

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 1st March 2021 via Zoom

Councillors Present:

Portesham Cllrs

M White (MW) (*Chairman*)

S Murdoch (SM)

S Weeden (SW)

R Chipp-Marshall (RCM)

Abbotsbury Cllrs

K Donnelly (KD)

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

4 members of the Public

21/03-1 **Welcome, zoom meeting rules were read out and apologies for absence were received –**

T Bartlett (TB), H Ford (HF), R Doggett (RD), D Collins (DJC), D Stevens (DS)

The Clerk explained some of the functions in a zoom meeting and how to raise a hand, also how to add items in the chat section during the meeting to ensure the smooth running of the meeting.

21/03-2 **To consider to continue recording meetings for the purposes of minute taking**

Cllrs discussed that it does make it easier for the Clerk, but the risks posed are with publication of the recordings data collection or requests under the FOIA as seen recently in the Local Council sector. It was proposed to no longer record the meetings for minute taking purposes as this is not necessary.

Proposed SW

Seconded GR

The recording of the meeting was stopped at this point.

21/03-3 **To receive any declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-**

SW declared an interest on a planning item for consideration.

21/03-4 **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st February 2021 as an accurate record.**

Proposed GR

Seconded IW

21/03-5 **Matters arising from the minutes for info only-**

The Clerk reported on item 21/02/7- Holly tree in the Churchyard – DJC had met with the volunteer and they had done what they could using hand tools to remove sections of the tree given the closed period commenced on 1st March and permissions have yet to be gathered from the Diocese for complete removal. The tree works application had been approved.

The grit bins for Langton Herring have arrived now awaiting a fill date in order to deploy them.

21/02/9-Site meeting to consider the open ditch in Back Street, KD reported on this- the Estate is going to clear the ditch in blind lane and Dorset Council will clear the grill in Back Street. This is hoped to resolve the problem. The flooding by the butchers is a Wessex Water problem awaiting a response. National grid Hamper offer- a hamper will be provided by the National Grid team to the value of £100 using local produce for the Parish Council to hold an Easter draw in aid of the Chesil Fayre funds, we now await the content of the Hamper. RCM to take this forward to organise the draw.

21/03-6 **Democratic Forum-** A Fleet resident spoke on the enforcement issue in the village and the response received from Mike Garrity of DC, regarding the lack of action to this enforcement. They explained that the letter was most unsatisfactory, the letter confirms the enforcement goes back to

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2007 and this still remains enforce. Welfare concerns have stalled the process, also the decision in 2018 was that there was a potential purchase interest, the land is not for sale and nothing was done and still the barn remains, and no enforcement action has been taken. It causes Fleet residents great harm, but because there are so few residents it is not high on the list of priorities for DC. It is detrimental to the area; the gate is open and fly tipping occurs regularly. This is just not acceptable. JC supported the resident's concerns and explained that a reply should be sent regarding the harm to the Fleet residents. IW explained that the Parish Council have been here before and most other people who have been served orders have carried out those actions so maybe they have room to appeal. It was suggested that we contact the MP for support. The PC will write to Mike Garrity initially and then write to the MP.

MR was asked to speak to the MP but he reminded the Council that enforcement is discretionary. MR explained that there is a huge cost, which he could not honestly support and then take care away from people in order to support these costs. MR explained that he gets battered by this one item at every meeting which he inherited, if this continues to dominate these meetings then he has a lot of other projects that require his time and support and other Council's he could be helping, it is entirely disproportionate considering. He is working behind the scenes and the speed in which we expect to have a response is not reasonable.

MR was asked to speak to the MP regarding cyclists on footpaths as this is a national problem, he explained that Mr Loder will look into this as it may require a motion as statute.

21/03-7 Planning consultations

i. To receive any planning consultations-

Cllrs to consider the 2 consultations:

- I. Powerfuel Portland Consultation from the environment agency
- II. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority consultation of draft community safety plan 2021-24 17th Feb to 13th May

WD/D/20/003208- 13 Land East of Winters Lane Portesham-Application for approval of reserved matters for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, in relation to outline approval WD/D/19/000464 (Erection of 1 dwelling) - Variation of condition 1 of planning approval WD/D/20/000434 – amended plans- no objections to the amended plans.

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

The water running down Winters lane is still ongoing, emails from residents complaining about this issue have been received and sent to enforcement. MW has been in contact with the landowner who have plans to deal with this issue as soon as the weather allows access to the field. DC have been out to clear the blocked drains in the area. MW was criticised for being inadequate in dealing with this request but has been keeping all parties informed of the issues.

MR commented that he did raise the issues of flooding with Brain Richards in Portesham.

iii. To consider the comments on the Dorset Local Plan from CBPC

CK spoke on this item having circulated a draft report with supporting comments from JC and RD. CK had read the plan several times and this has taken several hours. JC asked for other items to be incorporated within the report. SM suggested that DC do not need thanked as it is their job to provide a plan. The planning group will meet again on zoom and collate the further responses for the Council to consider via email for submission by 15th March.

MR commented that WDDC previously wanted 1 in 3 of affordable homes in any new development but the government disagreed and the number of affordable in any large development 1 in 10. CK was thanked for all the work she has done towards this report.

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iv. To receive the Neighbourhood Plan report

The Chairman of the SG had sent in a report and commented on the delays obviously due to Covid and waiting for AECOM to submit their findings on the Design codes report and site assessment report. Public consultations have been delayed and this is key to the next stage of the NP, the plan will keep ticking over and meetings will continue to be held, but it is a slow process at the moment.

