#### **CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

# 13 Stileham Bank, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset, DT11 0LE 07419 136 735 cernevalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

### cernevaney@dors

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a Full Council meeting of the Cerne Valley Parish Council to be held on **Thursday 09**<sup>th</sup> **November 2023** starting at **7.00pm** in **Cerne Abbas Village Hall** Please find a copy of the agenda below.

#### **Councillors:**

S. Beresford, F. Horsington, M. Keating, G. Muskett, G. Bishop, C. Crosbie, J. Bolt, C. Paul, L. Prowse, H. Brown, K. Burghart, and K. Marshall

# **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies for absence
- 2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests
- 3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th October 2023
- 4. Matters arising from previous meeting
- 5. Update from the Chair
- 6. Public Discussion Period
- 7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council
- 8. Financial update
  - a. Payments for authorisation
- 9. To receive committee reports and to agree action(s) in response to proposals and repairs
  - a. Allotments (MK)
  - b. Burial Ground (SB)
  - c. Car Park (LP)
  - d. Children's Play Park (CC)
  - e. Footpaths and Environment (JB)
  - f. Planning (FH)
  - i. P/FUL/2023/05466

51 Long Street, Cerne Abbas, Dorset, DT2 7JG Erect a single storey detached Consultation Office Building

ii. P/PAEL/2023/06009

Cerne Abbas, Higher City Farm, Cerne Abbas, Dorset, DT2 7JT Remove 3 No. antenna, install 6 No. antenna and ancillary radio equipment to existing lattice mast. Install 1 No. GPS Module on existing gantry support pole at ground level, upgrade equipment cabinets within compound and carry out ancillary development thereto

iii. P/FUL/2023/05221

Manor Cottage, Main Road, Godmanstone, Dorset, DT2 7AE Extension to existing residential garden for creation of outside swimming pool & conversion of existing barn to form guest annex

- 10. Honorarium payments (FH)
- 11. Initial Precept Discussion (WL)
- 12. Meeting dates 2024 (FH)
- 13. Repointing of collapsed tomb (SB)
- 14. Flood warden's reports (HB)
- 15. Items for the next meeting

16. Date(s) of next meeting

Governance

Cerne Abbas Village Hall 14<sup>th</sup> December 23

Full Council

Godmanstone Village Hall 11<sup>th</sup> January 24

Wayne Lewin Parish Clerk 02<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

#### **CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

# 13 Stileham Bank, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset, DT11 0LE 07419 136 735 cernevalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

# Minutes of Full Council held on 12th October 2023 at Cerne Abbas Village Hall

#### **Councillors present:**

F. Horsington, S. Beresford, G. Muskett, K. Burghart, G. Bishop, L. Prowse, and K. Marshall.

There were no members of the public present

#### **FULL COUNCIL**

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr's Crosbie, Brown, Bolt, Keating, and Paul sent apologises, along with Cllr Haynes (DC).

#### 2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

Cllr Horsington declared an interest in any matters to do with the allotment field.

# 3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th September 2023

These were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### 4. Matters arising from previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

#### 5. Update from the Chair

The Chair confirmed correspondence from a member of the public as to the poor state of the Cerne Giant. The Clerk had replied stating it was a National Trust responsibility.

It was also discussed as to regards am email a parishioner who had concerns over various aspects of the music festivals held at the Brewery.

It was agreed that the flyer in the Parish magazine was from the brewery and that concerns must be sent back them. The concerns were not for the Parish Council but for the brewery and Dorset Council.

The Clerk would reply, and sign post the individual to departments within Dorset Council.

To conclude, an update from the solicitors mentioned that they were awaiting the final transfer deed from the seller's solicitors, and upon receipt would write the report.

Further to the burial ground extension update, the Chair asked the working group to establish if the GPR survey report from Sheffield University would be valid with Dorset Council as part of any future change of use application.

#### 6. Public Discussion Period

No members of the public were in attendance.

#### 7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

A report was received and distributed.

#### 8. Financial update

#### a. Payments for authorisation

There were **15** payments (**PV's 67-81**), totalling **£ 2952.07** that were authorised and approved for payment, subject to agenda items 10 and 13.

