

**MINUTES OF THE CHESELBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
6TH MARCH 2023, AT CHESELBOURNE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

Present: Cllrs C Byrom, C Hampton, N Searle, G Waters, R Sewill, D Walsh

Chair: Cllr A Taylor

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 3 members of the public

Public Participation

Coronation Celebrations – A resident asked if the Parish Council would be organising any events for the Coronation, other than the photographic exercise. Has any research been undertaken as to how many households would like to take part. The Chair responded saying that, other than advertising the event in the Village News, no research had been undertaken. The idea is to go ahead on the lines of the information set out in the Village News. Something will be put on the village Facebook and WhatsApp group and there will be a flier going out in advance of the days on which it is intended that the photographs will be taken. On the days in question, a small group of people will be going ahead of the photographer knocking on doors and inviting residents to get ready to have their picture taken. As far as the Parish Council is aware, nothing else will be taking place in the village to celebrate the Coronation but, should anyone wish to organise a street party, the Parish Council would support them.

1. To receive apologies for absence

22.108 Apologies had been received from Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes and PCSO Alison Donnison.

2. Declaration of Interests

22.109 No interests were declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January 2023

22.110 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Hampton proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Waters and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chair in the presence of the meeting.

4. Matters arising – for report only

22.111 Reprofiting of the road in front of the bus shelter – Cllr Taylor contacted Highways about this, but the work has not yet been carried out. He will follow this up. It was suggested that the local Highways Officer, Corinne Hobrook, is invited to attend the site.

ACTION: CLLR TAYLOR

Grit bins – The Streetway Lane bin has been filled, as requested but the bin outside the school has not. It was agreed that new bins would be desirable at the top of Drakes Lane and another by Lyscombe Farm. Cllr Sewill and Cllr Taylor will make the locations on a map and the request will be put to Highways and costs obtained. This will be brought back to the May meeting.

ACTION: CLLRS TAYLOR & SEWILL

Playpark – At the last meeting, discussion took place regarding having a nominated person responsible for safeguarding. It was felt that a member of the Play Park Committee would be better placed for the role. Cllr Taylor reported this back to the Committee and, as yet, no response has been received.

5. Dorset Councillor’s Report

22.112 A copy of Cllr Haynes’ report had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting. A subsequent email had been received noting a future planning application for the school for a replacement building and changes to the conservatory.

6. Parish Councillors’ Reports

22.113 Cllr Waters reported that the storm gullies were emptied in Drakes Lane and at Snails Creek in February. There has been flooding north of Chebbard and Highways undertook a great deal of work to direct the flood water away from the road and into the Cheselbourne Stream via ditches. A resident has objected to the work that had been carried and expressed concern about the possible damage to the neighbouring ecology. There may also be an issue with sediment running into the chalk stream. Cllr Byrom offered to contact Nicola Hopkins of FWAG and the Environment Agency to see if there are any other solutions to this issue.

It was noted that, alongside the road leading to Chebbard, the bank is slipping into the stream.

Cllr Hampton reported that he had emailed Neil Le’Maire, Planning Enforcement Officer for Dorset Council, asking for an update on the construction of the footpath between the village hall and Brook Green. He has yet to receive a reply. Cllr Hampton noted that the bollard for the school is still being left out overnight and at weekends. Cllr Searle will raise this with the school again.

ACTION: CLLR SEARLE

Cllr Byrom raised the issue of the verge between Brook Green and the bus shelter. £500 had been set aside to dig out the brambles and nettles and to flatten the bank for planting wild flowers. Two quotes had been received – one for £1,950 and the second for £3,823. This might now be something volunteers could take on or, perhaps, something that could be done as a Coronation initiative. The alternative is just to keep it strimmed. Cllr Hampton suggested contacting Eastments for another quote. Cllr Byrom offered to speak to them. This will be brought back to the May meeting.

ACTION: CLLR BYROM

Cllr Searle – Two Community Speed Watch (CSW) sessions were held in January and February and an officer from the Dorset Police Road Safety Team joined one of the sessions. No-one was caught exceeding the speed limit. New warning letters have been instigated and will be sent to those drivers who are found to abuse CSW representatives. There are still parking issues around the school and PCSO Alison Donnison has been invited to reattend the site. There is still some dangerous parking taking place around the corner of Drakes Lane. Cllr Taylor has spoken to Corinne Holbrook from Highways about the possibility of double yellow lines being painted on the corner adjacent to the school. Should we wish to go down that route, we would need to get broad community support as well as support from our Dorset Councillor. Cllr Hampton raised the issue of enforcement, although PCSO Alison Donnison would come out on occasion and undertake enforcement. There is also some work that could be done with the school about parking safely. Cllr Sewill felt that, if we are proposing a restriction, we should also be looking at promoting an alternative. Members broadly supported the initiative and this will be brought back to the May meeting for further discussion.

