

Chairman's Report April 2021

Wendy and I have had are usual telephone conversations about matters for the agenda. Cllr Mrs. S. Batten and I attended the DATPC meeting and I hope to attend a meeting with Simon Hoare later this week.

DATPC

You will receive a copy of the minutes in time. It was an interesting meeting where we discussed the Dorset local plan. The main point to come out of this was the lack of infrastructure in it, with roads in particular being a big problem with increased traffic on local roads due to increased housing. There will be further consultations later this year.

Zoom Meeting with Simon Hoare MP

I attended this meeting which was very interesting, the subjects discussed - speed limits, litter and fly tipping. There is to be a National Campaign for this to be called "Don't be a tosser".

Police cover at Verwood - no local sergeant there from 1st June until October.

Also discussed were car parking charges, roads going north from Poole and A350/C13 being closed for improvements at Dianna's Hollow yet again. Other subjects raised included the lack of information from the Tree officer with planning, light pollution, The Local Dorset Plan and the length of time needed to do a Neighbourhood Plan and how long this lasted once done.

Simon thanked everyone for the time and effort the local councils had put in during the lockdown periods.

EI April 2021

Cllr Mrs. E. Isaacs

Chairman April 2021

Clerk's Report – April 2021

COVID – 19:

The prescription delivery service is the only service operating. As this is now used by only one or two residents who are not mobile, we will continue to keep this service running for the foreseeable future.

Bollards – Opposite Cranborne Middle School:

I have been in touch with Highways to ask how many bollards would be needed - a site visit by Highways will be needed to determine this. Highways are also in the process of supplying estimates for the following bollards:

1. Standard alligrini black and white plastic post with reflectors in verge per unit
2. Timber looking plastic posts with red/white reflectors per unit (bonus is wont rot)
3. Real Timber post with red/white reflector per unit

I have spoken to the headmaster at Cranborne Middle School (on various occasions) who has been in touch with the Education Dept, unfortunately, education have said that there is no spare money, and if there was it would be spent on school buildings. They also mentioned it was a Highways issue as they owned the verge not Education.

Playarea – Cranborne

On Wednesday 17th March I had a call from the Inspector of the Play Inspection Company (around 4pm) who had just finished our inspection and was ringing to advise me of a High-Risk hazard. The crossbar of the swings had become loose and posed an immediate danger. He cabled tied these to the posts to restrict access and asked for the removal of the swings urgently. I contacted Elite Playground Inspections who came over later that afternoon and disconnected the swings. I advised Elite to purchase the

parts so that the swings could be reattached as quickly as possible as school holidays were fast approaching. The report hi-lighted a number of areas that needed attention. In view of this I met Elite Playground Inspections at the playarea on 7th April at 8am to ask his advice on the Play Inspection Company Report. Following on from the report, and his guidance, I have asked Elite Playground to quote for works needed that had been raised as an issue. I then met Marcus Edwards at the playarea on Saturday 10th April to go through some of the smaller issues. Marcus Edwards is going to purchase a lock for the large gate, take down the make shift swing, cut the hedges behind the swings and remove the pieces of wood that are deemed trip hazards or dangerous through splinters (his tractor maybe needed for this as some of the wood in question has been concreted into the ground). I have also rung Wickstead, the post that they installed on the zipwire last year has already become loose. Whilst they are inspecting the wobbly post, they will also be looking at the Log Climber which has been flagged as having severe rot.

I have contacted the rubbish bin company to see if they still do the design that we have and if keys can be obtained so that the bins can be locked. The bin company have made contact to say that they will be sending out a couple of keys free of charge.

210427 Alderholt & Cranborne Ward Dorset Councillor Report for Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council

New East Dorset HRC to replace Wimborne

The Council HRC at Brook Road, Wimborne is becoming old and inefficient, and is subject to frequent closures while operations are carried out and tailbacks of traffic impact on businesses in the nearby industrial estate, creating delivery delays for them. It is rapidly approaching end of life and a replacement facility is required.

Residents in the old East Dorset area are able to use the Hampshire HRC facility near Somerley under an arrangement with HCC, however this will only be for a limited number of years. Cabinet approved the Capital spend programme which included £7 million for a new HRC facility in the east of the Council area to replace the Brook Road facility.

In addition, and of equal interest to East Dorset residents the Council has allocated £800k for replacement of classroom accommodation at Cranborne Middle School

Investment in Highways Maintenance

Dorset Council Cabinet has approved a £6.3 million investment to help repair and maintain the county's roads and cycle lanes.

Investment in this infrastructure supports corporate priorities such as public safety, and promoting the economy; improving the movement of vehicles for business, employment, emergency services, health, education and tourism. The additional funding also covers investments in cycleways and footways, encouraging healthier travel choices.

Broadband boost for rural Dorset

The Government has established a Rural Gigabit Broadband scheme worth £5bn, and Rural Dorset will be among the first areas in the country to benefit.

The funding will be directed at the county's hardest to reach and most poorly served areas.

Thousands of Dorset's homes and businesses are set to benefit from the funding, receiving next generation connectivity. Identifying the areas is underway, with contracts for the work expected to go to tender in late summer/autumn. Building the gigabit-capable infrastructure could start by the end of this year. Projects will prioritise those areas in Dorset that currently have slow connections and would otherwise have been left behind in broadband companies' rollout plans.

When connected, these premises will have available speeds that could rocket to more than 1,000 megabits or one gigabit per second.

BBQ management plan on DC Land

The Council Cabinet has adopted a two-step approach to the control of disposable barbeques and other fire related activities firstly focussing on increasing public awareness about the risks and the wider impacts through campaigns, policies and schemes, then if necessary, introducing legislation which will result in penalties for those in contravention. To achieve this the following options were approved:

- 1) Not to pursue designating areas or Dorset Council areas with a PSPO relating to BBQ's and fire related activities this year but evaluate 2022 (Option 1)
- 2) Not to pursue having a specific byelaw at this current time (Option 2)

- 3) The Sky Lantern and Balloon Policy and the new BBQ and campfire/Wildfire Policy be adopted by Dorset Council (Option 3)
- 4) Moors Valley to investigate the gas/electric communal style BBQ option with Forestry England later (Option 4)
- 5) Officers be asked to investigate partnership funding options to support having a new Firewise voluntary warden scheme delivered through the Dorset Firewise project (Option 5)
- 6) The campaign and communication work be supported and developed and taken forward for 2021 season in line with any recommendations from the report to Cabinet of 6 April 2021. (Option 6)
- 7) Dorset Council initiate a coordinated approach to the banning of disposable BBQs in agreed high risk area's locations. This work should link with Option 3,5 and 6

This two-step approach considered the cost, the length of time it takes to introduce new legislation and difficulties in enforcement as well as the effectiveness of various control methods. The recommended approach aims to balance the various options presented to Cabinet.

£18.7 Million grant for decarbonisation in Dorset.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) launched the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) in 2020, which has had £1bn of grant funding made available nationally. The scheme will encourage green investment and can 100% of the costs of capital energy saving programmes, such as installing low carbon heating measures. In November 2020 the Council applied for the PSDS grant and has now learned that it has qualified for two grants under the Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF) totalling £298k which has funded the costs of detailed building surveys. The Council has also been awarded £18.7 Million under the PSDS which will fund 100% of the costs for Contractors, consultants, and capital works to deliver a retrofit programme of low carbon projects on selected Council property.