

# CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

INCORPORATING THE PARISHES OF PORTESHAM, ABBOTSBURY, LANGTON HERRING AND FLEET



## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 via Zoom

#### Councillors Present:

##### Portesham Cllrs

M White (MW) (*Chairman*)

D Collins (DJC)

S Weeden (SW)

R Chipp-Marshall (RCM)

##### Abbotsbury Cllrs

D Stevens (DS) (*Vice-Chairman*)

G Roper (GR)

##### Langton Herring Cllrs

C Killoch (CK)

##### Fleet Cllrs

J Coombe (JC)

I White (IW)

Mrs M Harding (Clerk)

Cllr Mark Roberts (MR) Dorset Council

6 members of the Public

**21/02-1 Welcome, zoom meeting rules were read out and apologies for absence were received –**  
T Bartlett (TB), H Ford (HF), R Doggett (RD), S Murdoch (SM), K Donnelly (KD)  
The Council will consider whether the PC continue recording meetings for minute taking given the issue of Data protection and the publication of recordings at the next PC meeting.

**21/02-2 To receive any declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-**  
DJC declared and interest on a planning item for consideration.

**21/02-3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 21 as an accurate record.**

Proposed SW

Seconded DJC

Resolved

**21/02-4 Matters arising from the minutes for info only-** The Clerk reported on the Zip repairs, the new zip wire pulley has been installed with help from a local farmer to lift the beam, the zip wire now needs some adjustments and a longer seat, the Zip wire company are coming back to make these adjustments then a further inspection to sign off the works by the play inspector, payment will be held until this work has been completed.

**21/02-5 Democratic Forum-** The agent for the planning at White gates attended the meeting on behalf of the applicants and spoke on the plans to replace the stables and install an outside arena on the site.

#### **21/02-6 Planning consultations**

##### **i. To receive any planning consultations-**

WD/D/20/002748, White Gates, Grove Lane Portesham- Erect replacement stables and store to include concrete yard area, change of use of agricultural land to private equestrian use and formation of riding arena- a Cllr and the Clerk attended a site visit and could find no issues with the proposal, no external lighting would be installed, and it is only for the owners use. The application was supported.

Proposed IW

Seconded GR

WD/D/20/003026, 2 Portesham Hill, proposed single storey rear extension and internal alterations- no objections raised.

Proposed DJC

Seconded SW

# CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

INCORPORATING THE PARISHES OF PORTESHAM, ABBOTSBURY, LANGTON HERRING AND FLEET

WD/D/20/002958- 6 Coastguard cottages, Langton Herring- Replace North face of roof slope to remove step. Replace roof glazing system, add new velux window to boot room. Replace existing balcony and conservatory. - no objections raised.

Proposed GR

Seconded CK

WD/D/20/002354- Rodden Farm, Rodden Lane- Proposed alterations to form service openings and the subdivision of the floor to create five smaller units with uses within classes (B1/E(g)) Industrial and (B\*) storage or distribution with associated servicing and parking.

A report had been prepared on the policies issues that affect this application.

Some Cllrs had walked the footpath around the site and are concerned about water, sewerage and drainage and on environmental issues. Opening and closing times need to be restricted given the rural location. There are 2 or 3 outstanding planning applications on the site which is very confusing. The CEO of Dorset Council was sent a letter from the PC regarding this site and the issues of current enforcements that have not yet being dealt with.

Concerns were also raised about accessing the site coming off and onto the B3157 will increase the risks on this junction.

The Parish Council objected to the application based on the effects on the natural environment, potential light pollution, the issues of excessive traffic in this rural setting.

Proposed DS

Seconded SW

Woodland Creation Project- Ashley Chase Estate- The Council had been sent the project information for the development of a woodland project. The PC supported the planting of the proposed woodland on Ashley Chase Estate, no productive farmland is being taken out of production.

Proposed GR

Seconded DS

## ii. To receive an update on planning /enforcement or ongoing issues

The Clerk had sent 2 separate letters concerning the enforcement issues in Fleet and Rodden to the CEO of Dorset Council and cc'd to Planning, Ward member and director of "Place", an acknowledgement of the letters had been received but no actual response to date.

MW spoke on the garage on Winters lane and is very concerned with the amount of water running down the side of the road, and from under the garage. The Flood officer has already reported this to enforcement. The road is also used for access to the school. The school will be contacted to ask to raise their concerns as well. Clerk to go back to the Flood officer to report these continuing issues.

MR reported that the scrutiny committee is currently looking at enforcement, the enforcement team is being set in 3 areas that correspond with the planning areas, each area will have a senior manager. Agency staff have been brought in to help clear the backlog.

Although enforcement is legal it is discretionary so costs and permitted development will be considered on each case. This doesn't necessarily help with the long-standing enforcement issues in this parish. MR has asked for a fact sheet for caravan sites, also if the officers will take the evidence of residents into consideration. Unfortunately, there are some sites that continue to put in a fresh application and there is nothing the enforcement team can do about this. Also, once a case has been sent to the legal team there is no way of getting updates even for ward members. It was noted that the issue in Fleet has been going on far longer than the issues raised by the scrutiny committee but MR is hoping to speak to the cabinet member involved with enforcement and ask for the issues in our parishes to be given consideration asap.

# CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

INCORPORATING THE PARISHES OF PORTESHAM, ABBOTSBURY, LANGTON HERRING AND FLEET

## 21/02-7 To consider all correspondence received for decision, consultation, and information.

- i. Item 6- A Holly tree in the churchyard is growing into one of the vaults and needs removing, permissions will be needed for this as it is in a conservation area. A volunteer who assists the PCC with the management of the building has offered to do this and gather the permissions from the planning department and the Diocese, but he will need to be covered by the PC insurance as a volunteer to do this work. The PC approved the volunteer, and a risk assessment is to be drawn up. DJC will liaise with the volunteer to carry out a risk assessment for the works involved.
- ii. Dorset Council Local Plan consultation is now out for consultation links to the webinars have been previously circulated, MW suggested that all Cllrs should look at this and SW, JC and CK will be looking into this on behalf of the planning group and comments will be presented for consideration at the March meeting.
- iii. Play area inspections- CK, MW and the clerk met with the current play inspector at each of the play areas in the parishes to clarify the inspection process. CK spoke on the issues at LH regarding the swing frame, and raised concerns about the inspector's brief, being for H & S purposes only and not to report on work that needs doing and by when, but this is listed in his current inspection reports as part of his remit. It was suggested that the swing frame was cut down at ground level and take away. CK reported that the play area needs new equipment, CK will look at some ideas and costs to consider funding options for the March meeting.  
At Portesham the play area is up together and then mound grass is growing back and the new dog mess signs have been installed.  
At Abbotsbury play area, the inspector pointed out areas that needed attention, including the entrance where wheelchair access is not possible through the small gate. The wooden frames need to be stripped down and retreated so it was suggested that a spec is agreed, and quotes gathered to have the work done as soon as the weather is good enough, but the benches and goose needs attention first as they are in a poor state. DJC will look at the spec prior to it being sent out.  
DJC raised concerns that rust should be noted in reports and the inspector will be asked to note this in future.  
Cllrs will need to be more vigilant when carrying out their weekly inspections, the PC will look to see what other companies offer this kind of quarterly play area inspection service.
- iv. Flood surveys- the clerk reported on the surveys being carried out by the Weir at Malthouse meadows by DC as part of the Goosehill project. Also, the flood prevention project for this area is hoped to be started in March/April this year.
- v. A request from the PCC for Portesham Church requested funds from the PC for the new toilet they hope to install. The PC do not have the power to donate towards the fabric of the church only to maintain closed churchyards. It was also suggested that the PCC could request funding from the National VIP project and possibly to ask the village hall for support.

## 21/02-8 Finance

### i. To approve the finance report of payments and receipts

All payments due were authorised to be paid in line with the necessary internal controls and contracts. The report of payments, receipts and the bank reconciliation were circulated prior to the meeting and placed on the website.

Bank balances at the end of January 21 £80,913.60

Proposed GR

Seconded DJC

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## ii. To consider a grit bin for Langton Herring

CK reported that Langton Herring would like to install 2 grit bins at either end of the village instead of a dumpy bag of grit/salt, this was agreed at a cost of approx. £200 each. A request will then be placed with DC to fill them, they will be classed as community bins that will only have 1 free fill per year.

Proposed GR

Seconded DS

## 21/02-9 Highways- reports

### i. To consider the open ditch issues in Back Street, Abbotsbury

During the last downpour, the water flowed down Blind lane and flooded Back Street, photos and video evidence had been supplied by a resident, this has already been sent to the Flood officer at DC, but a response had not been received by the time of the meeting, it is hoped that a site meeting can be arranged to look at what can be done. The ditch in Back Street was reported in September and December and has still not been actioned. DS reported that Back Street has now been swept but given the recent rain this will need doing again. No road sweeping has been done at Wadden, also the gravel and stone left following the rain has still not been swept in Langton Herring.

The car left on the road in Portesham near the campsite has been reported to the Police who reported the owner had been contacted and it was due to be collected shortly. An accident had occurred in the location to a property wall in this location.

DJC reminded Cllrs to check all drains are clear in their parishes.

## 21/02-10 Countryside & RoW reports

### i. To consider supporting the "Slow ways project"

CK spoke on the Slow ways project this is a project to try to link up footpaths that already exist not create new ones so that people can walk between villages without having to use a car.

CK suggested the PC supported this proposal.

IW commented on the issues on the kissing gates on the Fleet footpaths with bicycles also the coastal path is being badly damaged due to the excessive use during lockdown, also markers are being installed on the village boundaries as part of this project. IW noted that people need to be educated on where to walk and respect the farmland. JC explained landowners have not been consulted on this project and it is still a problem with livestock worrying. Dogs are meant to be kept in close control when walking in with livestock on footpaths and bridleways.

CK explained that part of this project is to educate users not just update the paths. IW explained that in law it is the landowner's responsibility to take cyclists to court when they are using the footpaths illegally. MR will put this issue to Chris Loder MP at his next session with him.

MW, and the Clerk met with Russell Goff at the Blackdown project in December this is to make the car park larger and more open, also the refreshment van will be moved to this site. This is hoped to deter the travellers by being more open and encourage visitors to visit the site for picnics, and walks. There is still more to do so the area has not been opened up yet.

## 21/02-11 Parish Reports

- i. Abbotsbury- A volunteer is now carrying out the weekly inspections at the play area on behalf for the PC.
- ii. Fleet- Broadband project- this is still ongoing, and companies of interest are being contacted.
- iii. Langton Herring- someone has been rough sleeping in the Pound, this area has been cordoned off until the rubbish can be removed, and Police have been informed.
- iv. Portesham- The national Grid Project have offered a hamper to the value of £100 for the PC to prepare a draw to support the pavilion project, this is given the lack of the Chesil Fayre last year, it was suggested an online draw, or a number square draw and a volunteer will take this on. The PC will look to do this for an Easter raffle hopefully using local produce offerings.

