of April 2009 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 285 were received and noted. An amendment to the Total Payments was reported, to include a figure of £38 under the Community Chest heading.
- ii. Cheque No 000579 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 000579 for £38.00 to IW Gateway Club from the Community Chest grant funding as payment for the trip was required prior to the meeting.

- iii. Authorisation was given for the Chairman to sign the Statement of Accounts certifying that the annual return presented fairly the Council's financial position and confirmed approval of the Annual Governance Statement for 2008/09, for submission to the Audit Commission. Mr Sven Tester had undertaken an internal audit of the accounts and had agreed with all the internal control objectives, bar one regarding the annual precept. The clerk was due to meet with him shortly to resolve this one issue.

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Parish Council the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for 2008/09, for submission to the Audit Commission.

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.

- iv. To authorise payment of the following cheques:  
000580, Society of Local Council Clerks, £52.50, Annual Subscription  
000581, Mr M Groves, £4.00, Engraving of label for Chaler of the Year award  
000582, Mrs I Thorp, £13.40, Interim Expenses for organizing mini bus outings, from Community Chest Funding  
000583, Chale School & Village Community Association, £200.00, Coach trip to London, from Community Chest Funding  
000584, Broker Network Ltd, £266.58, Renewal of Insurance with the Norwich Union  
000585, Mrs B Herbert, £86.57, Clerks Expenses for March

### **RESOLVED :**

THAT payment of the above cheques be approved.

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

# PAPER A

## 271/08-09 Councillors' reports

Cllr Overton requested that a mailing list be established for those parishioners who wished to receive copies of agendas and minutes of Parish Council meetings. This would be looked at later in the year when the Council undertook re-accreditation of its Quality Status.

Cllr Starke requested that a vote of thanks be recorded to Cllr Overton for all his work as a parish council over a number of years. This was his last meeting as a councillor, as he would not be standing at the next election.

Cllr Starke also thanked IW Cllr W Arnold for her support to the Parish Council, as she too was not standing at the next election.

Cllr M Groves reported his attendance at the meeting of the Brighstone Newsletter committee.

Cllr M Groves advised of a matter raised by a parishioner. At the entry to Spanners Close, where the pavement dropped on either side of the road, a line of brick pavers were built into the roadway to indicate the crossing area. As these were very grubby they were barely noticeable, particularly to someone in a car. It was suggested that Mr Dea be informed to see if the pavers could be cleaned up. In addition, at this point was a sign pole, which previously had a sign indicating that this was a crossing place. The clerk was requested to contact the IW Council to have the sign replaced. Cllr M Groves thanked all councillors for their support over the past two years, the period that he had been the Chairman of the Parish Council.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.00 PM**

Signed -----

Dated -----