#### b. Half year budget report

The Clerk confirmed that the overall budget spends sat at 48.07%.

It was again noted that the administration budget would go overspent, possible more than expected once agenda item 10 has been considered.

# 9. To receive committee reports and to agree action(s) in response to proposals and repairs

#### a. Allotments

The committee met on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

It was mentioned that all plots are full and that 3 people were on the waiting list.

The committee were recommending that plot fees increase whilst the Precept request would be lower.

#### b. Burial Ground

Cllr Beresford confirmed that the committee met on 06th October.

The committee would also recommend an increase in fees and request an increase in Precept.

It was agreed to have the following works quoted for:

Removal of self-seeded lime trees and vegetation around the north wall by the Abbey.

Tidy and cut back of the yews on the footpath to Beauvoir.

Realignment of tomb.

#### c. Car Park

Cllr Prowse confirmed the committee met on 11th September.

The committee would not request funds from Precept as income was generated from honesty box.

The inspection report showed one minor damage to the play equipment whilst the entrance post which had been hit, showed no concerns.

The permissive path had been cleared, and the tree work of removing dead wood and lifting the canopy had been completed.

Wild daffodils had been planted and some areas cordoned off to allow growth – all of this in the wildlife area.

#### d. Children's Play Park

It was confirmed that the committee met on 11<sup>th</sup> September.

The committee would request a deduction in play park funding from Precept.

The inspection report showed no new areas of concern.

See agenda item 11 for improvements funding.

#### e. Footpaths and Environment

It was confirmed that the committee would meet on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Concerns were raised as to regards, a dead tree on the river walk, overgrown public rights of way, and fly tipping.

The Chair confirmed that the Parish Council had no power to act on any of these matters, and they must be reported to the Dorset Council who would contact the relevant landowners.

However, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the tree team with regards the dead tree as this was a serious issue.

It was also mentioned that the beech hedge at Chescombe would be cut by Dorset Council.

#### f. Planning

#### a. P/FUL/2022/02607

Cerne Abbas Church of England First School, Duck Street, Cerne Abbas, DT2 7LA Erect building for use as Learning Resource Centre

The Parish Council supported this application.

#### 10. Website Fees

Members agreed to pay the annual fee of £122.28 to Hugo Fox.

#### 11. Play Park repairs

It was requested that the following works be paid from the Play Park reserves.

Varnishing of remaining benches Clearence of picnic bench area Sand down, fill in gaps, and wood stain the uprights of the swings Back fill the jungle much around the edge of the multi play.

This was unanimously agreed.

#### 12. EV charging point(s) for Kettlebridge Car Park

Cllr Prowse met a representative from Dorset Council. A double charger would be installed at no cost to the Parish Council.

Indeed, the Parish Council would receive 1.5p per kilowatt-hour.

It was unanimously agreed for this project to go ahead.

#### 13. External audit report

The external audit report identified two areas of concern.

Charles North Funds still held in account

This has been dealt with and the Parish Council were just awaiting bank details to transfer monies.

Incorrect bank reconciliation sent

The Clerk had challenged this as it was felt this was incorrect.

09th November 23

Members therefore declined to accept the external audit report until evidence of the above was shown. The Clerk confirmed that 3 emails and 1 phone call had been done with no replies. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should try once more before escalating to the Chair. It was agreed that the invoice should not be paid until resolution had been achieved.

#### 14. Raising the profile – final poster

It was agreed that an A4 with all details would be a good start.

The Clerk would send a draft around to all Councillors who must by return that they are happy with the content on display.

#### 15. Gift of field gate from resident

Members accepted the gift, and the Clerk would look into moving the gate from its current location to entrance to the burial ground extension.

**Full Council** 

Cerne Abbas Village Hall

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Cerne Valley Parish Council

## 16. Items for the next meeting

Honorarium payments Initial Precept discussion

17. Date(s) of next meeting

Cllr Fred Horsington \_\_\_\_\_

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2015 hours.



#### **Planning Services**

County Hall, Colliton Park Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

- ① 01305 838336- Development Management
- ① 01305 224289- Minerals & Waste

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

P - Cerne Abbas PC

**Date:** 10 October 2023

Ref: P/FUL/2023/05466

**Support Officer:** Helen Paige

Area: Northern

**①** 01258 484227

□ planningnorth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

**Application No:** P/FUL/2023/05466

**Location:** 51 Long Street Cerne Abbas Dorset DT2 7JG

**Proposal:** Erect a single storey detached Consultation Office Building

The above application for, Full Planning Application has been received.

