

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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25th November 2015

To: All Members of the Partnership

MARINE & ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

Dear Member

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING** of the **MARINE & ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP**, to be held in the **PETER TRIM HALL, ST. GEORGE'S CENTRE, REFORNE, PORTLAND**, on **WEDNESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 2015**, commencing at 7.00 pm when the business set out below will be transacted.

It is the Council's intention that all meetings of the Council and its Committees be recorded aurally.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Bennett
Assistant Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest** – to receive any declarations from Councillors or Officers of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests regarding matters to be considered at this meeting, together with a statement on the nature of those interests
3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 2nd September 2015** (attached)
4. **Minute Update and Matters Arising**
5. **Chiswell / Flood Limitation** – to receive any updates regarding storage of sand bags
6. **Dry-Stone Walls** – to receive any reports of progress on repairs to damaged walls and acquiring funding for training etc.
7. **Neighbourhood Plan** – to receive a report from Andy Matthews and update on conservation area review
8. **Broadband on the Island** – to receive any updates (see attached)
9. **Publication of Coastal Access Report: Lyme Regis to Rufus Castle and Consultation** – to discuss any feedback has been received regarding the consultation
10. **Parking on the Island** – at the request of Cllr. Gover to consider provision
11. **Refuse Bins** – to consider any update on Working for a Better Portland's petition
12. **Portland's Visitor Information Centre** – to receive an update from Mr Deadman
13. **Portland Maps** – at the request of Mr Deadman to discuss Council funding for more maps (see attached)

14. **Pocket Parks** – to consider a Government initiative (see attached)
15. **Litter on West Weares** – at the request of Cllr. Wild to consider action (see attached)
16. **Clearance of Vegetation** – to discuss the Council’s role and buying equipment
17. **Restoration of Quarries** – to discuss issues of vegetation and quarries raised by Cllr. Margaret Leicester (see attached)
18. **Waste Collection** – to consider the reply from Dorset Waste Partnership (attached)
19. **Standard Agenda Items** (by exception)
 - (a) Disused Quarries (Portland Town Plan 2B)
 - (b) Litter and Fly-Tipped Material (PTP 2C)
 - (c) Run-Down Areas (PTP 2I)
 - (d) Open Spaces, Hedgerows, Footpaths and Dry-Stone Walls (PTP 2E, 2F)
20. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Marine & Environment Partnership will be held on Wednesday, 2nd March 2016, starting at 7.00 pm.

MEMBERSHIP:-

Cllr. Sue Lees (Chair)	Portland Town Council
Cllr. Sandy West (Deputy Chair)	Portland Town Council
All Town Councillors	Portland Town Council
Vacancy	Weymouth & Portland Borough Council
Simon King	Economic Regeneration, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council
Matt Ryan	Tourism, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council
Derek Luckhurst	Agincare
Jen Reeves	CRAB / Agincare
Cllr. Sue Lees	Chesil Equestrian Centre
Philip George	Crown Estate
Eddie Gilliver	Dorset Marine Network
Sgt. Andy Corbin	Dorset Police Marine Section
Sam Hamer	Dorset Wildlife Trust
??????	Environment Agency
Angie Mustill	Heights Hotel
Robert Sansom	HM Coastguard and Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Alison Smith	Jurassica
Victoria Webbon	Land Trust
Geoff Peters	National Coastwatch Institution
Stephanie Ashman	Natural England
Ruth Carpenter	Natural England
Martin Cade	Portland Bird Observatory Trust
Mr P. Stringer	Portland Boat Club
Andy Matthews	Portland Community Partnership
Sandie Wilson	Portland Port Ltd
Dave Ackerley	Portland Ranger
Adam Butcher	Portland Ranger
Charles Frampton	Portland Sculpture and Quarry Trust
Hannah Sofaer / Paul Crabtree	Portland Sculpture and Quarry Trust
Cllr. Rod Wild	Portland Seafarers Support
Bob Elliott	Quality Time Training Ltd
Rowena Riley	The Churches Conservation Trust
Peter Allam	Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy
Peter Staddon	Working for a Better Portland

Requests for agenda items are welcome from all members of the Partnership. They should be sent to the Clerk no less than two weeks before the date of the meeting.

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MARINE & ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD IN THE OSPREY LEISURE CENTRE, CASTLETOWN, PORTLAND ON WEDNESDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillors Ms S. Lees (Chair), Ms J. Atwell, G. Chadwick, Mrs S. Cocking, C. Flack, D. Symes, D. Thurston, Mrs S. West and R. Wild, Jen Reeves (Agincare, CRAB), Philip George (Crown Estate), Mike Deadman (Heights Hotel Tourist Advice Centre) and Andy Matthews (Portland Community Partnership)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and one member of the public.

1080 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. J. Draper, C. Gover and Jason Webb (Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Derek Luckhurst (Agincare), Rowena Riley (Churches Conservation Trust), Natural England, Peter Allam (Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy) and Peter Staddon (Working for a Better Portland).

1081 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

1082 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD JUNE 2015

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record. (For: 12 votes, Against: 0 votes, Abstentions: 1 vote).

1083 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

a) Minute 1067 – Dry-Stone Walls

Mr George said the Court Leet was willing to provide funds for training in dry-stone wall construction.

b) Minutes 1069 – Castletown Development

Ms Reeves reported that planning permission had been granted for the local shop to become a convenience store and for a heritage centre to be created in the naval bakehouse, with another pending for the public conveniences.

c) Minute 1074 – Cheyne Weares

Further to the Minute Update the Clerk said he now had documentation for small works contracts and quotations.

1084 – CHISWELL / FLOOD LIMITATION

Mr Matthews said the Community Partnership was holding some money made available by the Storm Wallace initiative, pending the receipt of suitable advice. Nick Reed of the Environment Agency was due to recommend a storage facility for sand-bags, though this might cost several thousand pounds. A motor cycle store was an alternative at about £1,300, which could be secured and transported with a truck.

Cllr. West was concerned that some people had been left out from a public meeting and the Borough seemed to be making all the decisions.

Cllr. Thurston advised that the Sea Cadets had been offered the use of a 40' container, but Cllr. Wild thought that one 10' in length was preferable.

Cllr. Chadwick suggested Agincare might provide a site for the sand-bag store and Ms Reeves agreed to check. Mr Matthews offered to ask IPACA the same question.

Cllr. Wild said flood procedures were among a number of updates to the Emergency Plan, which were with the Clerk for typing.

Lastly Mr Matthews announced that Nick Reed would be speaking at the AGM of the Community Partnership on flood issues. The Environment Agency was wanting to recruit more people to be flood wardens.

1085 – DRY-STONE WALLS

The discussion covered a number of issues. Two speakers highlighted the need for wall repairs along the road to the Bill, Cllr. Lees pointed out that previous work had been concentrated on walls with high visibility. Toilet facilities were not available for the volunteers more often than not. She also would write again to seek more financial support for training with the longer term hope of setting up a Portland examination centre for dry-stone wall skills.

1086 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mr Matthews spoke to his written report. Asked about further public consultations, he said the Working Group was concentrating on the economic part of the Plan at present and looking for proactive support in this from the Borough.

Cllr. Chadwick was worried that the Plan appeared not to be progressing as fast as it should. Mr Matthews thought that with the current emphasis more influence could be placed on development at Osprey Quay.

Cllr. Wild remained concerned that recommendations for the conservation area review continued to be ignored.

1087 – BROADBAND ON THE ISLAND

Mr Matthews stated that the County was trying to improve the provision for industrial areas through leisure and tourism grant funding. Internet access at Osprey Quay was still weak.

1088 – PUBLICATION OF COASTAL ACCESS REPORT: LYME REGIS TO RUFUS CASTLE AND CONSULTATION (ends 2nd September 2015)

Cllr. Lees said she had had a large personal involvement in the Rufus Castle to Lulworth study, but had heard nothing about it since.

Mr Matthews said the Community Partnership had responded to the consultation.

Cllr. Lees also wondered whether landowners would allow the coastal footpath to be set back from the current track. Mr George said he had been assured that landowners would be consulted.

1089 – PORTLAND'S ECONOMIC FUTURE

Mr Matthews explained that the local business board had drafted a vision document and were organising two workshops to publicise and review it. Reference was also made to the sizeable Coastal Communities Fund the government was making available.

1090 – STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS (by exception)

a) Disused Quarries

Cllr. Flack informed members that plans for a solar park at Independent Quarry had been approved. Cllr. Cocking advised that she had circulated literature among Council members about the proposed development at Coombefield Quarry.

b) Litter and Fly-Tipped Material

Members compared notes on areas cleared of rubbish and problems still occurring. The Clerk was asked to write to the Waste Partnership regarding refuse left lying around after weekly bin collections.

c) Run-Down Areas

Cllr. West commented that the newly-installed plants along Ventnor Road had improved the look of the street.

Cllr. Chadwick said all the new bollards had now been erected in Fortuneswell. This had some effect on drivers crossing from Spring Gardens into Ventnor Road, but not all.

There was general approval for the appearance of Easton and Victoria Gardens. Cllr. Wild wondered whether the Court Leet might be willing to fund wheelchair access to Victoria Gardens and Mr George agreed to ask.

d) Open Spaces, Hedgerows, Footpaths and Dry-Stone Walls

Cllr. Cocking commented on the vegetation growing over the pavement along Southwell Road. The Clerk undertook to pursue the issue.

Cllr. Lees referred to a complaint she had received about tractor marks along footpath no. 6 by Westcliff. She was informed that this needs to be reported to the County's footpaths officer. Mr George also noted it.

Cllr. Flack drew attention to mossy pavements along Mallams and King Street. He will notify the Borough of this.

1091 – ISSUES RAISED BY PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

It was proposed by Cllr. Thurston and **RESOLVED** – that three specific contractors be asked to provide quotations for the remedial work at Cheyne Weares.

(For: 13 votes, Against: 0 votes, Abstentions: 0 votes)

Mr Deadman said he had been informed by the County that work was due to start at New Ground and wondered why approval had been given.

Cllr. Wild said there had been concerns expressed recently about traffic problems in Avalanche Road, which had simply enhanced his previous reservations about the IPACA project.

Cllr. Flack reported a recent serious rockfall along West Weares.

The Clerk was asked to obtain litter-pickers from the Borough for a forthcoming clean-up.

1092 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman advised members that the next meeting of the Partnership was schedule to take place on Wednesday, 2nd December 2015, but said there was the possibility of an earlier meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

Signed (Chair) Date

Minute Update and Matters Arising

a) Minute 1083(a) – Dry Stone Walls

See Agenda Item 6.

b) Minute 1083(c) – Cheyne Weares

This is a priority for the Council and the quotation documents have still to be completed.

c) Minute 1084 – Chiswell / Flood Limitation

See Agenda Item 5.

d) Minute 1085 – Dry Stone Walls

See Agenda Item 6.

e) Minute 1086 – Neighbourhood Plan

See Agenda Item 7.

f) Minute 1087 – Broadband on the Island

See Agenda Item 8.

g) Minute 1088 – Publication of Coastal Access Report

See Agenda Item 9.

h) Minute 1089 – Portland's Economic Future

See Agenda Item 7.

i) Minute 1090(b) – Litter and Fly Tipped Material

See Agenda Item 18 for reply to Clerk's letter.

j) Minute 1090(c), para 3 – Victoria Gardens

We have no news on funding as yet.

k) Minute 109 (d) – Open Spaces, Hedgerows, Footpaths and Dry-Stone Walls

Cllr Wild may have taken action with regard to Southwell Road. The Clerk has notified Dorset Highways about the mossy pavements in Fortuneswell. See also Agenda Item 16.

From: Superfast Dorset
Sent: 30 September 2015



More than 60,000 properties in Dorset can access better broadband now. Our latest figures show that 14.7% of these people have switched to fibre. This is a promising start, but with our overall take-up target of 30% (expected to rise to 50%) we still have lots of work to do. Your continued efforts to keep encouraging people to get fibre broadband is guaranteed to keep take-up figures from levelling off.

