

# **CHESELBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026, AT CHESELBOURNE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllrs D Walsh, N Searle, R Hall

**Chair:** Cllr G Waters

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 4 members of the public and Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes

### **1. Period of Public Participation**

25.098 The speed of vehicles through the village was raised. It is appreciated that the 20mph had to be self-regulating, but it is now being ignored. There is a significant number who are clearly travelling in excess of 20mph, together with a tractor who was travelling over 20mph recently, but there has been no follow-up to enforce the 20mph and it feels more dangerous to walk through the village than it was before. In addition, the Police do not seem to be in evidence as much as they were before. There needs to be some sort of deterrent. Mr Roger Sewell kindly offered to speak to local farmers and farm contractors if it was felt that this would help. It was noted that a Community Speed Watch has not been undertaken for a while due to the weather and lack of volunteers. A request was made that additional 20mph signs could be painted on the road.

It was noted that residents could take a note of the registration number, make and model of vehicles that are speeding and report them to the Police.

In the first instance, the Parish Council will try to restart the Community Speed Watch (CSW), but volunteers are needed. Once the CSW is running, it is more likely that resources will be made available by the Police.

Would it be possible to have a solid white line put down to designate a path for walkers.

Roger Sewell raised the issue of Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) sharing their resources. He will be undertaking a walk around Dorset and some of the sponsorship raised will be used to support DWT. He is organising a guided walk from the Cheselbourne Village Hall to the Lyscombe Nature Reserve and around the site. DWT will be giving a presentation about the work they are doing on the site. This will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April, commencing 1pm.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

25.099 Apologies had been received from Cllr A Taylor (holiday).

### **3. To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any Dispensations received**

25.100 No interests were declared, and no dispensations had been requested.

### **4. Approve the minutes of the meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

25.101 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members. Cllr Walsh proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Searle. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

## **5. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

25.102 Sandbags – Additional sandbags were organised from Dorset Council, giving about 50 in the store.

## **6. Dorset Councillor’s Report**

25.103 A copy of the February 2026 report had been issued with the agenda. The contents of the report were noted. Cllr Haynes added that there a lot of sub committees that happen in Dorset Council which take up a lot of councillor time. She is on the Licencing Committee which includes taxi applications and there are a large number of these at the moment. This is because they are starting to expand Uber in the county.

## **7. To consider the PCSO’s report**

25.104 A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda. The contents of the report were noted. Cllr Searle will go back to PCSO Donnison regarding the incident recorded for Cheselbourne referring to a scam and ID fraud to see if there are more details available. There was also an incident of poaching which was reported but not recorded in the monthly report.

## **8. Finance**

### **25.105 To approve the payment of accounts for December 2025 and January 2026**

The following payments were requested:

Lloyds Bank	Account charges 10.11.25 to 25.01.26	4.25
John Lilley	Finger post repairs	165.00
A Crocker	February 2026 salary + expenses	215.85
HMRC	February 2026 PAYE	44.40
Hugo Fox	Email hosting 20.01.26 to 16.02.26	20.99
Hugo Fox	Web hosting 23.01.26 to 22.02.26	11.99
AG Tree Services	Crown raise trees on village green	216.00
Hugo Fox	Email hosting 23.01.26 to 26.03.26	20.99
HMRC	March 2026 PAYE	44.40
Magna Housing	Rent for play area	1.25
A Crocker	March 2026 salary + expenses	211.35
Dorset Council	Grass cutting June 2025 to March 2026	1,679.21

The total amount requested is £2,635.68 Cllr Walsh proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed unanimously.

### **25.106 To approve the bank reconciliation and position against budget**

A copy of the reports had been issued with the agenda. Cllr Waters proposed they were accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Searle and agreed unanimously.

### **25.107 To consider the transfer of underspent budgets to Ear Marked Reserves**

The following items were recommended for transfer to earmarked reserves at the year end:

£20 venue hire  
£653.80 play park repairs and replacement  
£260 Defibrillator costs

Cllr Walsh proposed the recommendation is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed unanimously.

## **9. Parish Councillors' Reports**

### 25.108 Asset Management Report

(i) To consider and agree the Dorset Council SLA for grass cutting for 2026 at a cost of £1,635.52, plus £301 for collection after first cut. Cllr Searle proposed the SLA is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will sign and return the SLA.

**ACTION: CLERK**

(ii) To consider the quote for fingerpost repairs at Dewlish Junction at £250 – Dewlish Parish Council have agreed to pay 50% of the cost. Cllr Searle proposed the work is undertaken. This was seconded by Cllr Walsh and agreed unanimously.

### 25.109 Play Park Report

A copy of the latest report had been tabled. No concerns were highlighted. We are still awaiting a quote from a local contractor for the painting of the swings.

### 25.110 Highways

Nothing to report.

### 25.110 Website and IT

Cllr Walsh has uploaded the Bring Your Own Device Policy. Since then, the policy has been combined with the model IT Policy. Cllr Walsh proposed the combined policy is adopted. This was seconded by Cllr Searle and agreed unanimously. The combined policy will be posted to the website in place of the BYOD policy.

**ACTION: CLLR WALSH**

## **10. To consider planning applications**

25.111 P/LBC/2026/00164 Chapel access to Lyscombe Farm, Piddletrenthide – Carry out repairs to ruined Preist's House. This was reviewed by the Parish Council and support was agreed by email and submitted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026.

## **11. Update on PlusBus**

25.112 The original scheme has now closed, and the balance of the account divided amongst the councils involved. £500 had been transferred to Cheselbourne. Dorset Council had agreed that two further parishes could join the group, but they were not asked to contribute to the scheme. This created a few issues with existing members, and the Chair of the group has closed the bank account of the group and returned the funds to the various parish councils. There should be a meeting taking place in March at which point further information will be obtained. Cllr Searle will report back to the May meeting.

**ACTION: CLLR SEARLE**

## **12. Recruiting for the Future**

25.113 An advert was placed in the Village News as we currently have two vacancies. It was suggested that an additional page could be added to the Parish Council website setting out the work of the

Council and including information for any potential councillors. Cllr Walsh will look into setting up a new page and liaise with the regarding content.

**ACTION: CLLR WALSH**

**13. To consider the Annual Parish Meeting**

25.114 A request was made that Dorset Wildlife Trust are invited to return and follow up on their talk at the last Annual Parish Meeting. An email will be sent to Brian Bleese and Rob Farrington inviting them back. Also, Dorset Police will be invited.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**14. Date of next meeting**

25.115 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May and will be the Annual Parish Meeting, followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. The meeting will commence at 6pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.24hrs.