The application can be viewed online. You will need to accept the terms and conditions to enter the online planning register.

# Any comments you wish to make must be made Through the website using the link or gr code

https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=399985&cuuid=58D2AA29-1428-43B2-AAE9-642705661AAC



This link is unique to each consultee for each individual application.

Important - do not share this link, it is unique to you as a consultee in our system.

Using the link ensures your comments are processed efficiently.

We can only consider material planning considerations, when assessing and determining the application'. We cannot accept anonymous comments and all comments received along with your name and address will be published on our website.

If i do not hear from you by the 31 October 2023 council will proceed to make a recommendation. Our decision will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

**Helen Paige** 

Planning Technical Support Officer - Northern Team



#### **Planning Services**

County Hall, Colliton Park Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

- ① 01305 838336- Development Management
- ① 01305 224289- Minerals & Waste

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

P - Cerne Abbas PC

Date: 20 October 2023

**Ref:** P/PAEL/2023/06009

Support Officer: Jackie Witt

Area: Northern

**①** 01305 838336

□ planningnorth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

**Application No:** P/PAEL/2023/06009

**Location:** Cerne Abbas, Higher City Farm, Cerne Abbas, Dorset, DT2 7JT

**Proposal:** Remove 3 No. antenna, install 6 No. antenna and ancillary

radio equipment to existing lattice mast. Install 1 No. GPS

Module on existing gantry support pole at ground level, upgrade equipment cabinets within compound and carry out ancillary

development thereto.

The above application for, Prior Approval - Electronic Communication Network has been received.

The application can be viewed online. You will need to accept the terms and conditions to enter the online planning register.

# Any comments you wish to make must be made Through the website using the link or gr code

https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=400625&cuuid=34B800CD-D48C-4D50-AEAE-797386DFE560



This link is unique to each consultee for each individual application.

Important - do not share this link, it is unique to you as a consultee in our system.

Using the link ensures your comments are processed efficiently.

We can only consider siting and appearance, when assessing and determining this prior approval application. We cannot accept anonymous comments and all comments received along with your name and address will be published on our website.

If i do not hear from you by the 10 November 2023 council will proceed to make a recommendation. Our decision will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Witt Planning Technical Support Team Leader - Northern



#### **Planning Services**

County Hall, Colliton Park Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

- ① 01305 838336- Development Management
- ① 01305 224289- Minerals & Waste

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

P - Godmanstone PC

**Date:** 25 October 2023

Ref: P/FUL/2023/05221

Support Officer: Amy Gould

Area: Northern

**①** 01258 484244

□ planningnorth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

**Application No:** P/FUL/2023/05221

**Location:** Manor Cottage Main Road Godmanstone Dorset DT2 7AE

**Proposal:** Extension to existing residential garden for creation of outside

swimming pool & conversion of existing barn to form guest

annex

The above application for, Full Planning Application has been received.

The application can be viewed online. You will need to accept the terms and conditions to enter the online planning register.

# Any comments you wish to make must be made Through the website using the link or qr code

https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=399691&cuuid=96C61CF0-9306-445C-B03F-39184AF77E5D



This link is unique to each consultee for each individual application.

Important - do not share this link, it is unique to you as a consultee in our system.

Using the link ensures your comments are processed efficiently.

We can only consider material planning considerations, when assessing and determining the application'. We cannot accept anonymous comments and all comments received along with your name and address will be published on our website.

