

Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 6.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MAIN ROAD, CHILLERTON

Present: Councillors Laursen (Chairman), Bellamy-James & Newton.

In attendance: Debbie Faulkner, Parish Clerk; IW Councillor Gladwin; four members of the public.

Prior to the start of the Agenda, Rita Bellamy – James was co-opted to Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council (Min No 4255a refers).

4242 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Those members of the public present raised their concerns about the speeding of vehicles especially tractors through the villages. IW Councillor Gladwin has agreed to ask for an update of the recent speed review at Chillerton & Gatcombe with the IW Council.

4243 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Smith.

4244 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

4245 MINUTES RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29 July 2025, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4246 PLANNING

Councillors discussed the following planning application:

Planning Application Ref: 25/01035/HOU

Location: 6 Chillerton Farm Barns

Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension.

It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

4247 REPORTS / OTHER MINUTES

a) IWALC

The Minutes of the IWALC meeting held on 23 July 2025 were received and noted.

b) IW Council Public Realm and Coastal Meeting – West Wight

The Minutes of the IW Council Public Realm and Coastal meeting – West Wight held on 5 August 2025 were received and noted.

4248 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Councillors agreed to keep a standing item under this heading: **Development Fund**. This item allows for residents to apply to the Parish Council for small grants to assist with the cost of taking part in sporting activities on the mainland, including ferry fares and accommodation costs. Applicants will be required to set out their case and each case will be judged by Councillors on an individual basis. The funds will come from the 'Community Grants' budget heading which currently has funds of £1,000. It was agreed:

ACTION

The Parish Clerk will promote the Development Fund through the website, Your Parish Matters and the three local noticeboards.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

4249 'The Greening Campaign'

Godshill Parish Council have extended an invitation to Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council to join with them on 'The Greening Campaign'. The campaign is funded by the National Lottery. Matters that will be considered are energy efficiency, waste reduction, upcycling, gardening, community orchards etc. By becoming part of a bigger group it will enable better buying power. It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council join the Central Rural group of 'The Greening Campaign'.

4250 Hedge around Chillerton Play Area and planting of replacement trees.

As it has not been possible to contact the farmer or the landowner, this matter is ongoing.

4251 Felled trees at Gatcombe Shute

As it has not been possible to contact the landowner, this matter is ongoing.

4252 Play equipment at Chillerton Play Area

Following the recent RoSPA inspection, Councillors inspected the climbing frame to decide whether to repair, replace or remove it. It was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council repair the climbing frame and when completed promote the use of the play area to local residents.

4253 Harvest Festival for farmers / landowners

Councillors discussed the proposed arrangements for the newly named '**Farm Fest**' to be held at the end of October. It was agreed:

ACTION

The Chairman will contact the Press Officer at the Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners Association for contact details of those persons to be invited.

4254 TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

Councillors discussed the regular issue of speeding in the villages and the lack of response to the data from the recent speed review. It was also noted that a number of red squirrels have been killed on the roads. It was agreed:

ACTIONS

1. The Parish Clerk will write to the IW Council and Island Roads for an update on a review of speeding in the villages.

2. The Parish Clerk will contact 'Your Parish Matters' to start a petition about speeding.
3. The Parish Clerk will contact the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust to obtain some protect squirrel signs and reduce speed.

4255 COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Co-Option to Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council

Following the advertisement of a vacancy on Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council, Dr Rita Bellamy-James has been co-opted with immediate effect.

It was also noted that Peter Whiteman has resigned from Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council. The vacancy will be advertised and if there is not a call for an election, the co-option process will start. It was agreed:

ACTION

The Parish Clerk will advise the Elections Officer at the IW Council of the recent resignation.

b) Register of Interests Forms

Three completed Register of Interest forms have now been forwarded to the IW Council, as required. One remains outstanding at this time, which is due to be completed and returned to the Parish Clerk by 30 September 2025.

c) 'Village Plan' working document

Councillors have been asked to come forward with ideas for the Village Plan, based on the Parish Council's three year plan. This will be a standing item.

d) Quarterly Parish Council newsletter

Councillors agreed to defer publishing a newsletter until after the October Parish Council meeting.

4256 FINANCE

a) Financial Statements as at 31 July 2025 and 31 August 2025

The balance in the bank account as at 31 July 2025 was £23,156.72. The balance in the bank account as at 31 August 2025 was £22,267.85 It was:

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council receive, note and approve the Financial Statements of £23,156.72 as at 31 July 2025 and £22,267.85 as at 31 August 2025.

b) Accounts payable for July 2025 and August 2025

The accounts payable for July 2025 total £662.87 and for August 2025 total £885.87.

RESOLVED

That Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council receive, note and approve the accounts payable of £662.87 for July 2025 and £885.87 for August 2025.

c) Local Government Pay Award 2025 / 2026

Councillors were advised of the recent Local Government Pay Award for 2025 / 2026. The award is agreed at a national level. The outcome has resulted in an increase of 63p per hour, backdated to 1 April 2025, for the Parish Clerk's salary.

d) Hire fees for Chillerton Village Hall

The Parish Clerk has been advised that the hire fees of the Village Hall are increasing to £20 per session with effect from September 2025.

4257 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- To appoint a Deputy Chair of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council.
- To appoint a representative to the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils.

4258 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council will be at **6.30pm on Tuesday 7 October 2025 at The Village Hall, Main Road, Chillerton.**

The proceedings terminated at 8.06pm.

CHAIRMAN