

# 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 6<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm at Abbotsbury

### Councillors Present:

#### Abbotsbury Cllrs

Kevin Donnelly (KD) (Parish Chair)

Lorraine Dalley (LD)

Graham Roper (GR)

#### Fleet Cllrs

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

John Coombe (JC)

#### Langton Herring Cllrs

#### In attendance:

Mrs. M Harding (Clerk) and Cllr Mark Roberts (Ward Cllr)

5 members of the public

Cate Killoch (CK) (Vice and Parish Chair)

Vacancy

#### Portesham Cllrs

David Collins (DJC)- (Parish Chair)

Sue Weeden (SW)

Martin Bartlett (MB)

Martin Jolliffe (MJ)

Andy Horne (AH)

Dom Found (DF)

**23/06-1 Welcome, Chairs opening remarks** IW welcomed everyone to the meeting including the 3 candidates for the Portesham vacancy.

**23/06-2 To receive apologies for absence**— received and recorded from Mark Hardway

**23/06-3 To receive declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation**-MJ on a finance item and MB on an item in correspondence.

#### **23/06-4 To consider the Co-option of Councillors for Portesham and Langton Herring**

Following the vacancy notice 4 candidates had come forward for Portesham but 1 pulled out prior to the meeting date. No candidates for LH at this stage. The 3 candidates at the meeting had all provided a completed co-option form with a short piece on their experiences so Cllrs could consider this when making their votes. Each candidate was asked to introduce themselves.

The PC followed their Standing orders for voting on appointments:

*Where more than two persons have been nominated for a position to be filled by the Council and none of those persons has received an absolute majority of votes in their favour, the name of the person having the least number of votes shall be struck off the list and a fresh vote taken. This process shall continue until a majority of votes is given in favour of one person. A tie in votes may be settled by the casting vote exercisable by the chairman of the meeting.*

Each Cllr placed their vote on a piece of paper and Cllr Mark Roberts counted and announced the votes. Dom Found received 11 votes so had a clear majority and was co-opted. He then joined the meeting and completed the co-option form and signed the acceptance of office.

IW thanked the other candidates for applying and explained that in 2024 there will be new elections for all parishes.

**23/06-5 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**, these were approved as an accurate record. Proposed SW Seconded CK

**23/06-6 Matters arising from the minutes for info only**-DJC asked about the benches, MB reported that they had arrived on the day of the meeting, DJC and MB will make arrangements for installation, SW reported that the plaques will be 3 weeks.

JC confirmed that his comments at the May meeting regarding the statement read out about Chesil Rocks was his personal opinion and not that of the Council.

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MB commented on the statement read out regarding the event and that members were shocked by its content and did not respond at the time of the meeting and suggested a letter should be sent to the event organiser so that the matter is drawn to a close. The letter will be from the Chair of the PC. All agreed. MB went on to say that in future the PC should follow protocols to be agreed when responding to items in the democratic forum.

IW suspended the meeting for the Democratic Forum

**23/06-7 Democratic Forum** – A resident from the committee for the Millennium celebrations attended the meeting to speak on the Millennium for Portesham and Abbotsbury. They explained that in 1024 Abbotsbury and Portesham were granted as manors by King Canute to his servant Orc. In 2024 the villages are planning on a celebration to mark this event. The resident explained that it is hoped to hold events over a week or 2 around the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2024. There are currently members from both villages on the group. There will be a fayre with stalls, games and competitions, bringing both villages together. It is hoped to raise funds from the event as well, the committee had hoped to resurface the Old railway track between Portesham and Abbotsbury but this is going to be too costly, but possibly a resting place along the route. Also, the group could possibly assist with funding some of the projects at the Chesil Recreation ground. They explained that this would be the ideal place for the event and asked if the event can be held on this field. There could be parking and a safe access and there is plenty of room. DJC commented that he would like to support the event and proposed a site meeting to discuss it closer to the time. It was noted that the site may not be large enough if it is successful so a neighbouring farmer could be asked about parking facilities. The resident was thanked for reporting on the event and in principle the PC supported it but would discuss this officially further in the meeting.