If i do not hear from you by the 15 November 2023 council will proceed to make a recommendation. Our decision will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

Amy Gould Planning Technical Support Officer - Northern Team

Cerne Valle	ey Parish Council Payments List 23/2	4								I												01/	11/2023	
											Hall				Play		Allotments	BG	Allotments	BG	Car Park			
Date	Payee Details	Project	PV	Amount	Salary	Expenses	Administration	Training	Honorarium	Fees	Hire	Insurance	Audit	Grants	Park	F&E	Precept	Precept	Fees	Fees	Income	Reserve	VAT	TOTAL
19/04/2023	Brian Twigg Planning (BACS)	BG Extention Consultation	1	565.85																		565.85		565.85
19/04/2023	Dorset Waste Partnership (DD)	Empty Litter Bin (Folly)	2	150.02												150.02								150.02
19/04/2023	Parish Noticeboard Company (BACS)	New Noticeboard	3	510.00																		425.00	85.00	510.00
19/04/2023	HMRC (VISA)	Employers NI conts 22/23	4	103.13			0.06															103.07		103.13
19/04/2023	Portand Stone Ltd (VISA)	Skip Hire	5	370.00															308.33				61.67	370.00
	Wayne Lewin (BACS)	April Salary	6	909.81	833.46	52.95														23.40				909.81
19/04/2023	VistaPrint (BACS)	Litter Posters	7	58.63												48.85							9.78	58.63
	Tesco (VISA)	Village Meeting Refreshments		69.75																		58.13	11.62	69.75
	` '	Subsciptions	9	410.92			45.00			365.92														410.92
		Coronation Mugs	10	377.82																		314.82	63.00	377.82
_	Paul David (BACS)	Installation of Bench	11	64.00																	64.00			64.00
	VistaPrint (BACS)	Defibrillator Flyers	12	44.34																		36.94	7.40	44.34
	Dorset Home and Garden (BACS)	Repair to Stand Pipe	13	25.00															25.00					25.00
	Gallagher Insurance (BACS)	Annual Premiums	14	482.04								482.04												482.04
	WS Waste Management Ltd (VISA)	Disposal of Tyres	15	25.00															20.83				4.17	25.00
		Play Park Fence Deposit	16	126.00											105.00								21.00	126.00
	BA Wrixon (BACS)	Installation of Defibrillators	17	334.32																		278.60	55.72	334.32
		May Salary	18	902.36	828.26	53.40													20.70					902.36
11/05/2023	Lyons Gate CS Ltd (BACS)	Grass Cutting	19	666.00												55.00				440.00	60.00		111.00	666.00
	PC World (BACS)	Ink Cartridges	20	39.99	-		33.33															200.00	6.66	39.99
	` '	Play Park Repairs	21	300.00										47.10								300.00	0.40	300.00
	Amazon (VISA)  Dorset Home and Garden (BACS)	Binoculars and Book	22	55.64										47.48		440.00							8.16	55.64
		Sun screen for defibrillator	23	110.00												110.00						000.44		110.00
	Martin Reed Wessex Carpentry and Builders	Various costs for Coronation	24	339.11 3,024.00																		339.11	504.00	339.11 3024.00
	Paul David (BACS)	Bus Shelter Refurbishment Repair to Finger Post	25 26	101.00												101.00						2520.00	504.00	101.00
	` '	PRIME	27	4.49			4.40									101.00								4.49
08/06/2023		Play Equipment Inspections	28	72.00			4.49								42.00						18.00		12.00	72.00
	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	29	18.00			18.00								42.00						16.00		12.00	18.00
		June Salary	30	881.66	828.26	41.70	16.00									11.70								881.66
	-	Replacement taps	31	72.68	020.20	41.70										11.70	60.56						12.12	72.68
		PAYE	32	537.20	537.20												00.50						12.12	537.20
	, ,	NI	33	114.60	114.60																			114.60
	- (/	Pension Contributions	34	123.54	123.54																			123.54
		Sign for Permissive Path	35	17.00	120.04											14.17							2.83	17.00
		BG sellers legal fees	36	1,824.00												14.17						1520.00	304.00	1824.00
		BG buyers legal fees	37	450.00																		450.00	004.00	450.00
	` '	Play Park Fence Installation	38	210.00											175.00							400.00	35.00	210.00
	Parish Noticeboard Company (BACS)		39	162.00											110.00	135.00							27.00	162.00
	Lyons Gate CS Ltd (BACS)	Grass Cutting	40	816.00												220.00				400.00	60.00		136.00	816.00
		Hall Hire	41	36.00							36.00													36.00
		Bark Chippings	42	9.50											7.92								1.58	9.50
		Allotment Work	43	106.96															106.96					106.96
		Not The Bus Shelter Work	44	60.00												60.00								60.00
	Wayne Lewin (BACS)	July salary	45	902.36	828.26	41.70							11.70			11.70		9.00						902.36
		Pension Contributions	46	41.18	41.18																			41.18
	Amazon (BACS)	Magnets	47	10.98												9.15							1.83	10.98
13/072023	Sprint Signs (VISA)	Notices for NTBS	48	17.00												14.17							2.83	17.00
13/07/2023	Lidl (BACS)	Refreshments for social	49	79.31															66.09				13.22	79.31
14/09/2023	Cerne Valley Cricket Club (BACS)	Grant award	50	752.52										752.52										752.52
14/09/2023	Microsoft (DD)	Office 365 Subscriptions	51	59.99			49.99																10.00	59.99
	` '	Car Parking Signs	52	80.21																	66.85		13.36	80.21
14/09/2023		Best allotment prizes	53	50.00															50.00					50.00
14/09/2023	Wayne Lewin (BACS)	August salary	54	858.26	828.26	30.00																		858.26
14/09/2023	NEST (BACS)	Pension Contributions	55	41.18	41.18																			41.18
	Barker-Fox Associates (BACS)	Internal Audit	56	78.75									78.75											78.75
14/09/2023	Post Office (VISA)	External audit postage	57	12.18									12.18											12.18
		Water services	58	381.52													81.08		300.44					381.52
		Surveys Fees (See PV 37)	59	8.38																		-68.02	76.40	8.38
		Grass Cutting	60	684.00												110.00				400.00	60.00		114.00	684.00
		September salary	61	893.36	828.26	41.70									11.70			11.70						893.36
		Pension Contributions	62	41.18	41.18																			41.18
		PAYE	63	542.40	542.40																			542.40
14/00/2022	Gary Foot (BACS)	Play Park Repairs	64	89.99											89.99									89.99
14/09/2023			65			1	57.08	1						1				1					11.41	68.49

