

Clerks Report – Updated Monday, March 4, 2024

All recommendations in this report are made by the Clerk unless stated otherwise.

0324-112a Action Log - Annex

To note and discuss any urgent item.

0324-112b Financial Matters – Annex

b1	Bank Balance	29 th February 2024		
	00289201 – Lloyds	£32,442.70	00162368 – Lloyds	£5,414.71
	80031534 – Redwood	£34,551.68		
	Total	£72,409.09		

b2 Expenditure & Income – Annex

To note the monthly expenditure and income for February 2024. To discuss and approve the monthly expenditure and note the income.

Note 1: Explanation of payments & receipts in Annex: Clerks Hours 80hrs, (80 contracted hours, of which 2hrs for Gods Acre), £60 for monthly expenses, plus £11.70 Mileage. Hourly pay rate @ £16.30.

Recommendation: To approve all payments as listed in the Finance Summary Annex + any regular payment not invoiced to date. Current Gross figure at time of printing Annex = £4,826.60

b3 Internal Audit – Annex

Recommendation: To discuss the recommendations from the Internal auditor as stated in the Internal Audit report dated 8th Feb 2024.

0324-112c Parish Safety

c1 Internal Weekly Playground safety report & External Annual Report
Internal safety checks were carried out weekly last month with no new findings.

External Annual Report has found items which need action, noting the items have not been flagged as urgent.

Recommendation: For the Caretaker to action what is possible for him to action, and for the clerk to acquire quotes for the remaining actions.

A parent has recently written to us, stating “I have also been meaning to email about the bridge section on the play park castle, the rope squares are very large, and a child could easily slip through, there are also no hand rails to support yourself, this results in this part of the equipment being avoided by the majority of the children. Would the council be open to the suggestion of perhaps another layer of netting, or a handle?

The children (& some adults) absolutely love the addition of the trampoline, however due to its small size, would there be any potential of fundraising to add a couple more? We have had upwards of 8 school children trying to cram on at once, which as you can imagine, didn't work very well!!”

The new castle was designed for the older child and is designed to challenge them. The bridge netting already in place and that there is no handrails is all in line with regulation and standards.

Recommendation: To discuss the possibility of changing the netting or to retrospectively add handrails to the bridge section of the castle equipment.

c2 Defibrillator monthly safety report:

In the last month, safety checks have been carried out on the defibrillators with no urgent items to report.

0324-112d Annual Parish Meeting

Having looked at possible meeting formats, I would like to suggest we open doors at 6pm for “Coffee and a chat with local club / group representatives”, follow at 7pm by a presentation from the Council Chairman on what the Council has achieved in the last year and forthcoming plans.

The idea discussed about presenting an award be shelved until next year as time is limited this year, for advertising the award and then asking for nominations to be placed.

20 groups have been identified Aquarius, Christmas Festivities Committee, Citizens Advice, Cllr Brooks – Dorset Council, Community Land trust, Corfe Castle Charity, Corfe Castle Pre School? / Toddler Group, Corfe Castle Town Trust, Double Act, Friends of Corfe Castle Library, Friends of Corfe Castle surgery, Corfe Castle Gardening Club, Guides / Scouts, National Trust, Planet Purbeck, Sports Trust? / Football Club, Swanage Railway Volunteer unit, Village Hall, Wareham Men’s Shed & Youth Club. Although for example the Wareham Men’s Shed is not a Corfe Castle group, it is a nationally recognised group who offer mental support in a workshop environment.

Groups could be allowed to sell tabletop items, to help fund raise, but they would be advised that numbers could be low as this is the first year, we are holding this style of event.

To have a large banner printed and secured to the square barrier 2 weeks before the meeting. Along with the usual advertising on social media, website and CVN.

Recommendation: To invite local groups / organisations to have a tabletop display, where they can sell small goods from 6pm – 7pm. To have refreshments available. To place a large vinyl banner on the square barrier for 2 weeks before the event.

0324-112e Community Speed Watch – Pre sessional catch up.

