

# CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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



## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at Abbotsbury Village Hall**

### Councillors Present:

#### Portesham Cllrs

M White (MW) (Chair)

S Murdoch (SM)

S Weeden (SW)

R Chipp-Marshall (RCM)

#### Abbotsbury Cllrs

K Donnelly (KD)

M Hardway (MH)

G Roper (GR)

#### Langton Herring Cllrs

None

#### Fleet Cllrs

J Coombe (JC)

I White (IW) (Vice Chair)

Mrs M Harding (Clerk)

Cllr Mark Roberts (MR) Dorset Council

no members of the public

- 21/09-1**      **Welcome, and apologies for absence were received** – Apologies from: C Killoch (CK)  
T Bartlett (TB), D Collins (DJC) Henry Ford (HF).  
The Chair expressed the sad loss of Ray Doggett who passed away in August.
- 21/09-2**      **To receive any declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-**  
None.
- 21/09-3**      **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 as an**  
**accurate record.**                                  Proposed SW                                  Seconded KD
- 21/09-4**      **Matters arising from the minutes for info only-** none
- 21/09-5**      **Democratic Forum** -none
- 21/09-6**      **To review the proposals for a Community Governance review for Chesil Bank**  
The Clerk asked for any feedback on the proposals submitted at the last PC meeting, Cllrs needed more time to consider the proposed changes. Cllrs asked why there was a proposal to reduce the number of Cllrs in Portesham, it was explained that 4 or 5 Cllrs is quite sufficient to carry out the PC duties in the village, Abbotsbury Cllrs agreed a reduction to 3 Cllrs as an appropriate number with the proposed changes to the boundary to move Rodden in with Langton Herring and Cheese Lane into Portesham. The Clerk will re send the proposals for Cllrs to consider at the Oct meeting. The public will have their say on the proposed changes in December when Dorset Council go out to consultation.
- Action Cllrs**
- 21/09-7**      **Planning consultations**
- i.**      **To receive any planning consultations-**  
P/CLP/2021/02461- Fallow Hide, Rodden Lane- Single Storey rear extension- The PC are waiting on the correct planning application to comment.  
P/LBC/2021/01704 & P/FUL/2021/03191- 4 Friar Wadden Cottage, replace an oil-fired heating/hot water system with an air source heat pump system- no objections
- ii.**      **To receive an update on planning /enforcement or ongoing issues-** The Clerk reported that after contacting enforcement, AONB and the environment agency regarding an enforcement issue there seems to be progress.  
Councillors expressed their concern that the Planning enforcement department is no longer fit for purpose.

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## iii. To receive the Neighbourhood Plan report

MH Abbotsbury Cllr/Rep reported on the upcoming Options Consultation events commencing in Abbotsbury on 10<sup>th</sup> Sep. Help was needed at the Fleet events as many of the group are away, RCM suggested that the event could extend its times during the day on the Sat if there were issues with help. All Cllrs were encouraged to attend the sessions.

## 21/09-8 To consider all correspondence received for decision, consultation, and information.

The Clerk, SW and CK will be attending the Dorset VIP site visit on 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep.

The Clerk reported on the issues with Stonewater yet again in the lack of urgency when carrying out emergency maintenance to the PC Glebe houses. This is an ongoing issue with the Company who need constant chasing for the rents and following up on tenants' issues.

## 21/09-9 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 to the end of Aug 21 £78,220.84.

Proposed KD

Seconded GR

The Clerk reported the completion of the External Annual audit with no matters arising.