14/09/2023 HMRC (BACS)	NI 6	66	114.60	114.60																	01/	11/2023	114.60
12/10/2023 Royal British Legion (VISA)	Poppy Wreath 6	67	19.29												19.29								19.29
12/10/2023 Boilerjuice Ltd (BACS)	Charles North Donation 6	68	400.00																		400.00		400.00
12/10/2023 RHS Plants (BACS)	Bulbs and Planter 6	69	72.14																	60.12		12.02	72.14
12/10/2023 Value Products Ltd (VISA)	Car Parking Signs 7	70	45.04																	37.53		7.51	45.04
12/10/2023 BDO LLP (BACS)	External audit 7	71	378.00								3	15.00										63.00	378.00
12/10/2023 Gary Foot (BACS)	Clearence of permissive path 7	72	200.00																	200.00			200.00
12/10/2023 Wayne Lewin (BACS)	October salary 7	73	893.36	828.26	41.70										11.70		11.70						893.36
12/10/2023 NEST (VISA)	Pension Contributions 7	74	41.18	41.18																			41.18
12/10/2023 Amazon (BACS)	Ink Cartridges 7	75	46.29			38.58																7.71	46.29
12/10/2023 Hardy Tree Surgeons (BACS)	Tree Works 7	76	600.00																	500.00		100.00	600.00
12/10/2023 Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge 7	77	18.00			18.00																	18.00
12/10/2023 Hugo Fox (BACS)	Internet Fees 7	78	122.28			101.90																20.38	122.28
12/10/2023 Elite Playground Inspections (BACS)	Play Equipment Inspections 7	79	72.00											42.00						18.00		12.00	72.00
12/10/2023 Gordon Bishop (BACS)	Honourarium 8	80	25.00					25.00															25.00
12/10/2023 Screwfix (BACS)	Hose Clips for signs 8	81	19.49																	16.24		3.25	19.49
09/11/2023 Lyons Gate CS Ltd (BACS)	Grass Cutting 8	82	900.00												210.00				480.00	60.00		150.00	900.00
09/11/2023 Gary Foot (BACS)	Play Park Repairs 8	83	185.00																		185.00		185.00
09/11/2023 Defibrillator Warehouse (BACS)	New pads 8	84	80.34												66.95							13.39	80.34
09/11/2023 Wayne Lewin (BACS)	November salary 8	85	869.96	828.26	41.70																	1	869.96
09/11/2023 NEST (VISA)	Pension Contributions 8	86	41.18	41.18																			41.18
09/11/2023 Minuteman Press (VISA)	Sign for Permissive Path 8	87	20.40												17.00							3.40	20.40
09/11/2023 Cerne Abbas Village Hall (BACS)	Hall Hire 8	88	36.00							36.00													36.00
09/11/2023 Richard Wilkin	Refund Burial Plot 8	89	451.67																		451.67		451.67
31/12/2023 HMRC (BACS	Employers NI		76.40	76.40																			76.40
31/12/2023 HMRC (BACS)	PAYE		361.60	361.60																			361.60
Totals		2	27462.82	8707.52	344.85	366.43	0.00	25.00	365.92	72.00 482	.04 4	17.63	800.00	473.61	1375.70	141.64	32.40	898.35	1743.40	1220.74	7880.17	2115.42	27462.82

