

**CHESELBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

[www.cheselbournepc.org.uk](http://www.cheselbournepc.org.uk)

Dear Councillor,

27<sup>th</sup> February 2024

I hereby give notice that the next meeting of Cheselbourne Parish Council will be held at **7.00 pm on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024** at Cheselbourne Village Hall

All members of the Council are summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving the business to be transacted at the Meeting as set out in the agenda. Apologies for absence should be submitted to the Clerk/Chairman prior to the meeting. Members of the press and public are welcome.

Amanda Crocker  
Clerk to the Parish Council

**AGENDA**

1. Public participation
2. To receive apologies for absence
3. Declarations of Interest.
4. Approve minutes of the meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024
5. Matters arising from those minutes for report only
6. Dorset Council Councillor's report – report attached
7. Parish Councillors' reports
8. Police, Traffic and Roads
  - (a) General Report
  - (b) January Police report – attached
  - (c) To receive an update on the 20mph initiative from Dorset Council
9. Planning Applications  
P/HOU/2024/00455                      Highdon House access to Nettlecombe Farm – erect front, side and rear extensions & install dormer windows
10. Finance
  - (a) To agree the payment of accounts
  - (b) To accept the reconciliation of accounts and position against budget
11. To receive an update on the Elections
12. To receive an update on the footpath alongside the village hall
13. To review the Model Publication Scheme and confirm the GDPR policy, revoking the suggested amendment at item 12 23.6(d) of the September 2023 minutes and to set up a working party to review the Scheme and determine what, if any, new policies are needed
14. To consider the date of the May meeting and items for the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting
15. To receive an update on the play area
16. Date of next meeting – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Report to the parish council for January 2024.

Cllr Jill Haynes Chalk Valleys Ward Dorset Council.

Hello Councillors, Clerks and Members of the public.

Wishing you a rather belated Happy New Year please find my report for January.

### **Double Council Tax for second homes up for vote**

At the Full Council meeting of Dorset Council on 13<sup>th</sup> February I will be bringing a paper to ask members to consider agreeing to the recent legislation within the Levelling Up bill that will allow us to charge second homeowners double council tax. The number of people buying houses as second homes in Dorset has continued to increase and is responsible in part for the shortage of affordable homes here. Living in Dorset is a privilege and I hope that at least a proportion of the extra revenue that this could bring to the council will be used to support building affordable housing for local people. More on the next month

### **Dorset Council tops the national polls for recycling!**

DEFRA have just published the annual recycling figures for 2022/23. We have just found out that we are the **number one** unitary and disposal authority in the Country for the first time ever! (Those ahead of us are collection only councils (i.e. the figures are on the kerbside service only and do not include Household Recycling Centres).

This is testament to the commitment of our residents, our waste strategy teams and our frontline waste operatives. This is a fantastic achievement for Dorset and one that we are hugely proud of.

### **Tree-mendous grant opportunity (sorry!)**

A new grant scheme aimed at supporting local communities to plant and care for trees in their area is now open for applications.

Funded by Dorset Council and managed by the Dorset National Landscape team, the [Dorset Community Tree Fund](#) is open to community organisations in the Dorset Council area. This includes parish and town councils, as well as schools and other established community groups interested in planting and caring for trees in their patch.

Trees play a crucial role in our natural world, from providing homes for wildlife to tackling climate change. However, planting the wrong tree in the wrong place can have a negative impact on local wildlife, communities, and landscape.

So, unlike traditional tree planting schemes, the [Dorset Community Tree Fund](#) goes beyond just providing grants for trees. It also offers support for the planning and design phases of planting projects. This extra support can help make sure trees and hedges planted in and by communities have a positive impact on Dorset's natural environment for years to come.

### **Almost half a million pounds awarded to local culture**

Dorset Council Organisational Revenue Support Fund for Culture has awarded £486,000 to 28 organisations over the next three years.

A total of 41 applications were received from arts and heritage organisations and accredited museums. A total of £217,000 has been awarded to arts and heritage and £269,000 to accredited museums.

This funding has been spread across the Dorset Council area to ensure residents and communities have cultural benefit around the county. All the organisations awarded with this money are based in and deliver their programmes within the council's boundaries.

## **Dorset Council prepares to sell old District Council office site and buildings in Wimborne**

Dorset Council has instructed its agents to begin marketing the vacant buildings and site of the old East Dorset District Council (EDDC) offices in Furzehill, Wimborne.

