

Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 6th January 2026 AT 6.30PM AT THE GALLYBAGGER, MAIN ROAD, CHILLERTON

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

In Attendance: Six members of the public.

Note: Minute format re-worked from Chair's notes by Acting Parish Clerk in February 2026 following five months non-attendance by the previous Clerk.

4298 - OPENING STATEMENT

Note: The meeting got off to a chaotic start with the news that our clerk was off sick for the 4th month running and we had all only had an hour's notice to try and wade through the large amount of emails that had been sent. We all agreed that we would have to defer the majority of these items until next month as we had planned a short meeting and couldn't waste time trying to read through everything together.

4299 - PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions, but I raised the subject of an email speedwatch related question from Graeme McLellan at Chillerton Farm and said we would come back to it at Transport & Traffic.

JK was also present to find out the response to the Island Roads issues raised at the 4/11/25 meeting.

4300 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Debbie Faulkner is again unwell and Caroline Gladwin emailed to say that a serious Ward problem has cropped up over the last few days that needs her full attention.

4301 - DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

4302 - MINUTES

These will have to be done when we are able to sit with our clerk

4303 - PLANNING

There were no planning matters to consider.

4304 - REPORTS / OTHER MINUTES

There were no other report or minutes to be considered.

4305- HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

a) JN explained and made the case for G&ZR and their daughter Polly's Hockey expenses. All Cllrs were happy to agree to £350 for the year 25/26 with the possibility of re-applying in the next financial year.

b) JN has spoken with Harvey Brown's and is awaiting the family member to return from holiday to look at prices for sausages and vegetables.

The tickets are already selling for the 2 sessions of lunchtime and evening.

It was agreed that these are at £10 (children £5) which is most likely a subsidised amount as we don't have the final costs.

JL said that her son, Matthew Laursen a trained and health certified chef will be coming to cook the food and keep everything within the public health guidelines, as this has previously been a problem with Environmental Health turning up at the event. JN has also said that her husband Mark may be able to come and help if mobile enough after his ankle break.

4306 - ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

a) To consider the cost of the Enhanced Public Realm Officer Service from April 2026 to March 2027. We weren't really all up to speed on this and it wasn't clear what we were being asked, what is the alternative?

b) To receive any update regarding the Central Rural group of the Greening Campaign. The thermal imaging can finally get started now that the weather is more suitable for thermal imaging, once the initial wave is complete we will be arranging an energy event for the ward and hopefully drum up more interest from the residents.

The Gardening initiative in conjunction with The Hampshire & IOW Wildlife trust has begun and our Chillerton residents, Gillian Belben & Ulrike Henderson are currently following training.

c) To receive an update regarding the repairs to the climbing frame at Chillerton Play area. Our new Cllr Paul Thomas is now awaiting delivery of the wood for these repairs, ES said that this had still not been done, but said it will be ordered before she goes on holiday.

d) To discuss regular incidents of fly tipping in Chillerton and Gatcombe and to consider installing appropriate cameras in these areas. We discussed the wildlife cameras and JK told us that he has already installed his own camera at Loverstone Lane. We confirmed that using cameras is welcomed by the police as they often ask the public for doorbell footage in various aspects of crime.

We noted that yet again nothing has come back to us regarding the Countrywatch signage which we had asked our clerk to source via the police. JL will contact Justin Keefe this week to try and get these ASAP.

e) To discuss the maintenance and safety of the foot path at Garn Lane.

4307 - TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC

a) To discuss a local Speed watch initiative. With the input from Graeme McLellan we are hoping to get a working group together and start a regular campaign at the top of the village. We also discussed applying for speeding signage (smiley face) for the top end before the barns. Graeme pointed out that reducing the speed to 30mph was one of the (never implemented) conditions to the planning permission for the conversion of the Barns. So maybe this is something our clerk could raise with Island Roads?

4308 - COUNCIL MATTERS - FINANCE

We have not seen our accounts as our clerk has been away for 4 months.

4309 - COUNCIL MATTERS - REGULATORY

a) To record the co-option to the vacancy on Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council. Paul Thomas was welcomed to the PC and we look forward to working with him.

b) To consider the quotation for the Parish Council's Insurance from 10/1/26 to 9/1/27. We weren't really sure about what other options there are and if the price point is standard? It was a lot to get through in the short amount of time given prior to the meeting.

c) To receive an update regarding the proposed purchase of three replacement notice boards in Chillerton and Gatcombe. The PCC are still to have their meeting, which JL had been hoping to attend on Thursday 8th but it has now been moved to next week due to the vicar being away. Some members are happy with the idea, but some may not be, there is also the question of whether the bank outside the church wall is church property or not. Maybe our clerk could find out?

the PC and CGCA feel that maybe we should just get on and have the 2 new ones in Chillerton and a smaller one at the GallyBagger. Maybe the residents of Gatcombe could petition the Church to agree to a shared and more user friendly board?

d) To discuss any ideas to be included in an 'Annual Village Plan' based on the Parish Council's three-year plan. To be worked on when we are complete and have more time

e) To discuss the preparation and publishing of the quarterly Parish Council newsletter. This will be done with the CGCA and JL in the next week. Awaiting input from JN, ES and PT

4310 - FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(s)

Lights at Village Hall PC to pay 1/2 using the best kept village money.

Fly Tipping increase, contact PCSO Justin Keefe or Liz.clapp@hampshirepolice.uk about the countrywatch signs, coming to visit a PC meeting and also to get the Mounted Police officer Jo Laver to also visit us.

4311 - NEXT MEETING(s)

- The next normal meeting of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will be at **6.30pm on Tuesday 4th February 2026 at The Gallybagger Main Road, Chillerton.**

