

Chale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Chale Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall, Chale on Monday, 8 February 2010, commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Malcolm Groves (Chairman), Mike Starke (Vice Chairman), Tony Bryant, Mrs Liz Groves

In attendance:

Mrs Barbara Herbert, Clerk and RFO
IW Cllr William Wyatt-Millington

There were no members of the public present.

171/09-10 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mrs W Downes and Mr Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer for Chale.

171/09-10 Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Groves declared a personal interest in Minute 175/09-10 as he knew the applicant, a personal interest in Minute 182/09-10 as he was a member of the Recreation Ground Committee and a personal interest in Minute 185/09-10 as he was the Chairman of the Steering Committee.

Cllr M Starke declared a personal interest in Minute 175/09-10 as he knew the applicant.

Cllr T Bryant declared a personal interest in Minute 175/09-10 as he knew the applicant.

Cllr Mrs L Groves declared a personal interest in Minute 175/09-10 as she knew the applicant.

172/09-10 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2009

RESOLVED ;

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2009 be confirmed as a true record and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Minutes on behalf of the Council.

173/09-10 Matters Arising, not requiring a Resolution

- a. Minute 157/09-10a Gore Pit Down – The IW Council's Area Compliance Officer had no further progress to report.
- b. Minute 157/09-10b Island Insulation Scheme – The clerk had no further progress to report.
- c. Minute 157/09-10c Post Office Services in Chale – There was no further progress to report.
- d. Minute 157/09-10d Allotments Mr Derek Sprake had replied advising that the former allotment area was actually owned by the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The matter had been discussed at the last meeting of the Churchyard Committee and likewise by the PCC, who had decided not to re-establish the allotments. It was Mr Sprake's understanding that the land was originally to be used as an extension to the churchyard, but had been found to be

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unsuitable for burials. The PCC had enquired of the Diocese as to alternative uses for the land and were informed that it could only be used for 'ecclesiastical purposes'.

- e. Minute 157/09-10e Unmonitored Southern Water overflows – Southern Water had confirmed that at the overflow at Blackgang Chine, between 9 February 2009 and 26 November 2009, there had been 18 spills recorded all of a short duration of less than 10 minutes. At Chale Street, between 9 February 2009 and 22 January 2010, there had been only 7 spills recorded. However, these were of a long duration, of up to 12 hours. The data and spillage rate to be reviewed again in a year.
- f. Minute 157f Pyle Hall Farm – The IW Council's Area Compliance Officer had no further progress to report. The clerk was requested to write a letter to Mr Bill Murphy, the Head of the IW Council's Planning Unit to complain as to the time taken to investigate suggested breaches of planning control.
- g. Minute 179/09-10b I – Annual Meeting of the Parish – Ellen Macarthur had agreed to attend as the keynote speaker. The school hall had been booked, with kitchen facilities to be made available.

174/09-10 To receive the report of Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer (ENO) for Chale

In the absence of Mr Harry Dea, the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer for Chale, his quarterly progress report, covering the period 1 October to 31 December 2009, was noted. Discussion focussed on the changes, reported at the last meeting, as to how any litter collected as part of the Big Tidy Up campaigns or incidents of fly tipping would now be disposed of. Councillors were critical that, in their view, what had been a highly efficient service would no longer continue to be so and also did not conform to the IW Council's Eco Island priorities. Mr Dea's worked over and above the call of duty and was very much appreciated by both the residents and councillors.

RESOLVED :

THAT a letter of complaint be sent to the IW Council requesting that the responsibility to dispose of incidents of fly tipping and litter collection remain with the ENO and not to be passed to the Waste Management Team

175/09-10 Town and Country Planning

To consider the application received and make comments in accordance with the guidance for material planning considerations listed at <http://www.iwight.com/council/departments/planning/appsdip/MakingCommentsInfo.aspx>

TCP/18739/D Walnut Tree Cottage, Chale Green, PO38 2JR – LBC for demolition of front elevation of garage/workshop and replacement of existing roof covering with clay tiles, window in north elevation

RESOLVED :

THAT Chale Parish Council raises no material planning objections to the application and welcomes such a sympathetic development in keeping with the existing building.

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176/09-10 To note the decision of the IW Council in respect of Chale CE Primary School and to consider any further action required

Reference was made to the reasons as to why a decision on the future of Chale CE Primary School had been delayed. The Office of the Schools Adjudicator had informed that they wished to determine the statutory proposals in relation to Middle schools. As the IW Council had feared this could lead to a potential lengthy legal dispute, they planned to withdraw the statutory notices for the discontinuation of Godshill, Wroxall and Chillerton & Rookley schools and instead intended to seek a hard federation between the schools, as an alternative way forward. In the light of the changed circumstances the Governing Body of Chale CE Primary School had been given the opportunity to approach the existing governing bodies, of the three school involved, with a view to them federating with Chale. In discussion, councillors feared that this would be extremely unlikely to occur. It was suggested that the new school building planned in Godshill would go ahead as funding had been identified. It was also considered that there was little more that the Parish Council could do to further the campaign to retain the school.

176/09-10 To approve undertaking arrangements to establish Chale as a No Cold Calling Zone at a maximum cost of £200.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT arrangements be undertaken with the IW Council's Community Safety Service to establish a No Cold Calling Zone in Chale at a maximum cost of £200;
- ii. THAT Mrs Isobel Thorpe, the Older Persons Champion for Chale, be approached to try and identify any vulnerable persons who might need special attention, so that details of the scheme could be explained to them in person.

