

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 2nd October 2023, 7.15pm at Langton Herring Village Hall

Councillors Present:

Abbotsbury Cllrs

Kevin Donnelly (KD) (Parish Chair)

Mark Hardway (MH)

Lorraine Dalley (LD)

Langton Herring Cllrs

Cate Killoch (CK) (*Group Vice Chair & Parish Chair*)

Portesham Cllrs

David Collins (DJC)- (Parish Chair)

Sue Weeden (SW)

Martin Jolliffe (MJ)

Andy Horne (AH)

Dom Found (DF)

Fleet Cllrs

Ian White (IW) (*Group Chair & Parish Chair*)

In attendance:

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

9 members of the public

23/10-1 Welcome, Chairs opening remarks.

IW opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and noted housekeeping.

The Chairman commented on the full council training attended by the majority of Cllrs thanks to the CEO of DAPTC, this being a very useful session.

Following the comments in the democratic forum of the last meeting the following updates were provided:

The planning group met and formulated comments on the Battery storage application.

A request for hard standing at the bus stop in Portesham has been requested.

NP referendum was carried out on 28th Sep and 51% voted in favour of the CBNP, once made this will be used along with the Local Plan, also the NPSC will look to a revision of the plan in 2 years' time.

Fleet Wood issues are still ongoing with DC, Forestry Commission and the MP has been asked to assist to keep things moving, no further comment at this time.

The residents of Fleet were consulted on waste bins for Fleet.

Dog mess should be reported online and will be monitored by Cllrs. MH reported that he had walked the old railway line from Abbotsbury to Portesham and only noted 1 issue of dog mess.

Well done to Michele and Sue who successfully applied for the Dorset Council capital grant scheme and £10,000 has been awarded assuming all funding can be reached within 2 years.

23/10-2 Meeting closed for the Democratic forum for up to 30 minutes for comments on agenda items and other items for the attention of the Council that may be considered at a later date.

Mark Roberts commented on the plans for next year's budget which is likely to be an overspend given the costs of children and adult services, it is hoped not to cut the main services. Dorset Council is one of the busiest planning authorities being 7th in the country. There is a programme of micro surfacing in place for those roads that are structurally sound. Finally, the closing date for children going to secondary school is the end of October.

Mark was asked to comment on the issue of 35 electors being disenfranchised as they were not included in the voting process for the NP. Councillor Roberts has taken this up with the electoral services director Jonathan Mair and a plan is being put in place as we're all very concerned that this should not happen again. This would not have changed results had all 35 of those who were unable to vote had voted "no" the plan, the result would still be in favour of the plan.

The legal process to complain would be through a judicial review but this could cost a lot of money which Dorset Council may be liable for or if it was upheld then this could be at the cost of the Parish Council. SW asked if those residents affected would receive an explanation, MR confirmed that this is in hand.

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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

CK commented that it was not only the 35 residents of Rodden, but she was aware of one resident who was unable to make their postal vote as Dorset Council had lost their form. The resident had complained to Dorset Council direct.

DJC recommended that the PC should email Dorset Council electoral services to express the views of the Parish Council.

A resident asked about the motivation on the siting of EV charging points as noted on the agenda. He expressed his view on the current issue of climate change and the relaxation of government policy. It was explained that this is a scheme from Dorset Council in their efforts for the climate change emergency, which is being funded by a grant from central government, to be discussed on the agenda. The resident expressed his disappointment if the PC supported this scheme.

A resident spoke on the issues of dog poo bins and the costs involved and commended the PC on managing their finances so well. He suggested that some of the high reserves could be used to purchase the bins for the community. The PC responded, dog poo is classed as a hazardous waste and DC do not offer new contracts for Dog poo bins, but it can be placed in normal public waste bins.

DF commented as a member of public that there should also be rules for horse poo as this is just left on the roads, much of it outside homes.

A resident commented on an incident at Fleet Lagoon where geese were being shot, possibly without a licence. IW commented that this is allowed from the start September, but a licence would be required, if there are any concerns this should be reported to the warden for Chesil bank. The concerns are for the safety of those walking with dogs in the area. Contact information for the warden will be provided. DF noted that if there are any concerns to phone the police as they would have a log of this kind of activity. A resident who was unable to attend the meeting sent an email in response to the siting of bins in Fleet, explaining the considerable public feeling against the proposed litter/dog bins at Fleet.

23/10-3 To re-open the business of the meeting and approve apologies for absence– Martin Bartlett, Martin Fielding, Graham Roper and John Coombe were received and approved.

23/10-4 To receive declarations of personal or pecuniary interests and grants of dispensation-MJ on a finance item.

23/10-5 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th September 2023 and sign the same, these were approved as an accurate record. Proposed SW Seconded KD all agreed.

23/10-6 Matters arising from these minutes for info only.

