

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Chairman Ian White

Clerk M Harding



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 5th December 2022, 7.30pm at The Methodist Hall, Portesham

Councillors Present:

Abbotsbury Cllrs

Kevin Donnelly (KD) (Parish Chair)
Graham Roper (GR)
Lorraine Dalley (LD)
Mark Hardway (MH)

Langton Herring Cllrs

Cate Killoch (CK)

Portesham Cllrs

David Collins (DJC)- (Parish Chair)
Marsha White (MW)
Sharon Murdoch (SM)
Sue Weeden (SW)
Ruth Chipp-Marshall (RCM)

Fleet Cllrs

Ian White (IW) (Chair of the Group Council)

In attendance:

Mrs M Harding (Clerk) Cllr Mark Roberts (MR) Dorset Council 12 members of the public

22/12-1 **Welcome, Chairs opening remarks**

IW welcomed all to the meeting noting housekeeping.

22/12-2 **Apologies for absence we received and accepted from** – Cllrs Anne Kerins, Martin Bartlett and John Coombe

22/12-3 **To receive declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-none**

22/12-4 **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th November 2022 as an accurate record.** Proposed GR Seconded CK

22/12-5 **To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 14th November as an accurate record.** RCM asked for the comment regarding traffic to be removed from her comments as she did not express this view, this was agreed and removed. The minutes were agreed with this amendment. Proposed DJC Seconded KD

22/12-6 **Matters arising from the minutes for info only-None**

22/12-7 **Democratic Forum**

Mike and Paul from the Abbotsbury Jubilee Committee and Beachcombers attended the meeting following their grant application to request funding towards the new Jubilee memorial bus shelter to be located opposite the Swan. Following the last Parish Council meeting the plans have been changed to incorporate a slate roof at the request of the PC, especially given the Bus shelter is to be gifted to the PC for the future. Three estimates have been gathered and Ilchester Estate is very supportive of the project, their contribution will be materials and labour heavily discounted. The amount still to be raised for the project is £15,000. The Parish Council were asked to make a contribution towards the project. The whole project will be managed by Ilchester Estate and the Beachcombers, it is the intention that the PC would be gifted the bus shelter in perpetuity following its completion. The land will continue to be owned by the Estate and a Lease would be prepared at a peppercorn rent to the Parish Council. No funds will be spent until a planning application has been approved. Cllr Roberts suggested that if the Parish Council were to manage the project they could reclaim the VAT, this would need to be looked into further as this would be a new build.

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The PC had already provided information to the Bus shelter group on the Dorset Council's grant awarding scheme currently open, also the National Grid VIP project grant scheme. Mike and Paul were thanked for their time, this would be further discussed on the agenda.

Sarah Pilcher the PCSO for our area attended the meeting, she reported that she has historically provided reports for Parish Clerks for meetings but is now providing a monthly report and will attend meetings when possible.

PCSO report for November: 3 incidents of suspicious vehicles in Fleet, a suspicious man in Portesham and potentially in Langton Herring this is yet to be followed up, and an illegal rave near Hardy's Monument on a Sunday morning.

Sarah explained that however small please report any issues to the police online or the 101-phone number. More information will be made available and posters for notice boards with contact details. DJC asked Sarah about HGVs in villages, following the comment from Dorset highways saying they cannot do anything about it as it is a Police matter to enforce it, this is especially an issue, where there are no white lines and no sensible footway along Front Street. It was also explained that following the bypass being completed this was meant to change the behaviour of HGV's away from the villages. The houses along Front Street are just not designed for the size of vehicles that are now using this route on a regular basis.

Cllr Mark Roberts asked for further information on this and will raise this with highways for the PC.

A resident also commented on the speed of drivers along Church Lane and the parking so close to the junctions causing a hazard. There is a car now parking on Front Street up the edge of the turning to Winters Lane, this blocks the visibility when coming out of Winters Lane onto Front Street which is another hazard for the school traffic. Sarah explained that she would take a look.

