

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 7th March 2022 at Langton Herring Hall

Councillors Present:

Portesham Cllrs

M White (MW) (Chair)

S Weeden (SW)

M Bartlett (MB)

S Murdoch (SM)

R Chipp-Marshall (RCM)

Abbotsbury Cllrs

K Donnelly (KD)

Lorraine Dalley (LD)

Mark Hardway (MH)

Langton Herring Cllrs

C Killoch (CK)

A Kerins (AK)

Fleet Cllrs

J Coombe (JC)

I White (IW)

Cllr Mark Roberts (MR) Dorset Council

Mrs M Harding (Clerk) 5 members of the public

22/03-1 Welcome, and apologies for absence – G Roper (GR) D Collins (DJC)

22/03-2 To receive declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-

None

22/03-3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th February 2022 as an accurate record.

Proposed MH

Seconded IW

22/03-4 Matters arising from the minutes for info only-

- i. RCM asked if the PC would be purchasing any of the fruit trees for the parishes- Cllrs could not identify areas where the fruit trees could be planted on PC land. This will not be taken any further.
- ii. The brambles and vegetation growing over the stream and by Dovecote cottages has been cleared by local residents and the landowner will be removing the vegetation in due course.
- iii. The letter to village hall requesting an area in the carpark for a Charity clothing collection bin was rejected on the basis that hall users need the parking space, issues concerning bags being left by the bin looking untidy and it removes a valuable funding stream for the Chesil Scouts with their jumble sales. No other sites in Portesham have been located at this stage.
- iv. The LH clothing bank has yet to be delivered as the entrance was too narrow so a smaller bank will be delivered shortly.

22/03-5 Democratic Forum – none

22/03-6 To consider the CGR recommendations made by Dorset Council for Chesil Bank

Councillors were very concerned that Dorset Council had not considered any of their recommendations to changes of boundaries and the requested reduction in Cllrs.

DC has suggested that Fleet Cllrs are reduced to 1 Cllr and Portesham increased to 7.

None of these changes are supported by the PC. All Cllrs were asked to comment independently to the consultation and encourage the residents in the parishes to respond as well.

This will be highlighted at the Annual Parish meetings. The Clerk will respond to the consultation

reiterating the changes requested by the PC after all the parish meetings have given feedback. The consultation commenced on 28th Feb and ends on 23rd May.

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22/03-7 Parish Reports- To receive Jubilee Celebration plans and to confirm dates for the Annual Parish meetings.

Abbotsbury- Parish meeting 21st March- The Swan is holding an event on the Friday or Sat, the Big lunch (street party) will be happening on the Sunday at the Ilchester, also Banners are being made in the village.

Fleet- Parish meeting 11th April – no plans for Jubilee celebrations at this time.

Langton Herring- Parish meeting 6th April- The Beacon will be lit on the 2nd June for the Queens official birthday. There will be a street party on the Sunday 1-4pm, party games on the amenity area and lots more.

Portesham – Parish meeting 21st March-There will be flower festival in the Church, Friday the WI are holding an event, Saturday the pub is having maypole dancing and on the Sunday, there is to be a street party. Portesham are still hoping to light a beacon but permission from the National Trust is proving very difficult.

22/03-8 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 to the end of Feb 22

£76,313.66	Proposed SM	Seconded JC
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ii. To consider the Jubilee celebrations grants to each of the 4 parishes.

The Clerk had provided a breakdown of the potential grant of £2000 towards events in each of the parishes based on the current reserves, S137 allowance and the number of electors in each parish.

The amount per parish would be

Abbotsbury-£635, Fleet- £120, Langton Herring- £210, Portesham- £1035

The funds would need to be applied for by each parish group and only paid to organisations not to individuals, alternatively the PC could pay for any costs incurred directly up the amount allocated to each parish by the production of receipts and costs agreed in advance.

Proposal: The Council agreed to the £2000 Jubilee donation, that could be shared as above, into all 4 parishes, towards the Queens Jubilee celebrations. Cllr reps will contact the various groups to let them know this grant is available. All agreed

iii. To consider the tenders for grass cutting contracts for 2022-2025.

