

**CHESELBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT**  
**CHESELBOURNE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs N Searle, R Sewell, G Waters,  
**Chair:** Cllr A Taylor  
**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker  
**Also present:** 6 members of the public and Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes

**1. Public Participation Period**

24.077 Concern was expressed over the recent local break-ins and fly tipping on Streetway Lane. Residents asked if there was any possibility of extra police patrols in the area. Cllr Searle offered to speak to PCSO Donnison about this and it was agreed that it may be possible to arrange a security awareness event at a later date.

Mr Russell from Lyscombe Farm informed the meeting that he would shortly be submitting a planning application to Dorset Council to rebuild Nettlecombe Farmhouse. This would involve demolishing the existing house and replacing it with a slightly smaller, eco-friendly house, set in 66 acres which will also be managed by Dorset Wildlife Trust. Mr Russell shared some artist's impression of the proposal. A planning application will be submitted in due course at which point it will be put before the Council for comment.

**2. To receive apologies for absence**

24.078 Apologies had been received from Cllr Dennis Walsh, Cllr Roger Hall and PCSO Alison Donnison.

**3. To receive Declarations of Interest**

24.079 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

**4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

24.080 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members. Cllr Searle 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.

**5. Matters arising from the meeting for report only**

24.081 Cllr Sewill has written to Jonathan Mair, Head of Legal Services and the Planning Officer regarding the footpath from the village hall to the play park. No response has been received to date. Cllr Haynes said she would be happy to assist where possible.

The cost of the replacement grit bin at Kingcombe Farm has now been reimbursed.

## **6. Dorset Councillor's Report**

24.082 A copy of the October report had been issued with the agenda. Cllr Haynes explained that, as the new Council was only elected in May, there is still very little to report. Her November report concentrated on the Dorset Council Plan which has been sent to the Council's Overview Committee for scrutiny. A 'Vision Statement' has been produced, highlighting the four key priority areas: housing, climate crisis, the economy and community. There is currently no detail in the Plan and no indication of how it will be funded. Dorset Council will be setting its budget next month.

## **7. To consider the PCSO's Report**

24.083 A copy of the report had been attached with the agenda. Cllr Searle will speak to PCSO Donnison to ask what follow up is undertaken regarding the reports of theft, etc that are recorded in the report.

## **8. Parish Councillors' Reports**

24.084 Members are reminded that they should submit their reports ten days before the meeting date so they can be included with the agenda.

Cllr Searle reported that she has been in touch with Roger Bond regarding the damaged Chebbard finger post. The initial thought is that it will cost in the region of £400 to have it repaired and Dewlish Parish Council have offered to pay 50% of the cost. Roger Bond will collect the top of the sign and Dorset Highways will collect the post. Mr Bond will then provide a more detailed quote for the work and a request for funding will also be submitted to the Campaign for Rural England.

## **9. Finance**

24.085 To not the Clerk's National Pay Award to be back dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

The award was noted, and the Clerk's pay will be amended accordingly.

24.086 To agree the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Dorset Tree & Garden	Cut play area and green	BACS067	100.00
BDO	External audit YE 31.03.24	BACS068	252.00
Info Commissioner	GDPR subscription 2024/25	SO	35.00
DAPTC	Planning training	BACS069	30.00
DAPTC	Clerks' conference	BACS070	19.00
A Crocker	Sept/Oct 2024 salary	BACS071	464.09
HMRC	Sept/Oct 2024 PAYE	BACS072	99.00
Hugo Fox	Web hosting	DDR	11.99

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A total of £1,011.08 was requested.

Cllr Taylor proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Waters and agreed unanimously.

**24.087 To agree the bank reconciliation and position against budget as at 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

Copies of the reports had been issued with the agenda. No comments were made, and the reports were noted.

**24.088 To agree the budget and precept setting process for 2025/2026**

A meeting date has been set for the end of November and a draft budget will be brought back to the January meeting.

**10. To consider planning applications**

**24.089 P/VOC/2024/05306 Deya, Streetway Lane – Erection of porch & rear extension, alterations to garage & demolition of conservatory**

Members had no objection to the application and a response had been submitted to Dorset Planning.