A resident commented on the pavement from Front Street to the surgery which is uneven in places due to raised utility drain covers, this will be reported.

DJC asked residents report any issues in the village to Cllrs so they can be reported asap.

Cllr Mark Roberts reported from Dorset Council: Budgets are still being considered although there will not be cuts to frontline services. Following the merging of the five districts there has been a saving of £6M by the convergence. There will be free parking on selected days in car parks through the Christmas period. The bin collection dates have now published. Round four of the community and cultures funding programme is now open. Information on School admissions is now available and need to be submitted by the 18th of December. The climate and emergency strategy committee reported that there has been a reduction in the carbon footprint of Dorset council of 26%, the interim Dorset Council reduction is set at 40% by 2025. Land charges a year ago were taking 62 days but this has been reduced now down to 10 working days. The gritting crews are on standby due to the bad weather due. There are 24-hour strikes planned for this week by members of the RMT union due to long running dispute about pay and conditions. Since March 22 Dorset council has welcomed 787 guests from Ukraine within the Dorset Council area.

22/12-8

Finance

- i. To consider a grant towards a new bus shelter in Abbotsbury in memory of the Queen following new information on design and costs**

Abbotsbury Councillors supported the project for the village. The Council considered the grant application following the additional information supplied and agreed to a donation of £1000 towards the project. Also, to agree to adopt the bus shelter once complete with a slate roof and continue to maintain the bus shelter in perpetuity.

Proposed KD

Seconded DJC

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Some guests then left the meeting.

ii. 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 PC website.

Receipts to 30/11		
Portesham Playing field Hire		£125.00
Allotment Rents		£112.50
Bank Interest		£3.74
Payments approved		
Toolstation	Poo bin bags	£8.94
Strangways VH	Hall Hire	15.00
ICO	Data Collector	£35.00
Methodist Hall	Hall Hire	£18.00
H Soper	Grass contract/gate repair	£215.00
Dorset Planning Co	NP consultant	£662.70
M Jolliffe	Grass contract	£233.33
Wessex Ground Services	Contract	£136.17
Admin/Office expenses		£1579.52

Bank balances to the end of Nov 2022 £ 85384.47 Proposed SW

Seconded CK

iii. To consider a Grit bin for Hands Lane Abbotsbury

A request for a grit bin from residents on Hands Lane – this was agreed an approx. cost in the region of £250 plus Vat

Proposed LD Seconded MH

KD asked about a replacement for the one on the road to the Gardens, it was explained that this was a privately owned grit bin. KD will speak to Abbotsbury Tourism.

22/12-9 Planning consultations

i. To receive any planning consultations-

- i. Planning appeal in respect of Outline application for the erection of 1no. dwelling and access at Land West of Garston Farm Fleet Road- a further submission of Objection to be made on this appeal by the 13th Dec.
- ii. P/CLP/2022/07387 Proposal: Installation of new solar panel system on the existing roof: Wans Barton, Higher Farm Coastguard Road, Langton Herring- no objections

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

Following the last meeting a letter was sent the head of planning following the discussions at the last meeting, a response was received on 2nd December.

Mr Garrity stated. *It is true that the complexities of enforcement can have long lead-in times, and we have been working hard to close down and resolve our longer standing cases, but inevitably we are mindful of targeting our resources to the most urgent cases.*

I am pleased that your council was able to attend our engagement sessions, and I hope you found these useful. I note that you have asked for an officer to attend your parish council meeting and, whilst I have no difficulty in principle with this, it is our intention to roll out some further engagement sessions in the new year where we can meet with a number of town and parish councils at a single event. This means we can provide further guidance on some of the issues you have raised that may be common to all. This is more effective use of our officer time

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(given the significant number of town and parish councils across Dorset).

I hope you will find this approach helpful, and we will be in touch nearer the time about dates. However, I would also add that if there are specific sites that you would like to have a discussion about, please let me know as I am sure our enforcement team will be happy to assist.

