

Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 1 APRIL 2025 AT 6.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MAIN ROAD, CHILLERTON

Present: Councillors Hobart (Chairman), Laursen (6.35pm), Newton, Smith & Whiteman.

In attendance: Debbie Faulkner, Parish Clerk; 4 members of the public.

4171 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- Councillors were advised of the new path opening and all were invited to attend from 12 noon on 5 April 2025.
- It is understood that the Parish Council purchased a traffic speed gun from the 2023 / 2024 budget. Questions were raised as to where the speed gun is, has it been hired or lent.
ACTION
Councillor Newton will make some enquiries to ascertain its location.
- The Parish Clerk was asked why the precept had risen by a significant amount for 2025 / 2026. The Parish Clerk explained that in the year 2024 / 2025 the precept that was set was not enough to meet the requirements of the budget and this left the Parish Council in a potentially difficult financial position. The budget for 2025 / 2026 has been set to allow for some reserves for emergencies and enough to meet the requirements of the Parish Council's expected expenditure.
- Councillors were advised that the burglar of The Gallybagger Inn had been arrested. This matter had caused concerns to residents in the local community; local police have been involved.

4172 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received as all Councillors were present.

4173 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

4174 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 March 2025, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4175 PLANNING

- a) Councillors considered the following Planning Application:
Application Nos: 25/00297/HOU & 25/00298/LBC
Location: Hill Farm, Rectory Lane
Proposal: Demolition of existing two storey extension on rear elevation; proposed two storey extension on rear elevation and Listed Building Consent for the proposed works. Following a discussion it was:
RESOLVED
That, as the materials being used are in keeping with a listed building, Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council have no objection to this planning application.
- b) Councillors received and noted the 2025 Local List of requirements for the validation of planning related applications.

4176 REPORTS / OTHER MINUTES

- a) **Chillerton and Gatcombe Community Association**
The Minutes of the Chillerton and Gatcombe Community Association meeting held on 11 February 2025 were received and noted.

4177 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

There were no healthy community matters to consider.

4178 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) **The Greening Campaign (Min Nos 4126a, 4139a & 4152a refer)**
It was agreed to carry this matter over until after the Town & Parish Council elections.
- b) **Environment Officer's Report**
A new Environment Officer has been appointed and is requesting some intelligence on areas that need some attention. Those being Berry Lane, the junction of Newbarn Lane and the G6 Shepherds trail and Brook Lane. Also, attention is required regarding fly tipping and whether additional signage and cameras could be installed. It was agreed:
ACTION
The Parish Clerk will advise the Environment Officer accordingly.
- c) **RoSPA Annual Inspection**
The Parish Clerk advised that the annual RoSPA inspection will take place at the play park during May 2025.
- d) **Hedge around Chillerton Play Area (Min Nos 4113d2, 4126c and 4139c refer)**
The lower hedge is being maintained, the upper hedge needs trimming. It was agreed:
ACTION
Councillors will try to meet the landowner after the May election.
- e) **Dog bin at Berry Lane (Min No 4126e & 4139d refer)**
The Parish Clerk asked Island Roads for a price to replace the dog bin lid at Berry Lane. According to Island Roads, you cannot just replace the lid. However, spare parts are available from advancedscape.co.uk (Tel: 01952 216888 / 07813 112519). It was agreed:
ACTION
The Town Clerk will contact the company to see which spare parts are available.

- f) **Planting of replacement trees at Chillerton playground hedge (Min No 4143 refers)**
Councillors discussed the options to plant replacement trees at Chillerton playground hedge. The Woodland Trust and Gift to Nature offer opportunities to donate whips and / or saplings to town and parish councils. It was agreed:

ACTION

Councillor Laursen will investigate options available from the Woodland Trust and Gift to Nature.

- g) **Ash Felling Invoice**

Councillors were asked to consider contributing 50% of the VAT element of the ash felling invoice in the sum of £120. It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will refund 50% of the ash felling invoice in the sum of £120.

4179 TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

- a) **Isle of Wight Council Speed Review**

Councillors discussed the Speed Review that went to the IW Council's Cabinet in January 2025. They were very disappointed that there was no mention of Gatcombe Road or any other areas in Chillerton and Gatcombe.

- b) **Gatcombe Road surface water**

Councillors discussed the condition of Gatcombe Road around Tuckers Farm and Newbarn Farm due to surface water and no drainage. Cosy Cottage on Rectory Lane is also affected by surface water.

4180 COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) **To consider the purchase of Chillerton Village Hall by Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council (Min No 4154a refers)**

At the Parish Council meeting on 4 February 2025, Councillors were asked to consider a suggestion from the Chillerton and Gatcombe Community Association (CGCA) to purchase the Village Hall on behalf of residents. CGCA would use the income from the sale to make the necessary adjustments to the Gallybagger Inn to enable disabled access and make major improvements to the property. The members of the public present raised their concerns about why the Parish Council would wish to consider such a proposal and the rise in precept that would be required to make the purchase. Councillors advised that this was still in the very early stages of consideration and no decisions would be made without full local consultation. The Parish Clerk has now received a copy of the CGCA accounts. It was agreed:

ACTION

The CGCA will get an independent valuer's report on the building.

- b) **Bembridge Parish Council Emergency and Resilience Plan**

Councillors were asked to review the Bembridge Parish Council Emergency and Resilience Plan. It was agreed:

ACTION

This matter will be carried over to a future Parish Council meeting.

4181 FINANCE

a) **Financial Statement as at 31 March 2025**

The balance in the bank account as at 31 March 2025 was £9,108.09. It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council receive, note and approve the Financial Statement of £9,108.09 as at 31 March 2025.

b) **Accounts payable for March 2025**

The accounts payable for March 2025 total £1,364.87.

DT Ground Care	Grass Cutting	86.00	Grass Cutting
D. Faulkner	Printer paper	4.00	Administration
D. Faulkner	February wages	598.72	Clerk Salary
D. Faulkner	February PAYE	30.40	PAYE
D. Faulkner	Travel	4.50	Travel
D. Faulkner	Home Working Allowances	25.00	Administration
IWALC	Subscription	96.98	Audit & Subscriptions
Island Roads	Emptying bins	479.52	Dog bins
Amazon	Printer ink	35.50	Administration
Lloyds Bank	Bank charges	4.25	Administration

It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council receive, note and approve the accounts payable of £1,364.87 for March 2025.

c) **Bank Balance as at 31 March 2025**

It was:

RESOLVED

That the bank balance as at 31 March 2025 of £9,108.09, will be held in reserve for any unexpected expenditure.

4182 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items were raised for inclusion on future agendas.

4183 NEXT MEETING

The next meetings of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will be the **Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm on Tuesday 13 May 2025** and the **Annual Parish Council meeting to follow straight after at The Village Hall, Main Road, Chillerton.**

The proceedings terminated at 8.25pm

CHAIRMAN