	Receipts	Current	Budget	%	Difference	
		£	£			
	Donations	3,315.47	250.00	1326.19	3065.47	
	Precept	21,700.00	21700.00	100.00	0.00	
	Allotments	898.35	900.00	99.82	-1.65	
	Burial Ground	1,955.00	4000.00	48.88	-2045.00	
	Car Park	1,900.00	1500.00	126.67	400.00	
	Tax Rebates	6,408.54	4536.19	141.28	1872.35	
	Total Receipts	36,177.36	32886.19	110.01	-3291.17	
	Payments	£	£			24-25
LGA 1972 s112	Salaries	8,707.52	13,200.00	65.97	4492.48	14100.00
	Expenses	344.85	400.00	86.21	55.15	500.00
LGA 1972 s111	Administration	366.43	300.00	122.14	-66.43	500.00
SH&AA 1908 ss 23,26 & 42	Training	0.00	300.00	-	300.00	300.00
LGA 1972 s142 15 34 150	Honourarium	25.00	300.00	8.33	275.00	300.00
LGA 1972 s142	Association Fees	365.92	500.00	73.18	134.08	400.00
LGA 1972 s111	Hall Hire	72.00	200.00	36.00	128.00	200.00
LGA (Misc Prov)A 1953 s4	Insurance	482.04	600.00	80.34	117.96	600.00
LGA 1972 s111 & s114	Auditors	417.63	500.00	83.53	82.37	500.00
LGA 1972 s143 & s111	Grants	800.00	800.00	100.00	0.00	800.00
LGA 1972 s111	Playpark	473.61	600.00	78.94	126.39	500.00
PHA 1936 s87,LGA 1972 s142	F&E	1,375.70	2,700.00	50.95	1324.30	2000.00
	Allotments	141.64	300.00	47.21	158.36	200.00
	Burial Ground	32.40	1,000.00	3.24	967.60	1200.00
		13,604.74	21,700.00	62.69	8,095.26	22,100.00
0.00	Allotments	898.35				
211.60	Burial ground	1,743.40				
679.26	Car Park	1,220.74				
	Reserve	7,880.17				
	VAT	2,115.42				
	Total Payments	27,462.82				

# **CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

# Meetings 2024

Full Council	11 January 2024 (Th)	Godmanstone Village Hall 1900
Full Council	08 February 2024 (Th)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
Allotments	04 March 2024 (M)	On site 1300
Playground	04 March 2024 (M)	On site 1400
Car Park	04 March 2024 (M)	On site 1500
Cerne Valley Parish Council	14 March 2024 (Th)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
Burial Ground	27 March 2024 (W)	On site 1800
Footpaths and Environment	27 March 2024 (W)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
Annual Village Meeting	09 May 2024 (Th)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
CVPC AGM (Abated)	09 May 2024 (Th)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
Full Council	09 May 2024 (Th)	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 1900
Full Council	13 June 2023 (Th)	Godmanstone Village Hall 1900
CVPC AGM (Continue)	13 June 2024 (Th)	Godmanstone Village Hall 1900

# Godmanstone Flood Warden's Report

# October 2022 to October 2023

# Focusing on the Flooding of 4 Houses 14-17 January 2023



Fig. 1 Flooding Source, Thatch End Garden & down Drive to Road (A352)