23/09-9i -Langton Herring junction safety- highways have explained that this is an isolated incident and therefore will not make any changes at this time, this is being followed up after the meeting with the highways officer.

Abbotsbury Blind Lane works complete and the ditch on Back Street has been cleared.

KD was hoping to organise a site meeting to consider a SID in Abbotsbury, but the PC have been informed that this is not possible without a traffic survey, this will be added to the Nov agenda for consideration.

Fleet Pole -The MP has been very supportive in assisting the PC with contacting Openreach, we are now awaiting a date for the pole to be moved and we are preparing a spec for the gates to have them repaired and make a claim if required.

The Glebe/ Stonewater meeting yet to be arranged hopefully in Nov.

23/10-7 Recreation and Council Property reports

- i. **To consider the lease for the Play area at the Glebe Portesham** -Our solicitor is still waiting on the Diocese solicitor. The PC are concerned about any Health and Safety issues, the inspector was asked if the site needed closing, this is not necessary at present but if it reaches this stage we will lock the play area, this will then cover us for insurance purposes.

- ii. **To consider the Allotment agreement 2023-24**

Some minor changes had been made to the provision of the manure area to keep the access to the permissive path accessible and number of plots. This was agreed by all.

Proposed MH Seconded DJC

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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

iii. **To report on the proposed Cemetery Extension**

SW reported following a very useful site meeting with the agent for Ilchester estates, MB and the clerk, the Estate agree in principle to sell the land on the basis of amenity land value as in other areas in the country, the cost for the 0.25 of acre above the cemetery would be £20,000 to £25,000. The PC have the option to agree in principle to this but there is no rush as there is no reason why this matter could not be finalised in 5 to 10 years' time, subject to the re-evaluation of land value. The site would be from the top corner of the current cemetery fence to the top hedge of the estate field. This will be discussed at the budget meeting in November when funding can be considered and recommended to the full council.

iv. **To report on the walking path to the Chesil Recreation Ground**

Following the inspection of the entrance onto the B3157 from the field highways were not in support of this access, although currently people are expected to walk the route, the PC is still looking at other options for access or potentially making the current footpath a bridleway, but this would need several landowners' permission.

v. **To consider the Play inspection reports**

The reports had only arrived the day of the meeting, the Goose at Abbotsbury is being monitored, no issues at Langton Herring and the remaining issues highlighted on the mound, surfacing and gates.

vi. **To consider the costs to replace the springer at Langton Herring.**

More info to follow for next month once quotes have been gathered.

vii. **To consider the costs to install new benches on the Green in Portesham.**

DJC will look at the costs of the galvanised cups to stand them on a rough cost of £100 at this stage. SW had sourced the plaques for the new benches for the green FOC. DJC asked about the plaques for the 2 small benches provided for the Outdoor school and we are waiting on a reply from the school. DJC to consider the wording required for plaques prior to ordering.

viii. **To consider the costs to install a hard surface at the Bus stop in Portesham.**

Following a request at the Sep PC meeting the PC reported the issue of the grass surface at the bus stop near the Doctors surgery, the bus stop team are carrying out a survey of the site, the PC were asked if they could contribute to the cost, we are now awaiting more information.

MJ commented that there are hedge and brambles are obstructing the view of the bus stop this will be reported online.

ix. **To consider the purchase of a public bin for Fleet**

Following the negative feedback from the residents of Fleet it was agreed not to pursue further public bins in the village.

x. **To consider the siting of EV charging points in the Parishes of Abbotsbury and Portesham**

The PC had received an email from Dorset Council Charging Ahead Team as Abbotsbury and Portesham have been selected as suggested villages for EV charging points the details of the scheme had been supplied. The PC don't own any car parks but suggested that this could be sent to the Portesham Village Hall and Ilchester Estates for their consideration. DJC and MH to follow up.

23/10-8 Planning

i. **To consider all planning applications in circulation**

P/TRC/2023/05271 Proposal: T1, T2, T3 & T4 Ash - Fell Location: 6/7 Grove Lane Abbotsbury- no objections

P/CLE/2023/05350 Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness to continue using land as a dog walking and informal recreation Location: Portesham Dairy Farm Campsite, 7 Bramdon Lane- No objections raised assuming the neighbouring properties were in support.

P/HOU/2023/05434 Proposal: Part conversion of carport into porch, double and single storey rear extensions with internal alterations. Location: The Cottage, West Elworth- No objections raised assuming the neighbouring properties were in support.

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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

P/FUL/2023/04657- Battery Storage site- The P&DWG had met to formulate a response to the planning application, the objections were circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, the main reason for the objections were on fire safety and access to the site for emergency vehicles. The Council supported the report of objections Proposed KD Seconded CK all agreed.

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

Trafalgar Farm single storey property - Planning Contravention Notice served no further updates.

Scrap Yard- this is being dealt with by Minerals and waste planning- no further updates.