In June this year the Community Speed Watch Team will have been actively slowing down motorists through our parish for 3 years. Usually, I would have a meeting with the 2 team leaders to discuss the year coming, but this year, I would like to meet with all volunteers (12 in total) in the National Trust Café, over coffee and discuss what is working and what is not from their point of view. This would also be an opportunity for us to say thank you to our volunteers for all their effort. The Corfe Castel Parish Council Speed Watch scheme is frequently referred to by Dorset Police as one of the best in the area.

Recommendation: Clerk to hold a meeting with all CSW volunteers, the Council Chairman / Vice Chairman and a representative from Dorset Police, to discuss the CSW scheme, and to thank our volunteers. Chargeable to the FX Card.

0324-112f Highways Wish List

The following was received from DC Highways “Cllr Brooks and I visited site yesterday. It is important the both Cllr Brooks and I agree with reasoning for requests regarding parking restrictions and make you aware of any misgivings we may have. The legal process for creating a new regulation can be time consuming, expensive and could often be “derailed” by local objections. Please advise PC of our comments and concerns regarding resident consultation and keep us informed of any actions taken.

- 1) – East St, Single Yellow Line (65 metres) 10am to 8pm, 1/5 – 15/10 – extend dates to 15/3 - 31/10 – **We agree and support this request**
- 2) – West St – Western side of West Street , from junction to car park to Hollands Close junction, convert SYL to DYL. **We are concerned about the impact of parking for some residents here and would advise PC to engage with all local residents that would be affected, to gauge the levels of support / objection to this proposal.**
- 3) – West St – Eastern side of West St from 43 to 55 West St, convert SYL to DYL (Corfe Castle DYL2) **As above.**
- 4) – West St by Church graveyard – remove current parking (4 cars length – 1 hour only) and replace with 1 “disabled bay – 30mins only” at southern end of bay and “loading bay” at northern end of bay. (Overall reduction in length of bay is 5 metres) **We agree and support this request – we witnessed vehicles having to reverse due to oncoming vehicles on a few occasions during our site visit.**
- 5) – West St by Church graveyard – change single yellow lines (syl) to dyl with blips (loading bans) **As above**
- 6) – West St by GOAT – remove 6 metres of current parking bay at southern end of bay and replace with dyl **While we did witness some vehicles approaching the bend in the middle (or wrong side) of road, we are concerned about the impact of parking in this area and would advise PC to engage with local residents to gauge levels of support and objection.**
- 7) – West St NT shop – remove 6 metres of current bay (southern end) and replace with dyl and blip **We agree and support this request”**

Recommendation: To consult with residents, via direct letter drop, and via electronic survey. With results discussed at a monthly Council meeting.

0324-12g Electric charges – West Street Toilet clock

To note the following change is Electricity charges:

Energy Type	Rate Name	Rates up to 31/03/2024	New rates from 01/04/2024
Electricity	Standing Charge (per day)	58.30p	99.32p
	All day unit rate (per kWh)	40.91p	28.98p

0324-12h Gods Acre Gate

To note the 1925 area vehicular access gate has been damaged in strong winds. The gate has been removed and the Caretaker is looking to repair as quickly as possible.

0324-12i Residents Car Park

This year we have had 2 second homeowners move away from the village. 1 of the new homeowners wished to retain their car parking permit, however 1 to date has not applied. We have had 2 residents state they no longer wish to retain their permit.

We have 1 business owner on the waiting list who has stated they would have a permit for a month here and there but did not wish to retain a permit all year. We have 2 individuals on the waiting list; however, both are pending them purchasing a home within Corfe Castle, when last contacted a couple of months ago, neither had found a house in Corfe at this stage. Advertising will be started shortly to fill the vacancies. Known income for permit renewals taking place at the moment is £9,395 (net) approx. £1,300 difference compared to last year.

0324-12j Caretakers report

This month the Caretaker has carried out Playpark inspections, litter picked, cleared car park sump, cleared Ivy from playpark fence, Trimmed around Cremation memorials, inspected and removed GA gate after storm damage.