All contracts are paid on a monthly basis

a. **Benches, notice boards, Phone box and Bier House Gates-**Awarded to Paul Bridle £2010 for the 3-year contract. Bier House gates at a one-off cost of £145. Phone box painting at a one-off cost of £130.

Proposed KD Seconded AK

b. **Abbotsbury Recreation Ground-** Contract awarded to Wessex Ground services at a cost of £1893.79 for the 3-year contract

Proposed MH Seconded KD

c. **Abbotsbury Play area-** No interest from volunteers so the contract was awarded to Howard Soper £1050 for the 3-years Proposed KD Seconded SW

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- d. **Portesham Cemetery and Churchyard** -Awarded to Martin Jolliffe- £8550 for a 3-year contract.
- e. **Portesham & Abbotsbury village greens, Portesham play area (The Glebe) and Fleet Gates**- Awarded to Howard Soper at a cost of £1950 for 3 years
Proposed SM Seconded IW
- f. **Portesham Playing field** - Awarded to Wessex Ground services £2299.87 for the 3-year contract.
Proposed SM Seconded MB
- g. **Langton Herring Amenity Area and Play area**- Awarded to Howard Soper £1650 for the 3-year contract.
Proposed AK Seconded CK
- iv. **To consider the renewal of the Play area lease at the Glebe Portesham**

The PC had received a response from the Diocese regarding the lease following a letter raising concerns about the access to the site now that the gates and fencing has been erected. The Diocese had explained that the lease is now out of date and due for renewal pending costs and the details in the new lease, this has yet to be received. Cllrs discussed keeping the play area and felt it was a valuable asset as there is no where else in the village for children to play. Especially as the school have fenced off the playing field that has been used by the residents and children of the village before the school was built in this location. The Council will wait to receive a draft version of the lease before making the final decision.

The other issue is that there is a section of the playing field not fenced, this backs onto Bramdon Close and the back of Ducks farm Shop. This area has been earmarked by the school for a wildflower project and eventually an outdoor classroom.

The project would be funded by the school and a donation from Winters Close residents of £800 which was made to the school in mid-2020 when covid hit. The PC had received a letter from the residents expressing their concern for the project now that the fence has been installed and there is now nowhere for the children to go and kick a ball about and would rather see the area made into a green open space for the benefit of the village. The Councillors expressed their frustration at not being consulted on the fencing and taking this valuable community space away from the village.

Cllrs will speak to the Volunteers who are planning this project with the school, as there is a wildflower area in the cemetery that requires management. Also approach the school via the Interim executive board Chair to express these concerns before any projects commence, to see what could be done to benefit all.

Action MW

22/03-9 Planning consultations

i. To receive any planning consultations-

P/HOU/2022/01207 Proposal: Erection of new single storey tractor store/implement shed.

Location: Deerbarn House, Whitmore Coppice- CK asked that the planning working group meets to make comments by the closing date of 18th March.

P/HOU/2022/00917 Proposal: Erect double garage Location: Greystones, Fleet Road- Fleet Cllrs will ask Fleet residents for comments by the closing date of 21st March

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

Still no updates from Cllr Walsh regarding the outstanding enforcement issues in the parishes.

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The Clerk explained to Cllrs that following the convergence of the planning websites with North, East and West Dorset the decision was taken not to send out planning decisions to consultees anymore.

Cllrs are not happy with this and asked MR to follow this up with DC as this is not acceptable, as hours of time are wasted looking up individual applications in a group parish.

MR explained that all of his parishes in his Chesil Bank ward have the same feelings, the clerk will prepare a list of issues with the planning portal for MR to take the head of planning.

iii. To receive the Neighbourhood Plan report from the Chair of the NPSG

1. Neighbourhood Plan Document

As reported last month all our efforts have been directed towards completion of the Neighbourhood Plan Document. This has been a significant effort coordinated by Jo Witherden with contributions from members of the SG. The NPSG reviewed the NP on the 28th February and gave its concurrence. Unfortunately, this was delayed by one week because many SG members were affected by the power cuts, so the meeting scheduled for the 21st had to be postponed. The NP has now been distributed to CBPC Counsellors for their review prior to the special meeting scheduled for the 14th March. We are hoping that we can trigger the Pre-Consultation process at the end of March assuming that CBPC give their concurrence. However, we are dependent on AECOM for their SEA report (see below).

