

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF CHALE PARISH COUNCIL

Once again as chairman I have been supported throughout the year by our very professional and effective clerk (Mikki Bailey) and colleague councillors (Peter Gosling, Jeremy Lockwood, Chris Parker, Linda Burroughs and Andrew Burroughs).

As a team we held regular parish council meetings and dealt with various agenda items as shown in our regular minutes and supporting documentation which were published to the public throughout the year.

We dealt with a wide range of matters and issues and this report provides a summary of some of them for your information including:

- Providing a general response on behalf of the community in relation to various planning applications and related matters submitted by residents.
- Considering and approving a range of donations and support to requests from various community groups (such as the local church, SWAY, and the village hall) .
- Through a specific initiative during the economic challenges faced by residents to provide help via the food pantry and council funding grants to help those in
- Working with the Isle of Wight Council to ensure that Chale Green was regularly cut and where brambles and other growth had impinged onto the green to have this cleared so residents could continue to benefit from this common land.
- To ensure that the community was provided with a Christmas Tree and lighting for festive celebrations and with particular thanks to various members and a nearby resident to ensure we could once again enjoy ‘carols on the green’
- To continue to support the SWAY youth group as they move into their new home in Chale and help them to manage their challenges including residential impact and parking management.
- During the year we also focused on good management of the finances and ensuring our clerk is properly equipped with the equipment and ongoing training required to be effective in her role. We have been careful with what is public money. Our overall Budget for the year was set at **£20060** but only **£18500** was requested from the public in terms of precept in view of the difficult financial times being experienced. Our actual budget expenditure for the year was **£17839** meaning we came within our projected expenditure target.

So overall a full and productive year for the Parish Council and I thank all those involved for their contribution and support.

Dave Stewart – Chairman

13th May 2026