Cllrs accepted the response and will await the next stage of sessions available but will continue to press on enforcement issues as and when they come up.

iii. To receive the report from the NPSG and to ratify the updated Neighbourhood Plan prior to submission agreed from comments made at the 14th November extraordinary meeting.

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Chesil Bank Parish Council was held on the 14th November, the purpose of which was to seek approval to submit the NP and associated documents to Dorset Council. The public were invited to the meeting. A number of comments had been received in writing prior to the meeting and also additional comments were made during the course of the meeting. The NPSG Chair has responded in writing to those Councillors who sent comments by email. A number of Parish Councillors were unable to attend the meeting, although there was a quorum. The main purpose of the meeting was to invite the Parish Council to verify that:

1. The plan meets its legal requirements in terms of its content and coverage
2. The plan has appropriate regard to national policy and is in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the area
3. The NP shows how it has due regard to information on local needs for new homes, jobs and facilities for the plan area
4. That it is a true reflection of the views of the Community as formulated through the various surveys and consultation drop-in events

Given that that the NP needed further minor amendments to take account of the comments made both before and during the meeting, full ratification of the proposed submission of the plan to Dorset Council has been deferred to the next Parish Council meeting on the 5th December. The plan has been amended and has been made available to Councillors as promised on the 30th November. In addition to the draft NP, the Basic Conditions Statement, the Consultation Statement, the SEA and the HRA documents are all prepared and ready to release to Dorset Council.

Assuming that approval will be given then the full set of documentation will be made available to Dorset Council on the 6th December.

The Cllrs then discussed the updated plan, the Chair asked each of the Cllrs to comment if they wished, those who did not attend the meeting on the 14th Nov were asked if they had any further feedback, some had submitted further comments. The NPSG Chair asked if the PC agreed that due process has been followed that the NP has taken into account the communities' comments and views drawn from the survey data, accepting there may be some inaccuracies or typos that needed to be updated. The views within the plan are that of the community and not of the individuals on the NPSG or the PC. It was also noted that there have been some very encouraging comments on the quality of the plan.

A proposal was made to approve the draft plan for submission to Dorset Council ready for consultation and then for examination prior to referendum if the external examiner accepts the plan in its current form.

Proposed KD

Seconded DJC

All agreed.

IW thanked the Chair and all the members of the Steering group for all their hard work on the plan. The chair of the NPSG then left the meeting.

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22/12-10 Highways- reports

- i. **To receive any highways issues -**
Cllrs followed up on previous discussions on the car parked in Portesham on Front Street that is blocking the visibility to the junction of Winters Lane, it was suggested that a polite letter is placed on the car. A notice will be placed in the Chesil magazine initially.

- ii. **To consider the purchase of the new SID in this financial year-** following the Portesham Parish meeting and considering the budget for next year and funds in reserves DJC asked if the SID could be purchased asap. The SID would have “Thankyou” rather than just the speed once you reach the speed limit. Cllrs agreed to the purchase and would consider in the coming year a SID location for Abbotsbury so the SID could be shared across parishes. The cost of the SID would be £3500 in total.
Proposed DJC Seconded MW

- iii. **To discuss the 20 mph speed limit criteria for all of the parishes**
CK noted that when she had a visit with highways in Langton Herring only those parishes with a CSW or SID would be likely to meet the criteria this includes evidence and support from the community. Cllrs suggested a smaller group looks at this and comes back to the Full Council at the January meeting. MR commented that there would need to be a history of collisions and the highways budget is really tight at the moment. SM suggested a pinch point is made in Portesham; MR commented that in another village where this has been installed there are issues is exhaust fumes from waiting cars near homes.
Cllrs who will meet to discuss this further are CK, DJC, SM, MH, IW, a meeting will be arranged.