7. Police, Traffic and Roads

22.114 (a) General report

Already covered under Cllr Searle's report.

(b) Police Report

Nothing relevant to Cheselbourne on this occasion. It was noted that there have been a couple of doors being tried and one forced open in a property on Streetway Lane.

(c) 20mph initiative

It had previously been agreed that the Parish Council would look at exploring a 20mph speed limit through the village. The overwhelming majority of those who responded to the village consultation in December 2022 (38 households) said they would support the 20mph limit. The application for the 20mph limit is detailed and complex but the form has now been largely completed by Cllrs Bryom, Searle and Taylor. The only item remaining is for a road traffic survey to be uploaded which, it was believed, was undertaken about five years ago. There is very little evidence to support collision data. However, residents' fear of walking through the village will carry the main weight. The application will be submitted to Dorset Council as soon as possible and they will decide whether or not the 20mph will go ahead. There has been talk of a cost between £6,000 and £12,000 and Cllr Taylor contacted Dorset Council requesting a breakdown of the cost. He reported that a recent request on a B road cost in excess of £6,000.

8. Planning Applications

22.115 No applications had been received in time for the meeting. However, P/FUL/2022/07771 Hayes Cottage, West Farm Lane – erect agricultural storage barn – had been received on the day of the meeting. Due to the time constraints, this will be discussed by email separately in order to submit a response to Dorset Council by the closing date of the 27th March.

9. Finance

22.116 To agree the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Community Heartbeat	Annual support Year 7	BACS033	151.20
A Crocker	Jan/Feb 2023 wages	BACS034	292.22
HMRC	Jan/Feb 2023 PAYE	BACS035	60.00

The total amount requested from the Precept for the month is £503.42.

Cllr Hampton proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Searle and agreed unanimously.

22.117 To accept the reconciliation of accounts and agree the position against budget

It was noted that the VAT for the year to 31st March 2022 had been received at a total of £418.79. No other comments were made.

22.118 To review the defibrillator contractors

The Parish Council currently have two contracts in place for the defibrillator at the village hall: one for the annual support and one for the emergency telephone system. The former covers the replacement of items such as batteries and pads. The latter is for the ring-around service which, it is understood, has never been used. The contract for this is paid up until the end of November 2023 and it was agreed that this will not be renewed. It was agreed that the annual support package will continue.

10. To receive an update on the grass cutting contract

22.119 Cllr Sewill reported that there are three interested parties. He has been in touch with Dorset Council to get a specification for the contractors to operate by. The areas to be cut will be confirmed with the Church. Once the specification is received, a formal request for quotes will be sent out. The PCC do not want the grass to be cut in May, but the play area will need cutting fairly soon.

11. To review the role of the DAPTC and request for Area Committee representatives

22.120 A copy of the pack issued by DAPTC had been sent to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Hampton has been the Parish Council's representative for about six years and will be stepping down from the role in May. Members are asked to consider if they would be willing to take on the role. A decision will be made at the May meeting.

12. To consider the date and items for the Annual Parish Meeting

22.121 An invitation had been issued to Chris Loder MP but, as yet no response has been received.

The Parish Council AGM will take place on Monday 15th May.

It had previously been agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on a different day from previous years – this year, namely, on a Saturday. It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Saturday 20th May. Items to be included on the agenda could include:

The Chairman's Report; Police Report; Cheselbourne Village School Head Teacher Report; Play Park update; an update from the new Vicar. Perhaps Wessex Water could be invited to attend.

13. To receive an update on the Photographic Project

22.122 Cllr Sewill informed the meeting that five or six people will be needed to support Lucy Sewill, the photographer, on the 18th and 25th March to take the photographs for the Coronation Photographic Project. Lucy will need one person to be on the reflector and someone to carry the equipment. The flier will go out to every household approximately five days before the first shoot. Dorset Archives have expressed an interest in holding the data as part of the County Archive. Cllr Hampton expressed concern that it will take a lot longer than people imagine to undertake the exercise. The flier will stress the spontaneity of the project with only a couple of minutes at each household.

14. To consider the effects of work undertaken at Chebbard

22.123 Discussed under item 7.

15. Date of next meeting

22.124 15th May 2023 commencing at 7pm at the Village Hall. This will be the AGM of the Parish Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.50pm