IW re opened the meeting.

## **23/06-8 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 PC website.

| <b>Receipts to 31-05-2023</b> |                                      |         |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 20's plenty stickers          |                                      | £20.00  |
| Coronation mugs               |                                      | £51.00  |
| Playing field hire            |                                      | £62.50  |
| Bank Interest                 |                                      | £13.12  |
| Allotment strimming           |                                      | £10.00  |
| <b>Payments approved June</b> |                                      |         |
| Starboard Systems             | Accounting software                  | £534.41 |
| Coronation                    | Abbotsbury lighting                  | £943.37 |
| LH Coronation costs           | Materials                            | £74.90  |
| Strangways Hall               | Hall hire                            | £15.00  |
| NNB Outdoors                  | Portesham benches for the coronation | £739.80 |
| LHVH                          | Hall hire                            | £15.00  |
| LH resilience costs           | Printing                             | £118.70 |
| H Soper                       | Grass contract/repairs               | £255.00 |
| M Jolliffe                    | Grass contract                       | £237.50 |
| Wessex Grounds services       | Grass contract                       | £139.51 |
| K Hussey                      | Play area inspections                | £117.50 |
| Friends of St Nicholas        | Candles event                        | £120.00 |
| Admin/Office expenses         |                                      | £927.69 |

Bank balances to the end of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 £80,546.74

Proposed KD Seconded GR

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## ii. To consider the NALC guidance on making donations to the Church for grass cutting

The Clerk explained as she had on previous occasions informed the PC do not have the power to give to the Church and has circulated a Legal topic note on the subject of L01-18 Financial assistance to the Church, this has come up as a local internal auditor has commented on this with other Parishes and the Council should consider its position. The PC could give funds to other organisations who raise funds on behalf of the church for the costs of arranging these events but not a direct donation to the Church funds. This will be considered further. It was noted that the Portesham cemetery belongs to the PC and the Churchyard is closed so this responsibility had been passed to the PC in 1981.

## 23/06-9 Planning consultations

### i. To receive any planning consultations-

- a. P/NMA/2023/02727 Proposal: Nonmaterial amendment to include brick jambs to windows within the stone extension following P/HOU/2022/03231 (Proposed side extension)  
Location: 8 Fleetway Cottage- *For Info only.*
- b. P/LBC/2023/02566 Proposal: Rebuild Chimney Stack to Existing Dimensions. Insert Lead Tray Location: Langton Herring Village Hall- *no objections.*
- c. P/VOC/2023/02931 Proposal: Erection of single storey front extension, second storey addition and conversion of basement area (with variation of Condition 2 of Planning permission P/HOU/2021/05769 to include new drawings of replacement entry gate to driveway entrance). Location: Futtocks End- *no objections*
- d. EN/2022/00562- Fleetway Cottage- the enforcement has now been closed, CK noted that a member of public has raised a complaint about this as the case was closed before the intended date of comment.

### ii. To receive an update on planning /enforcement or ongoing issues- Fleet Wood is still ongoing.

### iii. To receive and accept the examiners report with modifications on the Chesil Bank Neighbourhood Plan ready for referendum, also a report from the NPSG.

The Chair of the steering group was unable to attend but had circulated a report as well as the examiners report with modifications.

Following the completion of the Examiner's Report, the Neighbourhood Plan needs to be modified to incorporate the changes stipulated in the report. There were 31 Policies identified in the plan which went to the Examiner, and of these 2 have been deleted and 6 are subject to minor modifications. Work has now started on updating the Plan and will be made available as soon as possible. The Examiner's Report is now in the Public Domain and Dorset Council have started preparations for the Referendum. Once CBPC have given their formal consent to the proposed modifications in the Examiner's Report, then Dorset Council can seek a formal decision to proceed to Referendum from the Planning Portfolio, which takes 1-2 weeks. Following that decision then DC is obliged to hold a referendum within 56 working days. This means that a referendum is not likely to take place until September. This is a major milestone in the development of our Neighbourhood Plan and the Steering Group was delighted that the Examiner commended the Group for their efforts in producing a Plan which is concise but comprehensive, logical, informative and well-illustrated.

