



Minutes of the **MEETING of CHALE PARISH COUNCIL** held on Mon 9th Feb 2026, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present

Councillors: Cllrs: Andrew Burroughs, Pete Gosling, Lynda Burroughs, Chris Parker.
IW Councillor: Not Present
Clerk: Mrs Michala Bailey
Public: 2

The meeting commenced with an update from Steph Flux, Manager of the Hub, Spanners Close, Chale Green. Steph advised that since opening the building there has been issues with heating, electricity supply and internet connection. WightFibre will be re-locating the fibre box onto the car park of the HUB and connecting asap. This will help residents who wish to sign up to WightFibre due to poor connection with current suppliers. The shop is in progress. However, the cost of a till system is prohibitive and the mobile card machines require a good internet signal. It is hoped that volunteers will help run the shop. Initially it will open 4-6pm daily until. Parking has been an issue but with the 7/8 spaces in front of the old shop and the 6 provided at the HUB and sensible parking this should not be an ongoing problem. Steph is continuing to work with residents over this. The kitchen is not yet usable but it is hoped that a meeting with EH will help with that. The trees and shrubs removed alongside the Green will be replaced and planted when the weather improves. Internal blinds will be up soon to help with privacy and lots of planned activities are already in the diary including the Food pantry which Steph is hoping to obtain more funding for. Longterm, Steph is hoping to have volunteer 'hub hosts' who will be at the hub for visitors to have a chat with over a hot drink.

13/26 APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Chairman Dave Stewart and Ward Councillor Claire Critchison apologies noted.

14/26 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.

15/26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 12th Jan 2026.

RESOLVED: Minutes approved.

16/26 PLANNING

A. **26/00065/LBC**, Location: Lower House, Church Place, Chale, PO38 2HB

RESOLVED: No objections received. Clerk to advise planning dept accordingly.

B. None Received

RESOLVED: None received.

17/26 FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 To note the bank reconciliation for Jan 2026

RESOLVED: Bank reconciliation noted.

5.2 To ratify receipts and authorise payments for February 2026.

RESOLVED: No receipts were received.

RESOLVED: The following payments were noted and authorised:

PAY	Lloyds bank charges (Jan)	£4.75
BACS	IWALC yearly membership 26/27	£134.24
BACS	Community Action - Payroll (FEB)	£793.62
BACS	Hall Hire(Jan)	£20.00
BACS	Hall Hire (Feb)	£20.00
Chq 1533	M. Bailey – clerk expenses	£54.00
Total		£1026.61

RESOLVED: Clerk advised that the invoice for the ground's maintenance contract had been received but was incorrect due to no VAT being shown. Clerk has made contact with the IWC regarding this and was advised that VAT is not chargeable. Clerk has queried this again due to VAT being charged in previous years. Clerk is still awaiting a response so the invoice has not been presented for payment.

5.3 To discuss and agree the Council Tax Precept for 2026/27

Clerk circulated the tax base figure and a summary of what this means for the Parish Council in line with the agreed budget of £23100 for 26/27. Taking into consideration the underspend for 25/26, Councillors agreed to request £21000 for the year.

RESOLVED: Clerk to submit request to IWC for precept of £21000.00

18/26 PHONE BOX – St Andrews and Chale Green

Cllr Andrew Burroughs advised that a budget of up to £250.00 is required to board out the new phone board ready for the information leaflets. Cllr Pete Gosling advised that he has some materials that can be used for free. Cllr Dr Lockwood updated council that he has meetings arranged to discuss funding to refurbish the box at Chale Green and will report back with any significant news.

RESOLVED: Ongoing and monthly updates required.

19/26 VILLAGE PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Andrew Burroughs updated that he will be requesting volunteers to set up a focus group this month. M.O.P Mr Archer volunteered. Cllr Andrew Burroughs also asked whether the focus group should be just residents with no pecuniary interest. Council agreed this should be the case. He also asked if there is a digital copy of the village plan anywhere?

RESOLVED: Ongoing and updates will be given as an when necessary. Clerk to ascertain if there is a digital version of the old plan.

20/26 CHALER OF THE YEAR

Cllr Andrew Burroughs stated that he wasn't sure if it was a good idea to keep the award going. Cllr Gosling stated he felt it should only be awarded in exceptional circumstances and Cllr Dr Lockwood felt that if it were kept then it should be renamed to "The Chaler Award". Cllr's Lynda Burroughs and Chris Parker agreed that a criteria should be set and adhered to;

RESOLVED "Consistently, without reward, has given outstanding service to help and benefit the residents of Chale"

21/26 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

RESOLVED: All events noted. Food Pantry dates and venue to be placed on the Parish Council website.

22/26 S137 FUNDING REQUESTS

10.1 St Johns Ambulance request. Councillors agreed not to support this project at this time.

RESOLVED: No grant awarded.

23/26 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

The Clerk. The Clerk report was circulated prior to the meeting. In addition, the Clerk advised that there is ongoing communication with Island Roads over the abandoned caravan at Appleford Road. The Clerk will speak to Ward Councillor Critchison on her return. The public meeting regarding St Andrews church is set for the 11th March at 6.30pm at the HUB. And a request to support a Chale family move into a larger home on Spanners Close has been received.

RESOLVED: Clerk to send letter of support to resident.

Parish Councillors.

Cllr Dr Jeremy Lockwood suggested another hall fundraising event. This will be a Mexican evening at a cost of £12.50 per head. Date to be arranged. Payment will be upfront on this occasion due to several people not turning up at the last event and lost money and wasted food.

RESOLVED: Dr Lockwood to liaise with Cllr Lynda Burroughs and arrange a date for the Mexican evening.

Chairman – Not Present

RESOLVED: None

Ward Councillor Claire Critchison – Councillor Critchison's report was circulated prior to the meeting and will be appdx to these minutes.

24/26 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

M.O.P wanted to thank the Clerk and her husband for putting up the new dog bin at the bottom of EastView Lane. There are no longer bags of dog waste littered around the area.

RESOLVED: None.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8.35PM