

Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5th MAY 2026 AT 7:00PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HOLLOW LANE, CHILLERTON

Present: Cllrs Laursen (Chair), Newton, Smith, Bellamy-James & Thomas.

In Attendance: Virgil Philpott (Parish Clerk); three members of the public; PCSO Justin Keefe.

4364 - PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Police Community Support Officer, Justin Keefe attended the Meeting. He had been the PCSO for the Parish for 19 years - covering anti-social behaviour, safeguarding and community liaison. The local beat bobby was Matthew Roland. There was also an assigned mounted volunteer, for whom he would facilitate an introduction. The best way for parishioners to contact him remained via email - justin.keefe@hampshire.police.uk He only answered his phone (07901 102302) when on duty.

4365 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from IWC Ward Councillor Cllr Gladwin.

4366 - DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr. Laursen declared a non pecuniary interest in matters relating to the Chillerton & Gatcombe Community Association (CGCA).

4367 - MINUTES

Following a show of hands it was unanimously **RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29th April 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

Updates on ongoing actions were relayed as follows:

i. The Parish Newsletter is with the printers.

ii. Greening Campaign - Cllr Laursen drew attention to the fact that there are posters in the Parish advertising the latest wildlife mapping walk (4pm Friday 8th May starting at Billingham Manor Farm) and the resilient gardening campaign. Both free for parishioners.

iii. Assertion 10 - The Clerk and Cllr Lauren had met with the new website designers (Hugo Fox) and work was underway on a new site with a structure similar to Godshill's. The contractors were also progressing the '.gov' emails which should be available shortly.

iv. Development Fund - Further to last month's meeting the Clerk had confirmed that the Council did *not* have the power to make grants to 'individuals as opposed to organisations without wider community benefit'. **ACTION The Clerk to communicate this to the previous applicant following the provision of contact details by Cllr Newton.**

v. Parish Noticeboards - The Council is waiting on the delivery of the new boards for Chillerton and the CGCA. The board outside of the school has been taken down (on safety grounds grounds). It

has been suggested that the board outside the Gallybagger might be repurposed for use in Gatcombe once the new boards have been delivered.

4368 - REPORT FROM RURAL CENTRAL WARD COUNCILLOR.

Cllr. Gladwin had forwarded an email to the Clerk with the following updates on Chillerton and Gatcombe Matters:

"...I followed up the enquiry regarding the plot of land in Main Road...The enquirers have not yet had any meetings with the Council Planning Department to establish what (if any) development would be permissible. They have promised to inform me of any such meetings and any information from the planners further to this enquiry.

I have made no statement either in favour or against any proposed development. Not only would it be inappropriate to do so before a proposal is made, but also, I would always be guided by the views of the Parish Council in these matters.

I have (also) registered an enquiry with the Planning Department to investigate why the speed limit was not reduced when it was a planning condition of the development of the Barns. I will inform the Parish Council of the response I get to this."

4369 - PLANNING

No new planning applications received this month.

4370 - HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

No new applications had been received for the Development Fund.

4371 - REPORTS / OTHER MINUTES

CGCA - Cllr Laursen and the Clerk had been liaising with the CGCA. The Clerk had confirmed that the Council is unable to claim back VAT on capital work on behalf of CGCA, however, the charitable capital grant that the CGCA has been offered has a two year expiry date, so there is time for both organisations to take stock before committing to a course of action. Close liaison would continue between both organisations with the PC eager to support the CGCA where possible.

4372 - ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

i. Five tenders had been received for the grass cutting contract: ranging from £1,350 (adjusted for equivalence) to £3,200. Based on price, there were two leading candidates. Following discussion, and a show of hands, it was unanimously **RESOLVED: that the tender submitted by David Trickey be accepted and that the Clerk convey thanks / results to the other applicants.**

ii. Cllr Smith raised an issue that had recently come to her attention. A huge dung heap that she believed was associated with the (hunt?) stables had been moved by mechanical diggers and she was concerned that here might be potential run off into Gatcombe Brook. Cllr Newton observed that DEFRA regulations stipulated that heaps had to be a certain distance from watercourses and moved on an annual basis. Any concerns could be reported to DEFRA. **ACTION: Clerk to pass the appropriate regulations to Cllr Smith for consideration.**

iii. Cllr Smith also said that she had heard from a resident about a new instances fly-tipping on a bridleway. After discussion, it was ascertained that the location was likely to be outside of the Parish(Carisbrooke) but could be reported to Island Roads via the Fix My Street website: <https://fms.islandroads.com/>

4373 - TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC

In the event that Island Roads were still offering meetings with their Road Stewards (to 'walk the Parish' and discuss matters of concern) there was a wish to schedule such a meeting. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Island Roads and ascertain availability.**

4374 - COUNCIL MATTERS - FINANCE

RESOLVED: that, the April financial statements and accounts presented in the Agenda be accepted.

4375 - COUNCIL MATTERS - REGULATORY

The acquisition of a Parish laptop with associated cloud storage / remote access for councillors was again discussed. It was agreed that this should be prioritised, alongside the new website development. **ACTION: Clerk to progress**

4376 - FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(s)

- Vexatious Complaints Policy
- Potential presentation on the IW UNESCO Biosphere
- AGAR / annual audit
- Bank mandate

4377- NEXT MEETING(s)

The next meeting of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will be at circa **6.30pm on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at The Village Hall, Hollow Lane, Chillerton.**

4378 - PRIVATE SESSION

The meeting went into private session to discuss an ongoing personnel matter. **ACTION: Councillors would to agree a joint communication setting out their definitive position on the issue.**

The proceedings terminated at 8:10pm.