

CHESIL BANK PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROJECT

NEWSLETTER Number Two

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood Plans were introduced by the government in the Localism Act 2011 and aim to give residents more say in the future use of land and buildings in their area. For example, amongst other things, our plan can say where new homes, shops or offices might be built, identify local social, economic and environmental issues, how important green spaces might be protected and what sort of community services are seen as priority needs for the parish.

Once produced, it will require independent examination, consultation with Dorset Council, and if approved and supported by a local referendum, it will be used in conjunction with the Dorset Council's Local Plan and the UK's National Planning Policy Framework legislation to make decisions on planning applications.

If you would like more information on the project, or help with completing surveys, please contact your village representative; their contact details are shown at the end of this newsletter. Regular updates on progress with the project are also available on our website: www.vision4chesil.org. If you would like updates or surveys via e-mail please let your village representative know.

The CB PC has also agreed that when the Internet Café in Portesham Village Hall is open, they will provide free help and support for completing surveys if required, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday, 10-12pm.

Timescales for the Project:

The project formally started on the 1st April 2019, following a successful bid for national funding to undertake the work, and it will probably take around two years to complete. The final published plan is expected to last ten years, and once approved, will be reviewed regularly to ensure it is still relevant and appropriate for the Parish.

How are we doing this?

- ✓ We have set up a Steering Group which includes parish councillors and village community representatives; this meets regularly to review progress, decide on next steps and agree direction for the project .
- ✓ We have developed a communications strategy to update the community on progress to date, to publicise key events and to seek comments on key areas for consideration in the plan; this includes developing a website, publishing regular newsletters , holding regular project team meetings, providing regular updates at parish council meetings, attending local community meetings/events and holding village community workshops.
- ✓ We have been successful in getting national funding for the first year of the project; our initial bid for just under £7500 has now been approved, and we are eligible for further funding in 2020 to cover our costs to complete the project by early 2021.
- ✓ We have agreed the topic areas that would be included in the major surveys and published the first survey with this newsletter which is due back by the 18th November. We anticipate undertaking a rolling programme of surveys over the next twelve months to create the plan, and the first survey is seen as a crucial input to the Neighbourhood Plan.
- ✓ We have also engaged a specialist and experienced planning consultant funded through our grant to help us develop the plan.

The full range of planned major surveys that we are looking to undertake is intended to cover gathering information on:

- ❖ Household, and housing data
- ❖ Business, the local economy and employment opportunities
- ❖ Health, well-being and education
- ❖ Infrastructure, utilities and amenities, transport and accessibility

As well as these major surveys we are also undertaking more detailed analysis on a number of complementary topics to add more evidence to our final plan, these cover:

- ❖ Wildlife and natural habitats
- ❖ Heritage and the built environment
- ❖ Highways and road Safety¹
- ❖ Flood risk

The surveys will give everyone an opportunity to contribute to the future development of the Parish and we would like to encourage all members of the community over the age of 16 to complete a survey so that we get responses that represent a broad cross-section of the community.

¹ We are taking a look at local road safety concerns. Including known incidences is not a problem since these are recorded and can be easily accessed on the internet. We are interested in identifying other areas and issues which might suggest that there are potential road safety concerns. If you have such concerns, not just in your village, but across the Chesil Bank Parish, then please email Derek Troughton.

The Parish Council is registered under the Data Protection Act to undertake surveys and we would like to reassure participants that their information will be held securely and anonymised for use in developing the Neighbourhood Plan.

To encourage a good response to each of the major surveys, we are offering the opportunity for one completed survey per household to enter a prize draw. As an inducement to complete the survey online there is a prize of £50 and for completed paper surveys a prize of £25.

If you wish to take part in the prize draw, more details on this are in the enclosed survey. The draw for the first survey will take place at the CB Parish Council Meeting on the 2nd December, under the “Democratic Forum’ item.

Local Village contact details:

Abbotsbury: peter.begley@vision4chesil.org or 07972-216419

Fleet: Saira Sawtell - Fleet@vision4chesil.org

Portesham: stewart.bayram@vision4chesil.org

Langton Herring: Derek.troughton@vision4chesil.org or 07802-204771.

Parish Council: theclerk@chesilbankparish.org or 07814-016971