Fleet Wood – this is still ongoing.

The Border on the highway at Rodden has still not been removed.

iii. To receive a report from the NPSG (NPSG)

The Chair of the NPSG attended the count at PVH on 28th Sep and was delighted to report that the residents of Chesil Bank Parish voted by 167 votes to 55 at Referendum in answer to the question “Do you want Dorset Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Chesil Bank to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?

The turnout was just under 20% overall (224 out of an Electorate of 1129), which we were advised by the Deputy Returning Officer is “pretty good”. The turnout figures for the 3 Polling Stations were Abbotsbury 9%, Fleet/Langton Herring 25%, Portesham 13.7%. There were 91 postal votes.

The Plan will be made within 8 weeks of the Referendum, that is by the 23rd of November 2023.

Thanks were given to all of those on the Steering group for all their hard work in preparation of the plan.

23/10-9 Parish reports from Abbotsbury, Fleet, Langton Herring and Portesham

i. **Abbotsbury-** KD reported on the filming on Chesil Beach, also the issues of wild camping although the police have been out to move them on. The issue is that they are leaving the tents full of rubbish on the beach.

ii. **Fleet-** IW commented that the parish would like a bench partly funded by the Coronation fund, but permission is needed from the Diocese to site it in the Churchyard.

iii. **Langton Herring** – the next Parish meeting is scheduled for 11th October 7.30pm in LHVH.

iv. **Portesham** -DJC reported on the recent downpour of rain that the channels and gulleys running down Portesham hill are not collecting any of the rainwater and missing all the drains and can we raise this issue again with highways.

Dog poo is still an issue in the village and more signage needs to be provided.

The sand bin has been damaged on Front Street as someone has hit the wall between the pub and the neighbouring property, it is unsure when this occurred, but could have been an HGV so the issue needs to be followed up. The Clerk reported that the PC have been asked to write to the haulage businesses using the route to ask them to consider a more appropriate route due to the risk of pedestrian safety on Front Street, to do this a list of those using the route needs to be supplied. DJC to follow up.

The grass has been cut above Dovecote area.

3 posts are damaged on the village green; costs will be gathered for replacement.

The drain has been cleared by Ducks farm shop.

23/10-10 Highways- Reports

DJC commented on the HGV issue, which needs to be followed up. The Clerk reported that the PC have been asked to write to the haulage businesses using the route to ask them to consider a more appropriate route due to the risk of pedestrian safety on Front Street, to do this a list of those using the route needs to be supplied. DJC to follow up.

The white lines still need to be reinstated on Front Street.

KD commented that they also need reinstating in Abbotsbury.

KD reported on the request for a SID and that the previous sites are no longer legal and any new SID sites need to be on the same side as the traffic flow but this is too dangerous so it

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

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

was suggested that the Abbotsbury Councillors would gather volunteers to set up a community speed watch scheme as in Portesham.

23/10-11 Countryside & RoW- Wessex water is replacing the water main in Elworth so there may be some disruption to the footpaths in the area.

23/10-12 Finance and procedural matters

- i. To set the date for the budget meeting with Parish Chairs and staff appraisal with staffing committee. The group will meet on 26th October at 6pm and a date for the appraisal has been booked. SW reported that the Staffing committee is short on one member, MH offered to join the committee.
- ii. The PC laptop is not functioning correctly and needs to be replaced to manage the PC office, this was already in the budget to the value of £500.
Proposed KD Seconded MH All agreed.
- iii. To approve the reports of payment and receipts due to paid since the last meeting.

Receipts to 30-09-23		
Precept		£15,000.00
Burial income		£450.00
Playing field hire		£62.50
Bank Interest		£316.73
Hastoe	Grant	£250.00
Commonwealth war graves		£20.00
Payments approved		
DAPTC	Training	£633.00
Wessex Ground Services	Grass cutting	£139.51
Mr Treehouse	Zip wire service	£240.00
PVH	Hall hire	£20.00
LHVH	Hall hire	£15.00
H Soper	Grass contract/repairs	£225.00
M Jolliffe	Grass contract	£237.50
K Hussey	Play inspections	£117.50
Admin/Office expenses		£984.45

Proposed DJC Seconded AH All agreed.

Bank balances as of 31st September £86,277.41.

23/10-13 To receive the list of correspondence for information or future agenda items.

The PC were awarded a grant from Hastoe for equipment for the Tennis court and MUGA. The Grit Bins need to be sited in Langton Herring and Coryates ready for the bin filling. CK asked if support was still required for the refurbishment of the finger posts, some support has been given via the Dorchester Men's shed. Cllrs asked when the Goosehill works would commence and replanting of trees.

23/10-14 To confirm the items for the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th November 2023 at Strangways Hall Abbotsbury- Budget and precept

The PC meeting closed at 8.43pm

Cllrs were asked for information on reporting rights of way issues, the link will be shared with the resident.