Following Local Government Reorganisation in 2019, the unitary authorities of Dorset Council and BCP Council were created to replace the county's former district and borough councils. As Furzehill was declared surplus to requirements by EDDC, Dorset Council inherited the empty office buildings.

Following Cabinet's approval of the Council's capital programme in March 2023, Furzehill was identified as a priority to sell to generate capital receipts. Capital receipts are money that councils can spend on funding other capital expenditure – such as land, buildings, and equipment - or for paying off debt. They generally cannot be used to fund services.

The Furzehill site consists of 2.73 hectares (6.76 acres) which was allocated for residential development and other alternative uses in the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan back in 2014.

## **Cabinet approves next steps in Levelling Up journey for Weymouth**

At its meeting on Tuesday 30 January, Dorset Council's Cabinet agreed to approve recommendations to progress vital next steps in the Levelling Up programme of work.

In January 2023 Dorset Council was awarded £19.5m by Government to help regenerate Weymouth's Waterside Economy. The council's ambitions include essential enabling groundworks to allow the eventual development of several key sites in the town.

### **North Quay and Weymouth Bowl**

Included in the recommendations discussed by councillors, was a request from officers to start a procurement process which will seek one or more development partners to develop both the North Quay and Weymouth Bowl sites. This would be subject to planning consent to demolish the old bowling alley on the St Nicholas Street site and an agreement from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to repurpose an amount of Levelling Up funding originally allocated to New Bond Street.

The former Weymouth and Portland Borough Council offices at North Quay are currently mid-demolition and until plans for a development in its place can be agreed upon, the site will become additional, temporary car parking. It is hoped the temporary car park will be ready in time for the Easter break later in spring.

A planning application to demolish the former bowling alley site is live on the council's website and is inviting comments from local people and businesses. A decision on this application is due to be made at the beginning of March by the council's Western and Southern Planning Committee.

Following a robust soft market testing process, the council's property advisers recommend that the best strategy for future development on the North Quay site is for the council to dispose of it through a procurement process. This will allow the council to retain a considerable degree of control over the design and quality of any future build. Councillors have agreed that this is the best approach and approved the recommendation.

## A vision for the Harbour and Peninsula

Councillors also agreed to adopt a vision for the Harbour and Peninsula areas of Weymouth. A vision was developed by Professor Tony Bovaird, commissioned by Dorset Council to establish its ambitions, following engagement with stakeholders. The report divides the strands of proposed regeneration activity at the Harbour and Peninsula into short, medium and long-term options. Councillors agreed that the short and medium-term options are taken forward for progression, and the long-term options outlined in the report to be revisited at a later date.

## Round 4 of the Household Support Fund reopens for applications

Round 4 of the Household Support Fund (HSF) will reopen for applications at 10am on Tuesday 6 February 2024 for low-income households in the Dorset Council area.

The government scheme funded by the Department for Work and Pensions, provides support in the form of supermarket vouchers. Citizens Advice will be allocating this fund on behalf of Dorset Council and vouchers will be issued to residents who meet the eligibility criteria within 6 to 8 weeks.

Dorset Council households will be able to apply if they:

- pay council tax to Dorset Council
- have an annual household net income of less than £30,000 and
- have savings of less than £16,000 and
- **have not applied** for a previous HSF payment within the last 6 months (since August 2023)

Calculations for the annual net income should not include Personal Independence Payments, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Carers Allowance or Child Benefit. Applications are limited to one per household.

Residents should apply online. The application form will open at 10am. Find more details including future application window dates here: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/household-support-fund>

If you need help completing the form, you can telephone Customer Services on 01305 221000 or visit a [customer access point](#).

For further information on all the support available, whether be access to food, money and debt advice or support with your household bills, visit our cost of living webpages at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help).

## Could you offer a stepping stone to a young person leaving care?

Supported Lodgings can help young people who are leaving our care, experience the transition to adulthood in a safe and secure environment, whilst learning emotional and practical skills that will help them thrive.

We want to end the 'cliff edge of care' that can happen when young people turn 18 years old, and to do this, we need more people to open their homes and become Supported Lodgings carers.

