

Long Bredy & Kingston Russell Parish Council
The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on
Monday 28 March at 7pm,
Village Hall, Long Bredy

MINUTES

Councillors present: Councillors Charlotte Kinghorn, Ruth Cullingford, Giles Maltby,
David Peretz, Tess Silkstone, Cameron Wills

Members of Public present: 22 members including PCSO Sarah Pilcher

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Tara Bailey (Parish Clerk).

2. Introduction of Councillors and Welcome.

3. Annual Village Meeting 2021 were noted

4. Chairperson Councillor Charlotte Kinghorn gave her annual report.

5. PCSO Sarah Pilcher reported that there had only been one incident in the village, a dog bite, which had now reached a satisfactory conclusion.

In the Dorchester area there had been an increase in catalytic convertor theft.

Scams are still prevalent, so everyone was reminded to be alert.

PCSO Pilcher would be sending up to date posters, phone numbers and websites to Councillor Kinghorn to be put on Facebook, the network and display in the village hall.

Even though there has been little activity locally, the community were reminded to report things however small, as this gives a better picture to the police.

A member of the public reported that several Litton Cheney dog owners walk their dogs in Long Bredy Parish. They don't pick up after the dog or do bag it then throw the bag in the hedge. It has also been noted that they don't control their dog near livestock.

PCSO said these things should be reported as the police and dog warden can follow up. In addition, there are signs about livestock and dogs that can be displayed.

6. Community Governance Review – Long Bredy and Kingston Russell

Long Bredy and Kingston Russell are two separate Parishes. For administrative purposes the two parishes are grouped together and are known as a Group Parish Council.

It was proposed by the Long Bredy & Kingston Russell Parish Council that the parishes of Long Bredy and Kingston Russell be amalgamated into a single Parish. This would not change the name of the council, alter its boundaries or change the number of Parish Councillors.

The Parish Council believe that this administrative change would have the following benefits.

- ✓ The historic boundary between the two parishes makes little sense now. Many who live in what is marked on the map and treated by the Post Office as Long Bredy in fact live in Kingston Russell Parish.
- ✓ Each Parish Councillor would represent all the Parishioners within the Parish Council area.
- ✓ It would build a more cohesive council and encourage a more inclusive approach, where all councillors felt responsible for issues arising anywhere in the present two parishes.
- ✓ Councillors would have access to research information from the electoral register for all the Parish Council area. (Currently a Kingston Russell Councillor does not have access the Long Bredy Register and visa versa).

The proposal was to put to vote for those present. Twenty six of the twenty six eligible electors were in favour of the proposal.

Two members of the public commented that they had not found the Dorset Council website easy to use or very clear when attempting to respond to the community governance review.

7. Community Governance Review – Chesil Bank

Chesil Bank Council had proposed to take over part of Long Bredy Parish (Gorwell and Ashley Chase). Long Bredy and Kingston Russell Parish Council is strongly of the view that there is no compelling reason to change historic parish boundaries in this case and are strongly opposed to this proposal.

A member of the public asked what the benefit was to Chesil Bank? Councillor Kinghorn replied that a change in boundary would mean another Councillor for Chesil Bank Parish Council. She also explained that if Long Bredy and Kingston Russell Parish Council lose these properties, contained within the change of boundary, it would affect the precept due to our Parish council. A member of the public asked if the Council could send a response to Dorset Council stating that there had been a Parish meeting and all present were against this proposal.

Councillor Kinghorn explained that the Parish Councillors would send in their comments but encouraged every person present to individually send in their comments to Dorset Council also.

A member of the public asked if there could be a vote on the Chesil Bank proposal. Councillor Kinghorn agreed a vote could be taken but again encouraged everyone to send in their comments to the Dorset Council website.

Vote on Chesil Bank Proposal.

Against the proposal to allow Chesil bank to move Gorwell and Ashley Chase into their parish boundary – 26.

Abstained-0

For the proposal -0

6. Jubilee Celebrations

Councillor Kinghorn updated those present on the plans for the jubilee celebrations.

7. Community reports

- St Peter's Church.
- Come Along Inn - A member of the public asked for a vote of thanks for the ladies who prepare the food.
- Bride Valley Gardening club – A reminder re the Plant sale on May 14th. Bell Ringers no questions
- WI
- Community network.

8. Open Forum

A member of the Public asked about the Malthouse Meadows Surgery joining a practice in Dorchester. Andrew Bailey explained that he sits on a small committee and is the village representative. Pre COVID the surgery was struggling to get staff at all levels. They decided they had 3 choices.

- i). Struggle on and try to get locums – None available
- ii). Close the surgery.
- iii). Merge with another surgery – Prince of Wales in Dorchester.

A Business Manager had been appointed to oversee the merger and it was expected that this would happen early 2023. This should not have impact on patients at either surgery. It is hoped that a surgery will be held in alternate surgeries on a Saturday morning, and if staff shortage at either surgery a member of the other surgery will help out.

On the subject of the Village hall, Andrew Bailey explained that due to Covid issues and under use of the hall, it was now dusty. It is hoped to have a cleaning party soon. The village hall is now used regularly by Ford Farm for all their training sessions.

At the close of the meeting, Councillor Kinghorn thanked Councillor Cullingford for taking notes in the absence of the Parish Clerk.