2. AECOM SEA Work

AECOM are producing an Environmental Report which has 3 main sections as follows: - (a) Summary of SEA Scoping, (b) Consideration of reasonable alternatives and (c) Appraisal of the completed draft version of the NP which they now have. They have committed to completing their work during the w/s 28th March at which point it will need reviewing by NPSG before we can launch the Pre-Consultation process.

3. Affordable Housing Project, Portesham

Following consultation with both the landowners and Magna Housing, a meeting was held on the proposed site on Friday 25th February. Magna expressed their interest in building a number of homes on the site, to be determined, with half being Affordable Homes and half open market housing. The landowners were in full agreement with this proposal and also were keen for this to be a collaborative project, involving Magna, the landowners and the Neighbourhood Plan SG. The action is with Magna Homes to come back with a more detailed proposal over the next 6 weeks or so.

4. Preparation for Pre-Consultation Process

The NPSG having completed the NP work, is now turning its attention to the preparation for the Pre-Consultation process. We will need to hold drop-in public meetings in each village as we did for the Options Consultation process, as well as making the NP widely available for people to examine and study. We will be setting up a Working Group of SG Members to co-ordinate this work.

22/03-10 Highways- reports

- i. **Update on speed surveys-** It was agreed to carry out speed surveys in Langton Herring, Portesham by the Doctors surgery and on Fleet Road. The Cllrs agreed not to carry out the survey in Abbotsbury as the nature of the road means there is not a speeding issue.
- ii. **Update on the speeding concerns letter to the MP-** Chris Loder had responded and agreed to a meeting with highways, the police and local parishes on the B3157.

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JC noted that he had not really addressed the concerns of speed issues on rural C roads. The Clerk will go back to the MP to raise this again.

iii. To receive any other highways reports.

- i. Abbotsbury Cllrs raised the issues of passing horses on the rural roads and requested that signage is either purchased or provided at the entrances of the villages. Cllrs noted that the Rural Roads project of removing road signage may be an issue. IW noted he had purchased signs specifically for the Fleet Road. Clerk to contact highways to see what signs could be used taking into account the new highway code changes.
- ii. Fleet Cllrs commented that the laybys as they have still not been completed, and signage not yet provided.
- iii. Roses Lane in Langton Herring has still not been repaired, Clerk to follow up
- iv. The white lines at the junction of Portesham hill and Back Street are very faded and need repainting- to be reported
- v. The area by the bus stop on the opposite side of the road to the doctor's surgery in Portesham where the flood project has taken place has been tarmacked but not in the area next to the wall of the surgery and in order to read the bus timetables you need to stand on the mud area, Cllrs asked if this could also be tarmacked.
- vi. The road is to be closed overnight in Portesham by Goosehill cottages on 18th March to carry out the resurfacing works, this may be an issue given the road closures on the A35 by highways England.

22/03-11 Countryside & Rights of Way reports

- i. **To consider the opportunity to end the use of green lanes by recreational motor vehicles in the AONB-** JC had asked for this to be considered, it was noted that this is a pressure group so the PC will gather more information on the group and the project before committing to any support.
- ii. There are some 25 litre containers dumped by Smitten Corner- to be reported online.
- iii. The style reported at the last meeting that is not accessible to dogs is being looked into by RoW rangers but there are no laws to enforce this.

22/03-12 To consider all correspondence received for decision, consultation, and information.

Correspondence report circulated, items to note:

- The National Grid are holding a community liaison group meeting on 30th March SW and the Clerk will attend.
- A memorial plaque has now been installed with the Tree in memorial of Dave Stevens
- NALC have now agreed the Local government sector pay increase covering 1st April to 31st March 2022
- KD noted that the car parks in Abbotsbury are charging £1 per hour

22/03-13 To confirm the date and items for the next Parish Council meeting 4th April at Fleet Church- TBC

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22/03-14 Democratic Forum 15 minutes-

Cllr Mark Roberts reported that Dorset Council has held its first face to face meeting. The budget was voted through, showing support for keeping services running rather than reducing council tax. MR will follow up on the planning portal issues and enforcements with Cllr Walsh.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm