

CHESELBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2025, FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT CHESELBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs D Walsh, G Waters, R Hall

Chair: Cllr A Taylor

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 0 members of the public

1. Period of Public Participation

25.065 No matters were raised.

2. Apologies for absence

25.066 Apologies had been received from Cllr N Searle and Dorset Councillor Jill Haynes.

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

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

4. Approve the minutes of the meetings held on 1st September 2025

25.068 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 Taylor. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

25.069 Parish Council Survey – The survey was discussed by Cllrs Waters, Searle and Taylor with input from Cllr Walsh on the 9th October 2025. Cllr Taylor then completed the online survey on behalf of the Parish Council and submitted it on the 10th October 2025.

6. Dorset Councillor's Report

25.070 A copy of the September report had been issued with the agenda.

7. To consider the PCSO's report

25.071 A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda.

8. Parish Councillors' Reports

25.072 Asset Management Report

(i) To consider the purchase of new storage boxes for the book exchange – Unfortunately, the previous plastic boxes were stolen so members were reluctant to spend money on purchasing more. However, the books are currently in cardboard boxes and are getting damaged. Cllr Searle was given authority to purchase three new boxes at a cost of £33.99. It was agreed that, should they be stolen again, it is unlikely that the Parish Council will pay for them to be replaced again.

ACTION; CLLR SEARLE

(ii) To consider the purchase of new litter picking sticks and high viz vests – It was agreed that Cllr Searle be given the authority to purchase these up to a value of £20.

ACTION: CLLR SEARLE

(iii) To consider the purchase of 20mph stickers for bins – After some discussion, it was felt that it would be more beneficial to keep the new road signs clean and free from vegetation, but the purchase of stickers will be monitored and will be considered at the March meeting.

(iv) To review the Asset Management Report – A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda. New residents have taken over looking after the Streetway Lane flowerbox and Cllr Taylor will contact them in the new year to ensure they have everything they need.

The new fingerpost has been installed in Streetway Lane. Thanks are extended to John Lilley for another excellent job.

25.073 Play Park Report: To consider the Play Area Inspection Report

A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda. A response has been received from Copperbeach regarding the damage on the new equipment, and they have requested additional information (e.g. photographs) regarding the issue.

ACTION: CLLR HALL

The swings need to be repainted. Cllr Taylor will contact a few local businesses to see if they would be willing to quote for the work.

Cllr Searle did contact Thomas Hardy School to see if any of the pupils undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award would like to volunteer for some of the work. However, this would involve members and other local volunteers being DBS checked. The idea was discounted.

Some of the trees around the village green need their canopy lifted. The contractor being asked to undertake the work at the play area will be asked to look at this as well.

ACTION: CLLR HALL

Grass cutting – Dorset Council have now completed the first year of cutting and, after a few teething problems, it was agreed that they have done a good job. It was agreed that the contract will be renewed for next year.

25.074 Highways – To receive an update on the 20mph proposal

The 20mph limit through the village is now in place. Cllr Taylor has given some feedback to Tony Burden, Road Safety Manager for Dorset Council regarding the implementation of the speed limit reduction. The main issue of concern being the timing relating to the replacement of speed limit signs. It was agreed that, if the Parish Council had been informed when the work was going to start and the fact that it would take a week, the Parish Council would have been able to notify the village, and this undoubtedly would have prevented many of the adverse comments made on social media.

25.075 Website and IT

(i) To consider the Bring Your Own Device Policy – A draft of the policy had been issued with the agenda. Cllr Walsh has looked at this and asked about the protection of data in transit and the use of VPNs. He will review the policy in more detail and this will be brought back to the January meeting.

ACTION: CLLR WALSH

9. Finance

25.076 To approve the payment of accounts for October and November 2025

The following payments were requested:

Community Transport	Annual subscription to PlusBus	BACS108	350.00
Lloyds Bank	Charges 10.07 to 09.08.25		4.25
Play Inspection Co	Annual inspection fee	BACS109	113.94
Hugo Fox	Email hosting September 2025		20.99
John Lilley	Streetway Lane fingerpost	BACS110	165.00
A Crocker	October salary + expenses	BACS111	246.88
HMRC	October 2025 PAYE	BACS112	44.60
Hugo Fox	Web hosting September		11.99
Hugo Fox	Email hosting October 2025		20.99
Hugo Fox	Web hosting October 2025		11.99
A Crocker	November salary + expenses	BACS113	203.22
HMRC	November 2025 PAYE	BACS114	44.40
A Crocker	McAfee Annual subscription	BACS115	115.99

The total amount requested is £1,354.24. Cllr Waters proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed unanimously.

25.077 To approve the bank reconciliation and position against budget

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

25.078 To agree the budget and precept setting process for 2026/2027

A meeting will be arranged for the end of November/early December to progress a draft budget for 2026/27.

10. To receive an update on PlusBus

25.079 In her report, circulated before the meeting, Cllr Searle noted that the number of people using the service is reducing. She has another meeting in March 2026 at which a decision will be made as to whether the service continues.

Community Transport Group – A report had been issued with the agenda. No decision will be made regarding the proposal for emergency travel until after the March 2026 meeting, at which point more clarity regarding the proposed taxi service should be available.

11. Remembrance Day Update

25.080 This will be held on the 11th November. The service will be held at 10.45am at the Church and Cllr Walsh will attend to represent the Parish Council.

12. Date of next meeting

25.081 The next meeting will be held on Monday 5th January 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.12hrs.