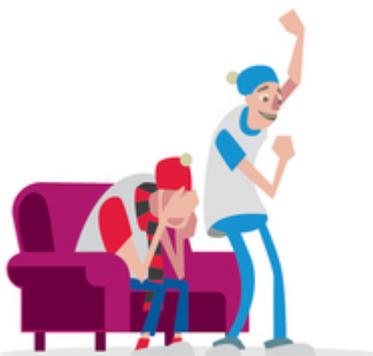
How do I know how my community is doing?

A [take-up leader board](#) is now available! See where take up is growing the fastest, and where people could use some extra encouragement to boost take-up. We show take-up by ward because that's how the data is supplied to us!

Key points to help boost take up

It's not a hard sell! [Where fibre is available](#), we need to be telling residents that:

- current broadband speeds won't change. People must switch their service to fibre broadband.
- actual speeds at individual properties will vary and not all properties in a community will have access at the same time.
- fibre broadband is now more affordable than ever. The cost of a new fibre service will depend on what the customer orders and [which provider they choose](#).



High take-up means everyone benefits!

Better take-up will help us realise the benefits of our programme, such as boosting economic growth and helping us shift our public services online. The more people with better broadband, the more the whole community benefits.

There are plenty of resources available to you to help us get the message across. If you want printed materials or leaflets sent to you, [get in touch](#).

We also have online resources, such as [written and video case studies](#) which tell individuals' stories of their broadband/superfast journey – and how their lives have changed as a result. Cerne Abbas is doing a cracking job of making the most of being better connected. [Watch the video!](#)

And encourage people to follow [@superfastdorset on Twitter](#) or [sign up for our e-newsletter](#) to find out more about Dorset's digital initiatives, including support available for businesses and digital inclusion.



Portland Maps

Portland Visitor Information Centre, situated at The Heights Hotel, operates a Visitor Information service to both visitors and locals alike. The main aim of the service is to promote the island, and all that it offers, with a gentle reminder that Portland is more than just a lighthouse and then a drive home.

Helping to raise awareness of local projects, visitor attractions and ever the ever-increasing number of island events, the map is a great way to help promote businesses, and ultimately improve the local economy. Until recently, the map has mainly been funded by the Portland Community Partnership.

However, due to the increased number of 'outlets' for the map (shops, Portland Castle etc), demand has increased because of this. We would consider it a great shame if we were unable to produce any more, as these are a real benefit to the visitor, not to mention the local economy. Keeping people spending their money on the island helps everyone, and we'd like to ask the Town Council if they would consider assisting with the next round of maps, with the main reason being to help the local economy.

To clarify, the maps are not date perishable, so any outlets stocking them will not need to worry about them being fresh and up to date. Having said that, from experience, most outlets don't have them long enough to worry about this being an issue.

I have attached a quote, but in short, here are some figures that may help.

3,000	£622
5,000	£715
10,000	£896

Mike Deadman
[Edited]

Pocket Parks

Received from the Borough:-

Slice of the Big Apple Coming to a Neighbourhood Near You

Some of England's most unloved spaces will be transformed into Manhattan-style "pocket parks".

WHAT?

Government initiative - funding to transform a small, unloved, urban patch in your area into a little green oasis! Think Paley Park, New York ... wildlife habitats, run-down gardens etc.

Especially welcome are applications from urban areas where there are significantly deprived wards according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation rankings. This may be particularly relevant to Westham, Weymouth and Fortuneswell, Portland.

WHO?

Community groups supported by **local authorities** to make bids.

POCKET PARK?

"A Pocket Park is a piece of land of up to 0.4 hectares (although many are around 0.02 hectares, the size of a tennis court) which may already be under grass but is unused, undeveloped or derelict".

FUNDING?

Funding up to £10,000 capital and £5,000 revenue per project.

DEADLINE - TIGHT!

Thursday, December 10th at 5.00 pm.

Please contact me [name supplied] to facilitate the partnership between community and local authority.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Department for Communities and Local Government are particularly interested in enabling **communities living in deprived urban areas** who currently have less access to green space to take the lead in improving their public space. As such we

would welcome applications from urban areas where there are significantly deprived wards according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation rankings (2015).