Between the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to 14 January 2023 there were 15 Flood Alerts and Flood Warnings for our area, this is a high number but not unprecedented and doesn't reflect the amount of steady rain that had fallen in November and December. November had seen nearly 300mm and December 250mm in the Cerne Valley<sup>1</sup>, some rain fell in the first weeks of January 2023 but nothing of apparent concern. However there was high rainfall over a short period on the night of 13/14 January and 4 houses Flooded in Godmanstone.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> January springs started to appear in the road and the Flood Relief Channel was running. On the 4<sup>th</sup> I cleared the Flood Relief Channel as so much debris was coming down the River Cerne that it had partially blocked the channel. The Highways drains between Thatch End and the pub car park were flowing with spring water. However in the following days rainfall was relatively low and when <u>checked on 13/01/2023 the spring water was barely seeping and the drains clear.</u>

The first signs of trouble early on the Saturday morning was the foul drainage bubbling when flushing the toilet, and neighbours knocking on my door to say road flooding was getting to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.cerneabbasopengardens.org.uk/Pages/Meteo/Meteo.aspx

worrying levels. A number of highways drains outside Trinity Lodge and The Mill were blinded over by leaves (mostly from the willows by the pub). These were cleared but the water was still coming down the road at levels I have not seen in 26 years. Walking up the road I found the source of the water was the River Cerne coming through Thatch End garden, the River had come over the bank to the rear of the garage and was flowing down the drive into the road. The flood water was also running along the back of Thatch End and flooding that house and the 2 adjoining properties, Magic's Cottage and Cobwebs. The flooding in the road also flooded the Smiths Arms House where the disabled owner has a bedroom on the ground floor and relies on electrical equipment.



Fig. 2 Thatch End Foul Drain Propped Open to Take River Flooding

Also the owner of Thatch End had lifted the foul drain cover, diverting the river water into the village sewage system. Thatch End had bought the plot of land adjacent to the rear of the garage, which historically had always flooded, it looked like in creating a link from the garden into this adjoining plot the owner had created a new route for the River to flood this end of the village. I knocked on the door of Thatch End but there was no answer, so I closed up the foul drain cover and went to order sandbags in order to rebuild the hedge/bank to stop-up this flooding route and clear more drains that were blinded over.

When I went back to Thatch End a little while later I found the foul drain cover had again been propped open, I knocked on the door and the owner came out this time and I explained that I had put the drain cover back in order to avoid the sewage system backing up into

everyone's houses. The owner was verbally abusive and told me I was not to come on his land. I tried to explain I was ordering sandbags but he just shouted over me.

I wrote a letter to the owner of Thatch End explaining the consequences of flooding the sewage system and copied in those properties that I thought might be affected. I reported the situation to Wessex Water (responsible for the village sewage treatment system). Wessex Water were very busy with incidents but a Wessex Water incident engineer came out the next morning, Sunday 15<sup>th,</sup> they reported back that the owner of Thatch End had agreed to not divert flood water into the sewage system again.

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan Dorset Council delivered Sandbags (organised by Mandy Stubbs Community Officer – very helpful) but the owner of Thatch End would not talk to me so I was unable to use the sandbags and the water continued to flow into the road. I have taken a video of the flooding on this day, I wish I had taken more photos on the first day but my priority was trying to stop the situation getting worse and helping those that were flooded.

Late afternoon of the Monday 16<sup>th</sup> I went upstream to see why the River was still so high. There was one area of agricultural fields between Godmanstone and Cerne Abbas which were flooding the road and thence into the River. The area behind the dam in Cerne was empty, just the usual amount of water was flowing along the River, there was no problem in the centre of Cerne. However a considerable amount of water was running down the road from Giant Close, a lot of this flood water was coming from the adjacent fields to the north of the development and making its way to the River via the highways drains (video).



Fig. 3 Water Coming off Adjacent Fields into Giant Close & Then to Road (A352)

The flooding of Thatch End and the 3 other properties has been reported onto the EA System. The recent flooding caused elsewhere in the country by Storm Babet could happen here, it was only because of a blocking high that Ireland, Scotland and the north took the brunt of it, it could have been us and with Climate Change the storm risk is increasing.