21/03-8 To consider all correspondence received for decision, consultation, and information.

- i. Community Governance Review- DC carry out this work every 10 to 15 years. This will look at the parish boundaries, number of Councillors, and any changing the admin. There could opportunities to tidy the parishes and Cllrs were asked if they could consider what they might think appropriate, some suggestions that Cheese Lane could come under Portesham instead of Abbotsbury and Rodden could come under Langton Herring instead of Abbotsbury. MR commented on the new cabinet member is keen to support this process and look at proposed changes. The PC have been through this process before when the number of Cllrs for Portesham was increased to 6.
- ii. The Church have asked for a donation towards a flagpole to celebrate coming out of the Covid crisis to the value of £300- £400, it was noted that the PC do not have the power to give Churches and any gift would need to be same for all 4 parishes. It was agreed not to make the donation at this time.
- iii. The road sweeper booked to clear the road through Waddon had attended but due to the fact the debris is now too hard to sweep and is more like concrete it cannot be removed, highways are looking into having this scraped off the road possibly when the road is closed during the National grid closures 8th March to 2nd May. SM explained that no sweeping has been done in the village in Portesham since it was reported in August either.
- iv. Full Fibre broadband has now available in Rodden
- v. The quarterly play inspection reports have been received and circulated.

21/03-9 To consider the recommendations from the Staffing committee

CK spoke on the recent meeting of the committee and the policies and procedures considered. These were adopted by the Council and will be placed on the PC website.
Proposed SW Seconded KD

21/03-10 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 February 21 £74,256.02

Proposed GR Seconded KD

ii. To approve the Lloyds banking protocol

The protocol was circulated to Cllrs for consideration.

Proposed SM Seconded CK

iii. To consider the quotes for the maintenance of the play area equipment in Abbotsbury

It was agreed to defer this for 2 weeks to give contractors more time to respond. A special meeting would be called to consider these prior to the end of the financial year.

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iv. To consider the costs of the removal/planning of the pavilion at the Portesham recreation ground

The quote had been received to remove the pavilion, but the planning officer explained that if we removed the pavilion, although we may have proof it existed it would be a new application rather than a replacement of the original.

We are now waiting on a hard copy of the plans from the agent before any planning application can be sought. It was agreed to defer this until the plans are available. Cllrs agreed that the pavilion needs to be in a similar position to the current pavilion or moved slightly further into the field but still near the sewerage and water that is already in place.

21/03-11 Highways- reports

KD reported that Cleverlawns (the road towards the Gardens in Abbotsbury) has now been retarmacked after 6 years of requests.

21/03-12 Countryside & RoW reports

- i. IW commented that the parking along Fleet Road has got a lot worse with visitors parking to take their daily exercise, this is on the private road as well as between the Church and Butter Street. Tyres were placed to stop people parking but these have been removed. The Council are not sure what action can be taken at this time as it is only going to get worse and lockdown is lifted.
- ii. National Grid project to support the rambler's society to pursue the update of styles to gates on some of the rights of way, this was supported but more information is required. IW commented that there are works being carried out on the Fleet to update the kissing gates and wondered if this could get any funding support. Clerk to enquire.

21/03-13 Parish Reports

It was agreed to put off the Annual Parish meetings until we can meet face to face later in the year.

- i. **Abbotsbury-** None
- ii. **Fleet-** Broadband project- this is still ongoing, and companies of interest are being contacted, Issues with Openreach, there was a problem with drainage at the top of the road, this was reported by IW.
- iii. **Langton Herring-** CK is looking at plans and a design for the play area and will present this at the April meeting.
- iv. **Portesham-** SM reported on the Communities prepared workshops she attended, she explained a Flood coordinator is required who can organise people so those who are likely to actually flood can be looking after their properties, it was recommended that no one should go into flood water in case the water is contaminated. If it is necessary as an emergency, it was advised to use a stick in case of drain covers being lifted. It was noted that half a cup of water can damage a car engine. When dealing with flood water it was recommended to have PPE and to try for a grant from SSE for this purpose, SM to look into this. Hi viz jackets can be provided for free for flood wardens. Police should be called to close the road and highways called to clear the drains. SM had explained that the village what's app group in Portesham works well to remind villagers to clear drains and warn people of issues. Information on sewerage pipes was to ensure non return valves are installed on the sewerage pipes. When in a flood situation people are advised not to use the washing machine, or flush loos as this will only exacerbate the situation. It was suggested that the current flood plan is updated SM and the clerk to work on that. MR asked who was hosting the event as he was not aware of it.

21/03-14 Items for the meeting on Monday 12th April 2021 via Zoom- Langton Herring play area proposal.

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21/03-15 Democratic Forum 15 minutes-

A resident thanked Sharon for attending the flood events, on behalf of the village. SM has spoken to someone about speed watch, there are hopefully 6 volunteers and training is available to start in May when restrictions allow.

MR explained he will report the issues of a lack response to the broadband schemes in Fleet to Chris Loder at these fortnightly meetings.

MR apologised for being harsh regarding the enforcement issues, but he cannot discuss this any further at present and he finds it frustrating.

The recent consultation on climate change is being considered and DC has been incredibly lucky and awarded £19M of a £51M national grant from the government in order that Dorset Council can move toward becoming carbon neutral, but the total cost for the Council to become carbon neutral is approx. £120M. JC congratulated Dorset Council on the 19M grant towards climate change.

Meeting closed at 8.41pm