There is no prescription on what a pocket park should look like and we welcome both innovative and traditional proposals. We are also keen to see applications from projects aiming to improve their local town centre or high street with a community green space. The aim is to increase access to good quality green space in a sustainable and community-led manner.

All support will need to be spent by the end of the 2015/16 financial year. We appreciate the window of opportunity is short - which is why we would appreciate your help in raising awareness of the scheme and hope you will be able to disseminate this information now, amongst eligible communities and partners of whom you think this will be of interest, and who are likely to be in a position to deliver.

Any questions please contact us at pocketparks@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

Follow this link for the prospectus,
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/474368/151103_Pocket_Parks_Prospectus.pdf.

The application form and frequently asked questions can be found here,
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pocket-parks-support-for-communities-to-manage-small-green-spaces>.

[Edited]

Litter on West Weares

Cllr. Wild reports that the Dorset Waste Partnership says it is not responsible for dealing with the problem. He suggests starting a campaign to form a volunteer group to take action.

Restoration of Quarries

Councillor Margaret Leicester wrote two e-mails to Cllr Wild in October. They include the following points:-

[Cotoneaster and buddleia have their] “good side.” “Cotoneaster actually maintains the old spoil heaps from crumbling and stops youngsters cycling and climbing over them, dislodging the heaps to the detriment of walkers. Buddleia is great for butterflies. There is one on the edge of Admiralty [Quarry] that was always totally covered with red admirals and peacocks. Why must everywhere only cater for the blue butterflies? These are prolific in some areas, if only [people] knew where to look.

“Could the Town Council take a lead as a body? Dorset Wildlife Trust might take more notice than us individuals approaching them with our concerns.”

[Regarding minerals,] “I have just received my Local Plan copy and as mentioned the so called Quarry Park appears to cover the whole of Tophill quarries. This was not what I originally proposed with Trevor Poole of ARC. We wanted the old hand worked quarries ie Tout, King Barrow and the Tunnels via Inmosthay protected, with the route from King Barrow into the High Angle Battery also protected for its historical content and association with the stone industry.

“The Plan identifies Bowers, Inmosthay, Tout, King Barrow, Admiralty and Broadcroft where crushing has taken place, which I feel is ridiculous. [Because of] recent quarrying and mining activity there is nothing left of the historic quarrying methods visible in the modern quarries. They can only be seen in the three Northern quarries, Tout, Top of Inmosthay and King Barrow, which have not been touched for nearly a hundred years. These three show the historic remains of old methods of working. They are therefore historically of interest and form the original concept of a quarry park. NONE of the others do as they have all had crushing taking place over the past 20 years leaving just a big hole in the ground.

“Sadly this is one operator’s excuse not to consider restoration of any kind. They obviously have not even discussed [this] with Crown Estate or [deleted], who have actually paid out more cash towards improvements. Also [deleted] recognise important elements within their holdings that they are prepared to protect, like the geological stack in [deleted] Quarry.”

[Edited]



901
28 SEP 2015

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Telephone: 01305 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dorsetwastepartnership.gov.uk

Website: www.dorsetforyou.com

Date: 22 September 2015

Ask for: [REDACTED]

Portland Town Council
Council Offices
Fortuneswell
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DT5 1LW

Dear Mr Looker

Re: Waste Collection Services

I am in receipt of your letter dated 21 September 2015 highlighting the collection issues that you have been experiencing.

As per our discussion, I can confirm that the new management team that I am part of have already identified some areas of concern and we are working with crews to bring a better service to the residents of Portland. All of our vehicles are fitted with brushes and shovels and there is an expectation that if a spillage occurs the crew make a reasonable attempt to clean it up.

In addition to this, we are reviewing the collection rounds that are currently in place as it appears the service has been a bit fragmented. It is our intention to review these early next year and we will then consult with all parties in due course.

Also, as discussed, I can confirm that we plan to carry out a number of ward walks and meet with councillors and any interested parties to discuss concerns and listen to ideas.

Clearly, there is a lot to do and I ask that you are patient with us whilst the changes take place. I believe that we are now beginning to resolve a number of resident complaints and I am confident that there will be a more visible presence of the Dorset Waste Partnership supervision team on Portland.

Should you have any further problems please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Operations and Transport Manager