Fleet Cllrs explained that they acknowledged the changes for Fleet in the NP, it was noted that there are no Cllrs on the NPSG any longer, but IW was coopted onto the group but had not been part of any of the meetings, none had been held since the plan was submitted. JC noted that he left the NPSG as he felt he could no longer represent Fleet on the group given the concerns by Fleet residents.

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The Clerk explained that Dorset Council have now gone out for consultation and the PC have been asked to formally accept the plan unless there were any typos at this stage no further changes could be made.

KD proposed that CBPC accepts the NP examiner report with modifications and gave a vote of thanks to the steering group for their achievement. Seconded by GR All agreed.

## 23/06-10 Highways- reports

### i. To receive any Highways issues

DJC reported that he was flabbergasted that after all the reporting of the issues with the water on the highway on Back Street that it still has not been repaired, the highways officer explained that a quote for the works is yet to be carried out. The Road is very slippery now due to the algae. MR was asked to follow this up with DC.

MB reported that the Friar Wadden Road repair was very poor and only patched in places.

LD reported Beach Road being impassable to the last properties, this being due to the shingle washed up, but works have been delayed until the building works have been completed. Also, there are issues with parking along Burton Road by fishermen an emergency vehicle would not be able to get through. The Police have been contacted.

Bishops Hill is still in a poor condition and reports of punctures have been received.

The road between Bagwell and Knights in the Bottom where a car recently went into, the hedge is sinking again.

The PC have received a claim for damage to a car after it collided with a Grit bin on Rosemary Lane and the driver wishes to claim for the damages. The grit bin is not thought to be PC property, it is believed to have been installed and owned by Magna for residents of Bishops Close. The Clerk had spoken to the Insurance company, and they will investigate this, the PC can also put in a FOI request to Dorset Council regarding the bin to find out who installed it. Although the driver hit a stationary object the PC will follow this up.

## 23/06-11 Countryside & Rights of Way reports – The unclassified road on from Burton Road to West Bexington is now impassable but could be a very positive tourist route for cyclists and walkers. MR to follow this up with DC.

AH reported that the right of way on the Back of Cemetery Road was reported and cleared straight away, it was noted that sometimes the cattle get onto the right of way usually when the gates are left open.

IW reported on the new obelisks now installed on the rights of ways between Fleet and Langton Herring.

CK reported that there is an issue with sycamores growing on a bridleway in Langton Herring that are adjacent to a private wall. To be reported to RoW.

## 23/06-12 Recreation and Council Property report

A site meeting had been held in the morning of the PC meeting to discuss the various recreation projects.

### i. To consider the pavilion project following the withdrawal of the planning application

Following the withdrawal of the application and the suggestion that further surveys need to be carried out regarding flood and ecology, it was suggested that the PC puts this project on hold and concentrates on the Tennis court and updating the site, tidying back the hedges when the bird nesting season is over. Gathering quotes for fencing on the main roadside for the safety of user's dogs etc. It was felt that the project is still something the PC will aspire to but not at this time.

It was also suggested that a bench is located near the Tennis court area. This could be considered when looking at the quotes received for the refurb of the Tennis court surface at the July meeting.

Proposed SW

Seconded KD

All agreed

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## Reserves

The reserves noted under the Pavilion Project will be reallocated to a Chesil Recreation reserve for the playing field site, so it is available for all the projects at the site. There is currently £24000 in this reserve.

Proposed KD

Seconded SW

All Agreed

**Container-MB** reported that the new allotment container is booked for the week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> June as per the quote obtained for the May PC meeting. MB will liaise with allotment holders closer to the time. MB and DJC will visit the site to consider the base required.

**The Play inspections have** now been completed by the contractor and reports circulated, Cllrs to look at the costs for their respective play areas.

**Langton Herring play area fence-** CK suggested that the fence can be repaired as much of it is in good order so a few lengths and the gate to repair. Also, the springer needs to be replaced quotes to be gathered for the July PC meeting.