177/09-10 To consider proposals for the use of the telephone kiosk, opposite the Parish Church along the Military Road, Chale

Councillors were advised that the Chale Churchyard Committee and the Chale Village Partnership were both to consider the invitation to provide a supply of information in the telephone kiosk, at their next meetings. In view of this, it was therefore

RESOLVED :

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

178/09-10 To consider establishing a Flood Plan in Chale

Cllr M & Mrs L Groves had both attended a meeting with the IW Council's Emergency Planning section to clarify the process of establishing a Flood Plan. In the light of this discussion it was suggested that it would be more appropriate for the Parish Council to establish an Emergency Plan for Chale, which would include flooding issues

RESOLVED :

THAT Cllrs M Groves and T Bryant report to the next meeting on suggestions

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for an Emergency Plan for Chale

179/09-10 To consider any progress in the installation of the green solar powered studs

Unfortunately Cllr Bryant had been incapacitated since the last meeting and had not been able to investigate the matter further.

RESOLVED :

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

180/09-10 To comment on the E-on HeatPlant Survey form

The draft E-on HeatPlant Survey form had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting, with a request for any feedback. A number of comments had been made and passed to Martin Gibson, the Project Manager of the Green Towns Island 2000 Trust.

The Survey would be undertaken as part of the Chale Community project, when visits were carried out under the Warmer Chale campaign.

181/09-10 To note the letter from the IW Council's Rights of Way Manager re Public Footpath C34 Whale Chine

The letter from the IW Council's Rights of Way Manager acknowledging receipt of the Parish Council's comments to the feasibility report on the reinstatement of the footpath at Whale Chine, was noted.

182/09-10 Update of the sale of the Chale Recreation Ground

Cllr M Groves advised that the informal meeting, as reported at the last meeting, had taken place. Chale Horticultural Society had obtained a re-evaluation of the Recreation Ground. The sale was critical on the total funds held ring-fenced for the purchase, by the Horticultural Society. An email inquiry had been sent to the IW Council to determine their views on what constituted an acceptable cost. A reply was awaited.

182/09-10 Report from the Affordable Housing for Chale Working Party

There was no further progress to report.

183/09-10 Update from the Parking and Signage Working Party

There was no further progress to report.

184/09-10 Report from the Hoy Monument Working Party

There was no further progress to report.

185/09-10 To receive an update on the Chale Green Low Carbon Community Challenge (Chale Green LCCC)

Cllr M Groves indicated that the project had been renamed the Chale Community project. The meeting held on 23 January had been very well attended, with 56 persons present. A number of topics had been determined, including Community Champions, home visits and job training. A further meeting of the Steering Committee was scheduled for Thursday, 11 February. It was noted that further progress announcements would only be made on matters that were guaranteed to actually happen or would be delivered. Mention was made of the slight change to

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the bus travel scheme for Chale residents, whereby it would now cost £2.00 for a day return to anywhere on the Island, providing that the journey commenced from Chale.

Following a question from a councillor, Cllr M Groves advised on improvements, which SW Housing had agreed to undertake and how it was planned to make fuel economies. This would benefit up to 67 homes in the Spanners Close and The Glebe area.

186/09-10 To receive the report of Cllr W Wyatt-Millington, the IWC Ward Member for Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Cllr Wyatt-Millington indicated that the IW Council had difficult decisions to make in respect of the Budget for 2010/11, which would prove very unpopular with the electorate. In discussion, mention was made of the recent seminar for Voluntary Organisations where questions had been directed to the Leader and the Chief Executive of the IW Council over controversial plans to reduce funding for the Supporting People programme, which included budget proposals surrounding Westminster House and services for vulnerable people. Cllr Wyatt-Millington advised that his main area of concern centred on possible cuts to services involving adult social care.

Cllr Starke referred to the National Audit Office Assessment, which had been highly critical of the lack of continuity in senior management at the IW Council. He had attended a private meeting with the Leader and his Deputy to air his views, and had been invited back in two months to comment on any improvements.

187/09-10 Correspondence

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

188/09-10 Clerks Report

a. Finance

- i. The interim budget to the end of January 2010 and the bank reconciliation with Statement No 6 were received and noted.
- ii. To authorise payment of the following cheques
000625, £12.87, Clerks Expenses
000626, £5.00, Search of the Index Map re land at Southdowne Lane/Pyle Shute

RESOLVED :

THAT the above cheques be approved for payment.

189/09-10 Councillors' reports

Cllr M Starke referred to a scheme involving the National Trust, which could lead to three areas of land nationally, being turned into Community Farms, to resolve any possible food crisis in future years. It was questioned whether Chale could undertake something similar. Cllr M Groves advised that this issue would be addressed within the remit of the Chale Community Project.

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Cllr Bryant queried as to when the Code of Conduct Training was to be held. This was to be attended by Cllrs Bryant, Cumming and Starke and to take place on Monday, 15 February in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Newport commencing at 2.30 pm.

Cllr M Groves questioned whether any date was forthcoming as to the completion of the descriptive map. No comment was made.

Cllr M Groves referred to the tragic accident along the Military Road, involving the death of a young motorcyclist.

Cllr M Groves spoke of the recent CAN events, which had not been well supported. It was suggested that a rethink on the methodology used would be necessary, should the action be repeated.

Cllr M Groves reported that he was to take part in a short film on the preparation of Village Design Statements (VDS), in Winchester at the invitation of Planning Aid, who had assisted in the preparation of the VDS for Chale.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.40PM

Signed -----

Dated -----