

Report to Chale Annual Parish Meeting 13 May 2026

Chale Recreation Ground Ltd

The dry summer led to a greater number of successful car boot sales with a consequent improvement in the sums raised that cover the continued increase in costs of maintaining the field and facilities. Costs continue to be kept under control thanks to the support we receive in terms of the provision and free use of equipment, donated and inexpensively costed work by local contractors and our small army of volunteers. This generosity from our community is gratefully received.

Ultra Challenge ran another successful event with participants raising around £1/2 million for charities and there was further charity fund raising at the Wight Wheels event. Following a successful Chale Show, Chale Horticultural Society made a significant donation for additional maintenance work required at the field. These events plus the support of donations from users, for which we are grateful, enabled us to improve our overall financial position.

The field continues to be popular with individuals every day and we have ensured that it is maintained and the toilets are regularly serviced. Grass cutting, rolling and other work has been undertaken as normal to ensure that the field is in a safe and usable state. The problems with run off from the Military Road since the surface level was raised continue and require the purchase of new materials to stabilise the entrance after each winter.

We have our usual schedule of car boot sales planned and we are looking forward to the Chale Show on the first weekend in August and the car show on 14 June. The horticultural show continues to be popular as a major island event and the car show continues to grow in popularity every year. Both are worthwhile fund raising events for a wide range of island charities.

We have also allowed the field to be used on a small number of occasions as a set off or stop over point for car and motorcycle charitable fund raising runs.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to join our team to manage parking at the car boot sales as they continue to grow in popularity.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering is welcome to contact Wendy Hardy or me. We reward our volunteers with a free cup of tea (or an ice cream if it's really hot)!

Malcolm Groves,

Chair, Chale Recreation Ground Ltd