**Abbotsbury recreation ground-** the contractor has not cut the boundary or around the benches and goal posts- this is being followed up. The commemorative tree has died. Also, some repairs noted on the report to be followed up by Abbotsbury reps.

**Portesham play area-** now that the lease has been received and being considered, the PC will gather quotes to repair the surface under the monkey bars, mound and consider the other repairs noted by the contractor including the gate. DJC reported he had been to the play area and raised an issue with the gate that could be a health and safety issue, DJC will look at all the gates as there needs to be 2 functioning gates on a play area.

**Walking path to Playing field-** The highways officer is waiting for a report following a site meeting, but Cllrs would like to be at the meeting to discuss access.

**Cemetery extension-** no response from the Landowner to date.

**Cycle trailway-** nothing further at this stage

## ii. To consider the lease for the Play area at the Glebe Portesham

The lease has been received Cllrs commented on the following:

Length of lease, disclaimer to be signed so in 9 years the lease could be revoked, Access or parking by vehicles, especially for disabled access or emergency services which has not been included as was hoped for. Rent review periods being 2026, 2029 and 2032. It was suggested that although the Diocese solicitor has drawn this document up and we are liable for up to £450 plus vat that we ask our solicitors to look over the documents on our behalf to protect the PC in the future. SW suggested we ask for 50% of the cost of this fee be paid for by the Diocese, or that we take this fee off the bill from the Diocese. This was agreed. To consider at the July meeting.

Proposed SW

Seconded KD

All agreed

## 23/06-13 Parish Reports

i. **Abbotsbury-** Nothing further.

ii. **Fleet-** IW read out the minutes of the Fleet APA, items discussed were, enforcement of Fleet Wood, 20s plenty signs and a request to purchase some for residents to have and pursue the reduction of speed limit from on Fleet Road, the laybys have not been completed. Fleet would like a commemorative bench using funds from the Coronation, but a faculty is required to place it in the Church. The excess of traffic on rights of way with the sponsored walks, this will

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**iii. Langton Herring-** CK reported on the LH APA held on 24<sup>th</sup> May. The village has an issue with dogs, with livestock worrying, and attacking other dogs and people. CK commented that if reporting a Dog-on-dog issue this is a dog warden concern as is dog fouling but if it is Dog on person, then it is a police matter. The village would like CBPC to pursue the 20pmh speed limits in the village as the 20's plenty bin stickers won't be of use as many don't have bins or don't leave them out for long enough. The resilience group gave an update on progress and aim to hold a village meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June, some very useful information was shared, and this would be of interest to the other villages in the parish. The Licensing officer attended the meeting to speak on the licence granted for Chesil Rocks, so now all have access to a Tel number if needed.

**iv. Portesham-** DJC reported on the working together with the volunteers and will be arranging a meeting to discuss the next steps. DJC raised concerns over the map supplied noting that the village green comes under Dorset Council, this needs to be clarified. DJC asked the PC to approve the use of the Chesil Recreation ground for the Millenium and offered help and support if required. Proposed DJC    Seconded MB    all agreed.  
DJC welcomed the Dom as the new Councillor and had a signed card and some flowers to deliver to Sharon who resigned last month.

The clerk had gathered a quote for the refurbishment of the finger post at Shilvinghampton. Cllrs commented on the cost but also that they need updating and bringing back to their original state with cast letters. The quote gave several options, and the clerk will go back to the contractor for more info. It was agreed that the PC will carry out an audit of their fingerposts and note which ones need repair and keep a log of all fingerposts in the parishes. This was agreed.

IW closed the meeting and opened the final democratic period at 9.09

MR reported on statistics for Dorset Council on the expected increases in older people and children who require additional services. He noted that Dorset do not get support grants from the government. Domestic abuse has increased, but the number of anti-social cases has reduced. MR also spoke on the success of Dorset Council recycling facilities. He also spoke on the services that DC will have to provide for the Asylum seekers barge.

Another resident commented on funds given by the Friends of the Churches, as they do not have the power to pay for maintenance so will be unable to assist in grants for grass cutting.

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