**11. To consider the Parish Council's involvement in the Planning Process**

24.090 No further information at this stage.

**12. To receive an update on the play area**

24.091 Cllr Taylor reported that Cllr Hall had agreed to undertake regular monthly inspections of the play area. A draft inspection sheet will be drawn up for consideration. The inspections will then be undertaken by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, with the inspection sheet sent to the Clerk, in order for any necessary action required to be included on the next agenda.

**13. To receive an update on PlusBus and consider on-going support**

24.092 Cllr Searle attended the six-monthly meeting of PlusBus on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. The scheme is £81.40 in credit to the end of March 2025. A further £500 will be requested from Cheselbourne for the period April to September 2025. There are currently four registered members from Cheselbourne. It was agreed that the service is worthwhile from the perspective of the whole area but not necessarily for Cheselbourne. This may be an issue of awareness, and a monthly notice will be included in the Village News to advertise the bus service. It was noted that Cheselbourne's contribution is key, and, without it, the initiative is likely to fold. In principle, the Parish Council will continue to support PlusBus but it will be regularly monitored.

**14. To receive an update on the EV charging points in the layby opposite Hillview Cottages**

24.093 A feasibility study was undertaken by Dorset Council regarding the installation of an EV charging

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point and the site opposite Hillview Cottages was chosen as the best and most cost-effective option. A consultation was then held with those houses closest to the site. Eight responses have been received. Concerns were raised by the residents regarding parking for the nearby houses, ownership of the site, parking for the church, buses turning, amongst others. These have been passed to Dorset Council by Cllr Searle. The next stage would be a whole community engagement event once Dorset Council has responded to the concerns raised. Cllr Searle stressed that, at this time, no decision has been made on the matter.

It was suggested that another note should be put around to the houses who had the initial consultation saying that no decision had been made at this point and thanking them for their responses to date.

## **15. DAPTC**

### **24.094 To consider the DAPTC resolutions and grant authority for the Parish Council representative to vote on behalf of the Council**

Cllr Sewell is the Parish Council's representative with DAPTC and he hopes to be able to attend the AGM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Members are happy for to support the DAPTC motion to transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee and for Cllr Searle to vote on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **24.095 To confirm and accept the 30% increase in subscription fees**

Cllr Taylor proposed that we continue with membership of DAPTC. This was seconded by Cllr Waters and agreed unanimously.

## **16. To receive an update on the 20mph speed limit reduction**

24.096 This has now gone out to public consultation which closes on the 14<sup>th</sup> November. It was noted that according to the plans from Dorset Council, the speed limit reduction does extend up to The Manor House. Cllr Taylor confirmed that he had spoken to the Road Safety Team at Dorset Council regarding this and it had been confirmed by them that this was an error and, in fact, if it is approved, the reduction in the speed limit will start/end at the existing 30mph limit zone by The Manor House.

## **17. To consider communications and how best to reach as many residents as possible**

24.097 Following the September meeting, Cllr Searle has put a notice in Village News asking for volunteers and only one person responded. It was suggested that ad-hoc signs could be put out prior to specific events taking place rather than people thinking they are committing to something long-term.

It was further suggested that perhaps contact could be made with the Church PCC as they had a good turnout of volunteers for clearing the churchyard.

Contact will also be made with the school to ask if they could put something out in their newsletter.

**18. To consider a response regarding the Central Government consultation regarding proxy voting at parish council meetings and the possible need for hybrid meetings**

24.098 Following the issue of the consultation, concerns had been raised regarding the problem of predetermination if voting by proxy is allowed. In addition, smaller councils would struggle to afford the equipment required to undertake hybrid meetings.

**19. Remembrance Sunday**

24.099 Monday 11<sup>th</sup> at 10.45am in the school playground. Cllr Taylor and Cllr Searle will attend to lay the wreath and will then transfer it to the church memorial after the event.

**20. Date of next meeting**

24.100 The next meeting will be on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025, commencing 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.28hrs.