22/12-11 Countryside & Rights of Way reports

- i. **To receive any Rights of way issues-** none

22/12-12 Recreation and Council Property-

- i. **To consider the first registration of Fleet Gates and LH amenity area with further requests for information**
The Clerk explained that further to the action to commence this process further information and costs have occurred with the valuation of the land in LH and sought approval from Cllrs for this additional expenditure. This was agreed Proposed SM Seconded KD

- ii. **To consider the Churchyard repairs and maintenance following the last Quinquennial report and quote for works to vegetation/trees**
Site visits had taken place with contractors and Cllrs SW and DJC at the Churchyard to look at the issues with the overgrown vegetation and the concerns with the Sycamore in the Rectory which is very overgrown with Ivy and still causing an problem with the Churchyard wall.
Two quotes had been gathered and circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllrs considered these quotes and agreed on Quote 1.
The Diocese would also be contacted to ask them to either carry out the work on the tree or the PC would do this and charge the Diocese for this work. DJC noted that the PC need to be informed of works in the Churchyard in the future as they are responsible for its maintenance, many trees and shrubs have been planted without knowledge of the PC.
The proposals had also been shared with the Parochial Church Council, feedback had been received on the removal of the roses growing out of the Fir and Yew trees, this would be discussed with the chosen contractor for a potential solution, but the PC needs to consider the advice of the professional contractors. Conservation area approval will be needed for some of these works which will be completed by the contractor.
A further quote to sensitively remove the ivy from the Rectory wall in advance of this work by another contractor. Proposed SW Seconded MW

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iii. To consider a sign provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for Portesham

This was agreed

Proposed KD

Seconded DJC

iv. To further discuss the extension to the Cemetery

The PC have requested a meeting with the agent from the Estate to further discuss the option of extending the Cemetery given the lack of space at the site. At present the original plan is to go up above the cemetery but following concerns by residents of Cemetery Road further discussions will be held with the Estate to discuss options and what the costs and implications are to the site. Cllrs SW and DJC will attend the meeting arranged for the 14th Dec.

22/12-13 Parish Reports

i. Abbotsbury- Parish meeting arranged for 12th Dec

ii. Fleet- The Open reach pole that has been replaced next to Fleet gates is too close and Openreach have been contacted and agreed to move the pole back, this will be carried out as soon as a road closure request has been made to Dorset Council but hopefully in the new year. Highways have promised signs for the areas where people are parking.

iii. Langton Herring

CK reported that if the drains been cleared in LH when they were requested then flooding would not have happened in the village.

iv. Portesham

DJC reported on items for the parish

The Parish meeting was held on 21st November it was not as well attended as previous meetings. RCM had asked again about the left-over jubilee coins for PVH and other village halls, IW to follow up.

Issues followed up in the village: Scrap yard lighting and access, water coming from North Mead and Trafalgar Farm onto the highway, the presentation regarding the proposed Solar farm, but until an application if forthcoming there is no action by the parish. SM has moved forward with the Flood Plan and DJC is organising a new Sluice gate. Riparian owner letters are prepared and ready for delivery. There are vacant allotments at West Elworth. The gravel on the road at Wadden has been reported. The graffiti has been removed from the Bus Shelter. SM noted that there is a coffee morning on 6th Dec when there will be a drive for more members to come forward for the CSW team in Portesham.

22/12-14 To consider all correspondence received for decision, consultation, and information- The National Grid VIP team have offered another Hamper this year, it was agreed that this will be prepared as a Hamper raffle again but for Easter, so this will be organised in the New Year. It was proposed that the proceeds of this Hamper will go towards the New Bus Shelter in Abbotsbury. This was agreed.

Proposed SW

Seconded SM

A letter of thanks had been received from the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance for the recent donation from the PC.

22/12-15 To confirm the items for the Parish Council meeting 30th January at Langton Herring.

Due to holidays and the date of the Coronation so the May meeting was changed to Tuesday 9th May.

22/12-16 Democratic Forum 15 minutes on any other items-

A resident asked about a resting place along the Old Railway line for those who cannot make the full length of the track without a rest, this will be discussed with the estate to see if it is possible.

Meeting closed at 21:00

refreshments were served