

Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 19th FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.30PM AT THE GALLYBAGGER, MAIN ROAD, CHILLERTON

Present: Cllrs Laursen (Chair), Smith & Thomas.

In Attendance: Virgil Philpott (Acting Parish Clerk); one member of the public.

4326 - OPENING STATEMENT

The Chair explained that this was a Special Meeting called to confirm a budget and set the Parish Precept for financial year 2026-27. As a result of the previous Clerk's (five month) absence the PC had not been provided with regular financial reports, nor a draft budget, nor proper notification of the IWC's precept deadlines. This Special Meeting had been called once the Acting Clerk had carried out remedial work. The IWC Finance Department had said (informally) that they would endeavour to extend the precept notification deadline, but, could not provide any 'guarantees' (subject to the need to circulate papers for the IWC's main Meeting). As such, a notional 4% increase had been notified to the IWC, but, it was hoped that any subsequent recommendations from this Meeting might be accommodated.

4327 - PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Concerns were expressed concern that previous 'loss making' budgets had eaten into PC reserves and the hope was expressed that the PC ensure a 'balanced' budget: enough to both run the Parish and make a contribution to reserves.

4328 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Newton and Bellamy-James.

4329 - DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

4330 - COUNCIL MATTERS - FINANCE

The PC discussed aspects of the draft budget and identified a number of 'tweaks' as follows:

- no allowance for election costs needed for the following year (saving £500)
- more needed to cover newsletter printing and potential regulatory changes to the website (adding £1k)

It was noted that reserves were very low in comparison to other local Parishes, albeit recognising the fact that C&G was the smallest Parish on the Island. In the event of unforeseen emergencies the PC could be struggling. It was also hoped to be able to make a loan to the CGCA to help with cashflow in respect of the need to make urgent repairs to the Gallybagger Roof **RESOLVED: that PC recommend a 12.5% increase to the Precept - amounting to an increase of c. £2,140. ACTION: Acting Clerk to notify IWC and amend budget accordingly.**

Outstanding invoices approved as follows:

E/476	J. Laurson	Food Reimbursement	142.32	Community Events
E/477	J. Laurson	Chef Travel Reimbursement	68.00	Community Events
E/478	IWC	Env Officer Contribution	591.76	Devolved Services
E/479	IWALC	Annual Subs 26-27	93.72	Subscriptions
E/480	V. Philpott	Filing Supplies	15.50	Administration

4331- NEXT MEETING

- The next normal meeting of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will be at **6.30pm on Tuesday 3 March 2026 at The Gallybagger Main Road, Chillerton.**

The proceedings terminated at 8.00pm.