



Chale Parish Council  
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Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025, commencing at 7.00pm.

**Present**

**Councillors:** Cllrs: Dave Stewart, Andrew Burroughs, Pete Gosling, Lynda Burroughs, Chris Parker and Dr Jeremy Lockwood.  
**IW Councillor:** Claire Critchison.  
**Clerk:** Mrs Michala Bailey  
**Public:** 1

**124/25 APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.  
**RESOLVED: all present.**

**125/25 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and written requests for dispensations on items forming the agenda.  
**RESOLVED: None received.**

**126/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025.  
**RESOLVED: amendment to 114/25 – should read now finalised. 115/25, arrangements for boarding at the phone box by the church will be made now Cllr Burroughs is back from holiday. 119/25, chairman apologised that he did not make the SWAY meeting.**

**127/25 PLANNING**

A. None Received  
B APPEAL DECISION – The old milking parlour.  
**RESOLVED: Appeal decision noted.**

**128/25 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Oct 2025  
**RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.**

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for November 2025

**RESOLVED: Receipt of cash from food pantry was received at the meeting from WC Critchison and will be added to the recon for Dec.**

**RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:**

BACS	S137 donation Society for the Blind	£60.00
BACS	Claire Critchison – food pantry (Oct )	£246.90
PAY	Lloyds bank charges (Oct)	£4.75
BACS	WI Chale – Hall Hire (Nov)	£15.00
BACS	WI Chale – Hall Hire for food pantry (Oct )	£15.00
BACS	Community Action - Payroll (Nov )	£793.62
Chq 1530	M. Bailey – clerk expenses	£181.27
<b>Total</b>		<b>£1316.54</b>

**RESOLVED: Noted and agreed. Clerk also advised full council that the finance committee has agreed that Cllr Chris Parker will become a second online banking user in the event that the clerk is unable to carry out her duties.**

#### **129/25 CHRISTMAS TREE**

The purchase of location of tree was discussed and Cllr Pete Gosling has agreed to purchase and have delivered. The location will depend on weather as the Green area by the new hub floods so a secondary site of across the road by the old bus shelter (as last year) may be a better site. However, the large area of scrub by the new hub at the entrance of Spanners Close is due for removal so the tree may be placed there as long as it is seen as a focal point in the village. Mince pies will be provided by Cllr Gosling. Cllr Dr Lockwood will purchase the mulled wine. Clerk advised that SWAY have offered serving refreshments from the hub after the carols.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Gosling to liaise with SWAY over event and discuss whether they will contribute to the purchase of refreshments. Cllr Andrew Burroughs volunteered to help with the organisation.**

#### **130/25 PHONE BOX – St Andrews and Chale Green**

Cllr Dr Lockwood updated that the process of updating the Chale Trail leaflet is underway. New information signs for the phone box at St Andrews Church have been purchased and Cllr Gosling will look at installing them.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Gosling to install new signs. Cllr A. Burroughs will look at boarding for the leaflets.**

Chale Green phone box use was discussed. It was agreed that it could also be an information point or, as offered by a local resident, a jigsaw library. The issue of funding refurbishment was discussed and it was agreed that a Lottery bid should be submitted. Recent quotes in region of £3000.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Dr Lockwood and Cllr Parker to complete and submit a grant application to the National Lottery.**

#### **131/25 VILLAGE PLAN UPDATE**

Cllr Lynda Burroughs and Cllr Andrew Burroughs confirmed that the Wi have volunteered to assist with the plan and set up a joint working group. The initial way forward would be to do a social media drop asking for more help with this prior to creating a consultation paper. Collation of information and creating a draft will need some specialist help. Funding will also have to be looked at for the next financial year. Clerk was asked to look for any historical costs from the last plan. In addition, Cllr Andrew Burroughs stated that a lot of change has happened in the village since the last plan was published. Loss of the school, shop and petrol station. The unknown future of St Andrews Church and the ongoing upkeep of the village hall is a concern. Chairman Stewart suggested that Asset of Community Values could be considered to help preserve those village assets that were left.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to look at and find any archived data on the cost of publishing the last plan.**

#### **132/25 CRISIS AND RESILLIENCE FUND**

Councillors agreed to think of any ideas that could be put forward to the IWC for this fund. Chairman Stewart volunteered to sit on the proposed task and finish group.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to collate ideas and forward to IWC.**

#### **133/25 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Councillor Lynda Burroughs advised that soup and roll will be an addition after the coffee morning on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**RESOLVED: None.**

#### **134/25 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS**

11.1 Youth Trust. Councillors discussed request for assistance and agreed that SWAY are offering A lot of support and activities for residents in Chale and Parish Council support should focus on that for the time being. Also, the village hall will require assistance throughout the year.

**RESOLVED: Grant request declined.**

#### **135/25 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:**

**The Clerk.** The Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. The cost of a replacement dog bin at the bottom of Eastview Lane will cost £160-£200 to replace if the old one can not be repaired. New 'INFORMATION' signs for the phone box at St Andrews have been purchased and given to Cllr Gosling.

**RESOLVED: None**

#### **Parish Councillors.**

Cllr Lynda Burroughs attended the SWAY meeting for residents and was dismayed at the lack of attendance. The SWAY building can be hired out for community or private events and SWAY are looking at grants to assist with cost.

Cllr Dr Lockwood reported that the defib pads at Stubbings require replacement. Cllr Gosling advised that the defib at The Wight Mouse was deployed but not used recently and the Ambulance staff advised that replacement pads can be obtained from them. Dr Lockwood also mentioned the problems with loud ongoing fireworks in the village. Cattle nearby were distressed; Sheep tried to escape their field and the issue of fireworks being let off near thatched properties is a real concern. Discussions over how to alert locals to these problems were had and in particular to highlight the law regarding the Animal Welfare Act 2006. Clerk advised that she had received a complaint from a local resident some weeks ago whereby 3 adults were letting fireworks off on the green and when they were told not to she was verbally abused. Clerk has reported this to the local neighbourhood police team.

Cllr Pete Gosling attended the Tree Wardens meeting and announced that Thomas Cowley is the Co-ordinator for the IOW. There are many grants for private and commercial planting of native trees which also included hedgerows. All plants now must have passports. 12 Parishes now have Tree volunteers who identify ancient/veteran trees around the island. One concern will be the insurance to cover these whilst carrying out voluntary work.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Andrew Burroughs and Clerk to look at Facebook notice and other media coverage regarding fireworks next Oct. Clerk to look at insurance for Tree volunteer work.**

**Chairman – Dave Stewart.**

**RESOLVED: None**

**Ward Councillor Claire Critchison** – Councillor Critchison's report will be available to read in full appdx to the minutes. In addition, she stated that SWAY are still awaiting news on their funding request to continue running the food pantry and may have to change the day to a Thursday for those volunteers who help with it. More volunteers are needed and the long-term plan is to run them monthly but hopefully expand them in 2026. A request for £150 was made to help with running the next pantry until the funding comes through. This was already agreed by Councillors in October.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to transfer £150 to SWAY for food pantry.**

#### **136/25 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

MOP advised Council that the church Warden, Mr Tester will be moving to the mainland at the end of the month and it looks unlikely that he will be replaced. Concern over the future of the Church remains as there is still no clear indication what is going to happen to it.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Mr Tester thanking him for his dedication to the church and send PC best wishes for the future. Clerk to write to Rev'd Rob Marsh and ask him for update on the future of the church.**

**MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8.58 PM**