# **Actions:**

New development will increase flooding, impermeable surfaces increase run-off. Known areas of flooding, water retention/attenuation should not be built upon.

The Godmanstone Flood Relief Channel will be strimmed 25/10/23, CVPC pay for this (F&E Budget), it should be done by 15/10/23 and is a priority due to the risk of flooding. Clearing of strimming debris from ditch to be added to contract?

Flood Warden (FW) normally clears the strimmed debris from the channel and continually the clapper bridge, however due to spinal osteoporosis it is unwise for me to do this, I shall write to Thatch End and Cobwebs to ask them to do this themselves and report blocked drains using the Dorset Council website.

FW to talk to the EA re Thatch End Flooding at a meeting in Sydling on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

In future flooding events the FW to take photos first, whilst assessing the situation to provide evidence of cause and effect.

FW to Investigate non-return valves for foul drains

Ground Water Levels clearly exacerbated the situation. Cerne Abbas Rainfall average per annum is 1485mm², the nearest Met Office weather stations are at Yeovilton, Weymouth and Fontmell Magna, their average pa is 729-896mm. Are the authorities under-estimating the problem in our and adjoining valleys due to a lack of official measurement? FW to discuss with EA 07/11/23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.cerneabbasopengardens.org.uk/Pages/Meteo/Meteo.aspx

<u>EA Floodline Warnings and Alerts:</u> Several Alerts & Warnings received for upper and lower Frome Valley and Tributaries. These are received by landline, mobile and email. Some are received too late.

#### Flood Warden's Alerts and Warnings Issued:

7 Dec '21: Alert issued. Groundwater Levels and Surface Runoff.

17 and 18th Feb '22: Flood alert issued for Storm Eunice.

22 Feb '22: Flood Alert issued.

14 Aug '22: Flood Alert. FW notified that 3 volunteers gathered several bags of straw fallen from trailers in Long St.

14 Nov '22: Flood Alert

25 Nov '22: Water backing up in tunnel under Acreman St (threatening to flood a garage) due to blocked gulley in Springfield. See below.

12 Oct '23: Flood Alert: Runoff.

#### Maintenance:

20 Nov '21 Branches and debris cleared from Millbank.

28 Feb '22 Clearing party organised for Millbank following Storm Eunice.

14 Aug '22: Notified that 3 volunteers gathered several bags of straw fallen from trailers in Long St.

16 Aug '22: Reported to DC that Long St needed sweeping due to residual straw blinding gullies.

19 July & 2 Aug '23: Phoned EA to report trees down along Millbank. No flood threat.

#### Other:

6 Jan '22: Objection to aspects of Swanhills development sent in to DC, namely increased flood risk.

11 Feb 22: email from Henry Quinney at the EA with suggestions for increasing resilience and suggestions for rewording of description of flood defences on the website. Website updated.

16th June: Guided information tour of dam and spillway for those interested parties, given by the EA.

30 Nov '22 Met Justin Neely (DC) to discuss Acreman St & Springfield screen. Photos requested.

27 Dec '22: Flood Warning issued.

4 Jan '23: email from J. Neely re sandbag store. FW has concerns about management and access. Decided not to pursue this. Householders are encouraged to prepare using website resources. See below.

0430 14 Jan '23: Flood Alarm sounded at 3 Long St, signalling Long St sewer was backing up again.

0610 14 Jan '23 rcd Late warning received form the EA.

16 Jan '23: Phoned EA re: inspection chamber overflowing outside No5 Long St.

27 July '23: Statement on Flooding in Abbey St sent to Wayne Lewin.

8 Oct '23: Reply to Wayne Lewin over minimum intervention re: "overgrowth" letter in Duck St.

#### Routine:

Cerne Abbas Flood Plan Website is up to date and continues to be maintained.

http://cerneabbasfloodplan.wixsite.com/cerneabbasfloodplan

AKP can confirm that the Environment Agency Alerts/Warning system continues to be monitored via mobile phone, landline messages and email alerts.

Dickley Down borehole data still being received as a spreadsheet via daily email.

Andrew K Popkin Cerne Abbas Flood Warden 22/10/2023