Katie\* has been living with a Dorset Council Supported Lodgings provider for the past three years and says:

*"My experience in supported lodgings has been really positive and it has taught me a lot. I've learnt*

*lots of things that have grown my confidence and made me feel ready for moving on. I've made a great connection with my supported lodgings provider, and she has supported me through anything I've needed help with."*

Supported Lodgings is often able to be combined with a career or busy lifestyle as you do not need to provide full-time care. Sharon Cooper, age 56, lives in Wimborne and is a Dorset Council Supported Lodgings provider who also runs her own business. Over the last 10 years, Sharon has looked after around 10 young people between the ages of 16-25. She said: "I enjoy helping the young people achieve their goals or aims in life no matter how big or small, and watching them grow and develop as people. When you provide Supported Lodgings, you have a fantastic support network around you, including help from Dorset Council's Fostering service and other Supported Lodgings providers."

All Dorset Council [Supported Lodgings](#) carers receive training and support and are paid an allowance to assist with day-to-day living costs. To find out more, [visit our website](#) or contact [fosteringenquiries@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:fosteringenquiries@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## Item 8 (b)

### Dorchester Rural East Neighbourhood Policing Team Crime Report January 2024

Dear Councillors,

Below is a breakdown of crimes/incidents that have occurred in your areas during the month of July.

***N.B.*** Any crimes/incidents of a sensitive nature are not in this report, e.g., of a personal nature or which may identify individuals.

- We continue to patrol all areas and are using social media to keep members of the public apprised of our actions.

Dorchester NPT website address is [Dorchester | Your area | Dorset Police | Dorset Police](#)

Our Face Book Page address is: [www.facebook.com/DorchesterPolice/](http://www.facebook.com/DorchesterPolice/)

Our Twitter Page is: <https://twitter.com/DorchesterPolice>

Our Instagram Page is: <https://www.instagram.com/dorchesterpolice/>

Dorset Alert messaging system registration to receive messages is:  
<https://www.dorsetalert.co.uk/pages/2451/1/Register.html>

**Contacting Dorset Police (non-emergency)**

**\*\*\*\* THE EMAIL ADDRESS IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR REPORTING – PLEASE USE ALTERNATIVE METHODS SHOWN BELOW \*\*\*\*\* PLEASE SEE WITHDRAWAL OF 101 ADDRESS AT THE END OF THIS REPORT:**

Do it Online: [Contact us | Dorset Police](#)

Telephone: 101 \*(Calls to the 101 non-emergency number from both landlines and mobiles are free)

Message an officer:

To report information to the police with 100% anonymity, contact the independent charity Crimestoppers online at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org) or call Freephone 0800 555 111

### **DFCA**

#### **Broadmayne Parish Council:**

No Reports

#### **Knightsford Parish Council (Tincleton/West Knighton/West Stafford/Woodsford):**

No Reports

### **DFCB**

#### **Crossways Parish Council:**

19/01/2024 Warmwell – Theft of Caravan

#### **Osmington Parish Council:**

No Reports

#### **Owermoigne Parish Council:**

06/01/2024 ASB cars on Warmwell bypass.

### **DFCC**

#### **Cheselbourne Parish Council:**

11/01/2024 Cheselbourne- house fire

#### **Dewlish Parish Council:**

No Reports

#### **Puddletown/Tolpuddle/Athelhampton/Burleston Parish Council:**

No Reports

\*\* Please see note below regarding Community Contact Point

### **DFCD**

**Buckland Newton Parish Council:**

**No Reports**

**Melcombe Bingham Parish Council:**

**No Reports**

**Piddle Valley Parish Council:**

05/01/2024 Alton Pancras Theft of Truck from outside farm building

09/01/2024 Enterprise Park – Theft from Motor Vehicle

09/01/2024 Plush - Use of sling shot and air rifle – possible lamping.

10/01/2024 Piddletrenthide – theft of quad bike

14/01/2024 Piddletrenthide – theft of gun dog – did not return after going into bushes to retrieve.

20/01/2024 Piddlehinton – dog left in vehicle.

29/01/2024 Piddletrenthide- criminal damage to tractors

**Other**

I will be holding a Community Contact Point at the Spar Shop in Puddletown on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February between 09:30 – 10:30.

Community Contact Point is a pop-up event where you can speak to me to discuss an issue and receive crime prevention advice. You can also report a crime (incident) or discuss any issues affecting you or your community.

This is a drop-in style event with no need to make an appointment.

Regards

PCSO 6500 Alison Donnison

Dorchester East Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team