The Council require new bank signatories, SW offered to be a signatory, the bank mandate will be arranged. All agreed

### ii. To consider the future maintenance of the benches in the parishes

The Clerk reported that the contractor who maintains the benches explained that many were in need of more than just a paint on an annual basis and suggested the PC has each bench completely stripped and then stained, this would cost initially £120 per bench then just the stain on an annual basis. The Council agreed to try one of the benches in this way initially to see how this looks and consider whether this is cost effective or replacing them one by one with recycled benches. The Clerk will ask the contractor to consider one bench initially, Cllrs to inspect their benches. All agreed  
The bench at Langton Herring will be considered at the Oct meeting. **Action Clerk/Cllrs**

## 21/09-10 Highways- reports

### i. To consider supporting a reduction in the National Speed Limit on rural roads.

JC reported on the Draft Guidance issued by the Department of Transport which recommends to local councils a welcome reduction from the present 60mph to 40mph.

New draft guidance recommends local councils impose the new speed limits of 40mph on rural roads with "many bends or junctions".

However, much as any speed reduction is welcome, 40mph is still far too fast on many of our minor roads.

JC suggested we ask our MP to lobby the D.O.T. to ask them to consider giving local councils the flexibility to impose a 30mph limits on minor roads with no footways, and being frequently used by pedestrians, horse riders, and by farm machinery (very often taking up the full width of the road) Almost 55% of all road accidents happen on rural roads.

Cllrs also commented on the B3157 coming out of Portesham to the Playing field where it was suggested that the speed limit should be reduced.

The Council agreed to write initially to Dorset Council on the policies of the Council and when they will be reviewed. The PC will then write to the MP to support this reduction in speeds on these rural roads. **Action Clerk**

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- ii. **To consider charging points in the villages-** KD asked the PC to consider this given there are potentially grants available, the Clerk noted that a Dorset Council officer had recently spoken to another Parish about the support that can be offered and will be invited to the October meeting.
- iii. **To receive any other highways reports-**SM noted that Wessex Water will not be digging up the road in Portesham in this coming financial year so this should not affect the Flood project being carried out in October.
- iv. **Community speed watch report-**  
 SM reported on this as a resident of the village and not as a Parish Councillor, the scheme was set up by concerned residents and SM is the coordinator. There are 4 CSW sites located in the village of Portesham. The group have so far done 3 sessions.  
 June- 151 vehicles 3 speeding  
 July- 425 vehicles 10 speeding  
 Aug- 228 vehicles 15 speeding  
 SM explained that after 3 months the equipment currently on loan will need to be purchased at a cost of £320.00. SM asked if PC would pay for the equipment for the group.  
 The Council agreed to purchase the equipment assuming it can be used in all of the parishes, also the insurance liability will need to be confirmed. **Action SM**  
 Proposed GR                                      Seconded KD

## 21/09-11 Countryside & RoW reports

- i. The bridleway from Rocky Lane is still with enforcement.
- ii. Back street wall has not been cut back and still no site meeting has been held on its future maintenance.

## 21/09-12 Parish Reports

- i. **Abbotsbury-** Parish meeting to be arranged. MH commented on the bins not being emptied regularly in the summer months, no response from DWP as yet to consider additional collections in summer months, this bin and the one in Portesham have been emptied since they were reported on 20<sup>th</sup> Aug.  
 Also, some vegetation from properties is over growing on to pavements in the village, letters requesting the property owners cut this will be sent. **Action Clerk/MH**  
 The works to be carried out on Blind Lane to alleviate any flooding needs following up, in preparation for the winter. **Action Clerk**
- ii. **Fleet-** The road works are now complete the pull ins have been filled in and bollards erected, thanks will be sent to the highways officer. Fleet gates have not been cut back recently, Clerk to follow up. **Action Clerk**
- iii. **Langton Herring-** None. Parish meeting is on 15<sup>th</sup> Sep at 7.30pm
- iv. **Portesham-** A parish meeting is hoped to be arranged but dates are difficult as the hall is booked up. The hedge outside the doctor's surgery requires cutting back, **MW to follow up.**

## 21/09-13 To confirm the date and items for the next Parish Council meeting 4<sup>th</sup> October.

The meeting is due to be held at Langton Herring VH.

## 21/09-14 Democratic Forum 15 minutes-

MR explained that there is not much to report given many officers have been on annual leave. There are briefing meetings regarding special education needs and transport.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm