

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

Portland Town Council
Portland Community Venue
Three Yards Close
Fortunes
Portland
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28th November 2018

To: All Members of the Partnership

MARINE, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM PARTNERSHIP

Dear Member

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING** of the **MARINE, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM PARTNERSHIP**, to be held in **PORTLAND COMMUNITY VENUE, THREE YARDS CLOSE** on **WEDNESDAY, 5TH DECEMBER 2018**, 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

Charlotte Richards
Assistant Town Clerk

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's Welcome**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. 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
- 4. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 28th February 2018** – to approve and sign (see attached)
- 5. Election of a vice chair**
- 6. Matters Arising from the Minutes**
- 7. Public Participation** – to allow questions or comments from the public on any item on the agenda
- 8. Neighbourhood Plan** – to receive a report from Mr Matthews
- 9. Public Rights of Way** – to receive updates
- 10. Portland Resilience Plan** – to review and agree the revised Resilience plan (attached).
- 11. Douglas Pigg** – presentation on Dorset National Parks
- 12. Sylvia Clayden** – Presentation on Historical Awareness Project
- 13. Litter** - Updates from Councillor Lees and Wild
- 14. Events Diary** – to receive notice from Cllr. Wild
- 15. Flood Warden Newsletter** – Newsletter attached

16. 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)
- (e) Cycle Paths

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Marine, Environment & Tourism Partnership is scheduled to take place on 6th March 2019 starting at 7.00 pm, at Portland Community Venue.

MEMBERSHIP:-

Cllr. Sue Lees (Chair)	Portland Town Council
Cllr.	Portland Town Council
All Town Councillors	Portland Town Council
Simon King	Economic Regeneration, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council
Derek Luckhurst	Agincare
Jen Reeves-Grey (?)	CRAB / Agincare
Cllr. Sue Lees	Chesil Equestrian Centre
Jane White	Crown Estate
Colin Poulter	DORSAR
Tara Hansford	Dorset Local Access Forum
Jess Tilley	Dorset Wildlife Trust
Alison Smith	Jurassica
Victoria Webbon	Land Trust
Geoff Peters	National Coastwatch Institution
Ruth Carpenter	Natural England
Andy Matthews	Portland Community Partnership
Sandie Wilson / Frank Cox	Portland Port Ltd
Hannah Sofaer / Paul Crabtree	Portland Sculpture and Quarry Trust
Cllr. Rod Wild	Portland Seafarers Support and Association for Portland Archaeology
Mike Deadman	Portland Tourist Information Centre
Rowena Riley	The Churches Conservation Trust
Paul Glover	The History Society
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 & TOURISM PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD IN PETER TRIM HALL, ST. GEORGE'S CENTRE, REFORNE ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT: Councillors Lucy Grieve (Deputy Chairman), Sue Cocking, Charlie Flack, Ray Nowak, David Thurston and Rod Wild, together with Jane White (Court Leet and Crown Estate), Andy Matthews (Portland Community Partnership) and Mike Deadman (Portland Tourist Information Centre)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and two members of the public

1225 – CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr. Grieve welcomed all to the Partnership meeting and gave fire safety directions.

1226 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Jo Atwell, Jim Draper and Sue Lees, together with Katharine Garcia (Dorset County Council & Weymouth & Portland Borough Council), Jess Tilley (Dorset Wildlife Trust) and Geoff Peters (National Coastwatch Institution)

1227 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Matthews declared non-pecuniary interests in Weymouth College and The Journey project.

1228 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH DECEMBER 2017

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

1229 – MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

1230 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Vincent raised an issue of fly-tipping at Grove Corner.

1231 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Andy Matthews reported that the Working Group was going through the public's comments from the informal consultation and making corresponding adjustments, in some cases of strategic importance. They were also working on a paper concerning development boundaries. At the moment there was still some uncertainty about grant provision in the new financial year, but further information should become available in April.

1232 – PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

There were no further updates for the present.

1233 – PORTLAND RESILIENCE PLAN

RESOLVED – that the report in the agenda paper be received. It was requested that this be debated further at the next meeting.

1234 – LITTER

a) Clean-up at the Grove

This would take place on Sunday, 4th March.

b) General Complaints

The complaint had been submitted by a visitor concerning litter at Cheyne Weares. Points that were noted were that a camper van had been parking there overnight, the financial implications if the site were to be policed regularly, the effect of the wind in blowing litter across the site, the cost of providing more litter bins and emptying them, and the need for more litter-picking events.

1235 – FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE PARTNERSHIP

Suggestions at the meeting included the provision of more presentations, invitations to other organisations, reports to be provided by member groups.

Jane White advised that the Crown Estate employs a litter-picker for certain areas on the Island.

1236 – EVENTS DIARY

Cllr. Wild advised that the local library now keeps a diary of events taking place on the Island. Apparently this is a manual record at present, but it was suggested that it might be extended to electronic form, perhaps on the Council's own website.

1237 – FLOOD WARDEN NEWSLETTER

In the absence of the Assistant Clerk this item was deferred.

1238 – DORSET COAST FORUM

Further to the report included with the agenda Andy Matthews reported briefly on the Coastal Communities Fund. Jane White advised of two beach clean-ups on 11th and 22nd April.

1239 – STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS (by exception)

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

A letter had been received about damage to hedgerows on the Southwell school site. Cllr. Grieve advised that a dry-stone wall by the Weston Scout Hall had been repaired.

e) Cycle Paths

Andy Matthews said there was an economic case for a cycle path in the vicinity of the Port. However the newly-erected fence there constituted an obstacle to establishing one. Cllr. Flack and Wild undertook to raise this at a meeting with Port officials.

1240 – ADDITIONAL ITEM: TOURISM

Mike Deadman reported that the Tourist Centre would soon be launching the Portland Passport for its third year with an increased number of participants. A place had been booked at the Rutland Bird Fair in September, a fruitful event for attracting visitors to the Island.

Partnership members were also notified of the Court Leet's disbursement scheme.

1241 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 6th June & 5th September 2018 **(both cancelled)**, starting at 7.00 pm, to be held at Portland Community Venue, Three Yards Close, Portland.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date

Portland Community Emergency Plan.

Plan updated on: 31st July 2018

Plan collated by: Portland Town Council

If you are in immediate danger call 999

Plan distribution list

Name	Role	Phone number/email address	Issued on
Karon McFarlane	Portland Town Council Town Clerk	01305 821638 office@portlandtowncouncil.gov.uk	02/05/18 On shared docs.
Charlotte Richards	Portland Town Council, Asst. Town Clerk	01305 821638 assistantclerk@portlandtowncouncil.gov.uk	05/02/18 On shared docs.
J Rice	WPBC Emergency Planning	jrice@dorset.gov.uk	
Katy Pascoe Jackie Carpenter	Island Community Action	01305 823789 Office@islandcommunityaction.org.uk	TC 5/2/18 Would like copy
Cllr Charlie Flack	Town Mayor of Portland	07845 216915 councillor_flack@hotmail.com	Copy TBS
Andy Matthews & Rachel Barton	Portland Community Partnership	andymatthewsportland@gmail.com 2Rachel@bartonconsultancy.co.uk	Copy TBS
Emergency Refuge Centres	Various Contacts	See pages 7 and 8 Redacted Copy	Copy TBS
Tophill Library	Public Viewers	Redacted copy	Copy TBS
Donna George	DCC Emergency Planning	01305 224659 Pager 07771 624125 Donna.george@dwfire.org.uk	Copy TBS
Dorset Civil Contingency Unit		01305 229044 ccuadmin@dorset.gov.uk	
Animal Health	Principal Trading Standards Offices Animal Health Officer	01305 224475 tradingstandards@dorsetcc.gov.uk	New details Copy to be sent
Pauline Wilks	Lead Portland MIU, Portland Hospital	01305 860111 Pauline.wilks@dhuft.nhs.uk	Copy TBS Emailed 7/2/18
Environment Agency	24hrs Floodline	0345 9881188	Discussed 9/1/18 Copy

			TBS
Environment Agency hot-line	24hrs incident line	0800 807060	Discussed 9/1/18 Copy TBS

Plan amendment list

Date of amendment	Date for next revision	Details of changes made	Changed by
1 st October 2013	May 2014	Names and contact details	P Hamblin
3 rd November 2015	June 2016	Adding/checking names and contact details. Also updates to risks.	C Bennett
4 th January 2016	June 2016	Pauline Wilks added Head of Portland MIU	C Bennett
5 th May 2018	June 2019	Distribution list and plan updated	C Richards

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Local risk assessment

Risks	Impact on community	What can the Community Emergency Group do to prepare?
Main road (causeway) to island becoming inaccessible.	<p>Shortage of supplies</p> <p>Emergency services being cut off</p>	<p>Ensure local supermarkets are aware of plan and their responsibility.</p> <p>Ensure Health Centres and out of hours medical centre, Immediate Care Centre, Portland Community Hospital are aware of plan and their responsibilities.</p> <p>Search & Rescue/Training Helicopter.</p>
Gas or fuel leak from Portland Port area.	Evacuation of local area	Ensure that communal rest/safe areas for evacuation are informed and prepared: community halls, church halls, etc.
Marine disasters – oil spillage from tankers	Oil spill, oil washed up on beaches	Ensure Community volunteers up to date: RSBP, Weymouth
Marine disasters – shipwreck and rescue	Crew and passengers	Ensure Safe places for rescued to shelter, police and border agency informed.
Discovery of explosive devices	Evacuation	Ensure Safe places and shelter area made safe.
Disease outbreak on farmland	Isolation of area	Adhere to isolation rulings. Raise awareness. E.g.: Fancy's Farm – temporary water supply would be needed. In the event of an outbreak of animal related disease, vehicle disinfection point to be established by Chesil Beach Centre.
Nuclear Accidents – Visiting submarines	Evacuation Medical Treatment	marine@portland-port.co.uk

Local skills and resources assessment

Skill/Resource (number for map ref)	Who?	Contact details	Location	When might be unavailable?
St John Ambulance Centre (1) Blankets, First Aid supplies, shelter	Terry Shakespeare	01305 820888	Easton Street	Ring the Centre or Terry in case of emergency
Island Community Action (2) 8 seater disabled minibus, 60 volunteers listed for various tasks	Katy Pascoe	01305 823789	Easton Square	Ring Katy at various times for various volunteers
Supermarkets (4) Water & food supplies	Tesco Co-op Co-op Co-op	0345 026 9666 01305 826346 01305 820148 01305 820147	Easton Weston Easton Fortuneswell	7am-11pm 7am-10pm 7am-10pm 7am-10pm
St John's Church Hall (5) St Andrew's Church Hall Disabled access and toilets Candles	Rev Gomm	01305 820103 01305 826864	Fortuneswell Southwell	Anytime
Pennsylvania Castle (6) 2 large rooms, minibus and small plant. Lots of space in garden emailed13/2/18	Chris Holleyoak (MD) Jo Peters (Castle Mgr)	01305 820659 07920 549175	Wakeham	Anytime
Fancy's Farm	Jon Ilsley	07810 485351	The Old	Anytime

(13) Amateur radio equipment		animals@fancysfarm.co.uk	Radio Station	
Environment Agency	Steve Brown	01305 824096 07765353394		Anytime
	Bob Naeger	01305 820636 07921 522680	Local Flood Wardens - Chiswell	
Chesil Equestrian	Sue Lees	01305 823719 07976 661838	Weston and Southwell	Anytime

Key locations identified with emergency services for use as places of safety

Building	Location	Potential use in an emergency	Contact details of key holder
St John Ambulance Hall (1)	Easton Lane	Rest Centre/safe place, blankets, first aid supplies, toilets, kitchen	Terry Shakespeare 01305 820888
Atlantic Academy Maritime House	Southwell Business Park	Rest Centre, toilets	Elaine Clayton Tel: 01305 820262 Ext: 230 eclayton@atlantic-aspirations.org
The Verne Learning Centre and the Jailhouse Café (8)	Verne Citadel, HMP The Verne	Rest Centre, toilets, kitchens	Café Manager 01305 825186 The Verne Switchboard 01305 825000
St John's Church Hall (5) Written to 12/2/18 to check	Fortuneswell	Rest Centre	Rev Tim Gomm 01305 820103 Roger McColm 01305 826864
Portland Town Council Offices (9)	52 Easton Street, 821638	Admin/command suite, small kitchen, 2 toilets, offices,	01305 821638
St Andrew's Church Hall (5) Written to 12/2/18 to check	Avalanche Rd Southwell	Rest Centre	Rev Tim Gomm 01305 820103
Easton Methodist Hall & Salvation Army (10)	Easton Square	Rest Centre, toilets, kitchen	Pastor Dave Farmer 07766021359 Heather Clay 01305 861152
Community 2000 Hall (11)	Straits, Easton	Rest Centre, toilets, kitchen	Carol Callis 01305 860845 07722 993274

Emergency contact list

Name: Cllr. Charlie Flack – Mayor of Portland
Mobile: 07845 216915
Email councillor_flack@hotmail.com
Address: 46 Wheatlands, Southwell, Portland, DT5 2EB
Name: Cllr. Sue Cocking – Deputy Mayor
Mobile: 07830 971934
Email: susancocking59@gmail.com
Address: 72 Weston Street, Weston, Portland, DT5 2DQ
Name: Katy Pascoe
Tel: 01305 823789
Email: office@islandcommunityaction.org.uk
Address: Island Community Action, Easton Square, Portland
Name: Andy Matthews
Tel: 07580 492896
Email: andymatthewsportland@gmail.com
Address: Portland Community Partnership
Environment Agency - 24 hour flood line
Tel: 0345 9881188
Email: floodwessex@EA.gov.uk
Environment Agency - 24 Incident line
Tel: 0800 807060

List of community defibrillators

Doctors' Surgery	Underhill and Easton
Portland Hospital	Underhill
St Johns Mobile Defib.	St Johns
Wall of St John's building	Easton
Vintage 7 – wall	Easton
Masonic Hall	Underhill
Coastwatch Wall	The Bill
Tescos Easton	On wall at Customer service/toilets
Atlantic Academy,	Southwell
St Georges,	Easton
The Verne	
HMPYOI Portland	The Grove
Albion Stone x 2	Works and Mine
Foyle Bank	Easton
Football Club	Grove Road

List of community organisations that may be helpful in identifying vulnerable people or communities in an emergency

Organisation	Name and role of contact	Phone number
Island Community Action	Katy Pascoe	01305 823789
St John Ambulance	Terry Shakespeare	01305 820888
Police Community Support	Chrissie Plumley	Dial 101 Ask for Portland Community Support
Portland Community Hospital & Minor Injuries	Reception	01305 860111
Royal Manor Healthcare Centre	Reception	01305 820422
Portland Fire Station	Bob Terrey	01305 252600
DORSAR	Colin Poulter	

First steps in an emergency

[Use this space to add the steps to be followed in when the plan is activated]

	Instructions	Tick
1	Call 999 (unless already alerted)	
2	Ensure you are in no immediate danger	
3	Contact the Community Emergency Group and meet to discuss the situation	
4	If necessary assist in arranging evacuation from the area to listed safe places of shelter	
5	Remain in contact with police liaison officer regarding the situation, keep evacuees informed wherever possible	
6	Act as a communication point or single point of contact in relaying information between group	
7		
8		
9		
10		

Community Emergency Group first meeting agenda

Date:

Time:

Location:

Attendees:

1. What is the current situation?

Type of emergency:

Location of the emergency. Is it near a school, a vulnerable area, a main access route, Is there a threat to life?, Has electricity, gas or water been affected?
Are there any vulnerable people involved: Elderly, Families with children?

What resources do we need?

Food, Off-road vehicles, Blankets, Shelter, generators,

2. Establishing contact with the emergency services

3. How can we support the emergency services?

4. What actions can safely be taken?

5. Who is going to take the lead (SPOC) for the agreed actions?

6. Any other issues?

Actions agreed with emergency responders in the event of an evacuation

1. Help police/local authority with door knocking
2. Tell emergency services who might need extra help to leave their home
3. Maintain contact with emergency services liaison officers and affected groups or individuals
4. Nominate person/people to be a Single Point of Contact and/or commander, (usually the first on scene but can be handed over).

Any other information

Culverwell Mesolithic Site

The site is covered with a hut. However, in the event of a fire, the unique archaeological site beneath the hut needs protection from water damage.

DEFRA Help Line 03459 335577 (Monday – Friday 8 – 6)

DORSAR Local Search and rescue – 2 members live on Portland

A PROSPECTUS FOR A DORSET NATIONAL PARK

Summary

Dorset is a very special county. We have stunning countryside, a World Heritage coast, outstanding biodiversity and cultural heritage that is gold standard. We have many thriving businesses, a growing digital economy, two well respected universities and a major land-based college. Dorset's sun, sea, sand and land at the heart of the South Coast, with rail accessibility from London and the Midlands, help to make this one of the nation's favourite and most-photographed counties.

Dorset's environment is our greatest economic asset and underpins our prosperity now and in the future. But our environment and biodiversity are under threat from landscape degradation, species decline and water catchment pollution. The heritage of Thomas Hardy remains threatened. Current organisations have not, despite their efforts, been able to reverse this decline in our natural capital. Dorset's productivity, skill and wage levels are too low and there are too few affordable homes. Despite our great environment, research shows that we undersell ourselves and have not created a strong enough Dorset brand nor attracted the investment opportunities Dorset's qualities merit.

A National Park can help make Dorset the natural place to visit and do business. It offers a unique opportunity to help reverse the decline in our environment, make Dorset the home for ambitious and innovative businesses and help our farmers and land managers to diversify and thrive in new market and farm funding conditions. Our economic prospects and future would be strengthened through a NP working in partnership with the Dorset Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Local Nature Partnership (LNP) and other key stakeholders to invest in Dorset's natural capital, environment, heritage and communities.

Together, we can establish a National Park that will promote, celebrate and protect Dorset's very special environment and heritage, work for and benefit our communities and economy, and help us all safeguard and pass on this fine heritage for the benefit of future generations and the nation.

Introduction. The current national Review of Designated Landscapes gives Dorset the opportunity to seek stronger national recognition of its outstanding landscapes and heritage, and for greater national resources to conserve, enhance and promote our environment and benefit Dorset's economy and communities. This can be achieved by upgrading the existing Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to a National Park, with wider purposes, powers and greater funding.

While all National Parks work within the same legislative framework, they can implement their powers and duties in different ways. This paper suggests how a National Park should work for the benefit of all of Dorset. It reflects inputs from a range of organisations, businesses, landowners, farmers and local people. We seek further views on this draft prospectus, so the Government's review team can be better informed on what we seek for Dorset.

Overall purposes. The National Park would have three main purposes:

- To conserve and enhance Dorset's outstanding landscape, biodiversity and cultural heritage
- To promote open-air recreation, health and enjoyment of that heritage
- To foster the economic and social well-being of the people and communities who live and work in the National Park.

Partnership. The National Park should work closely and supportively in partnership with public authorities and communities, the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. It should act as a catalyst for a living, working, thriving and sustainable Dorset by helping to promote action to benefit the environment, heritage, communities and the economy.

Geographic scope. The National Park should include as much of rural Dorset as meets Natural England's designation criteria. It would be the first National Park to have a significant coastal area - the World Heritage Jurassic Coast - and potentially the first to have an off-shore role, thus bringing together in a coordinated way on-shore and off-shore designations.

Benefit all of Dorset. The National Park should benefit the economy and communities throughout the county, bringing additional resources and promoting investment. It should be an asset and close partner for the Dorset Council. The National Park would pay the Dorset Council for the services that it buys in, thus freeing Council resources for other priorities across rural Dorset. Where appropriate, the National Park should work beyond its boundaries, for example in developing a Dorset-wide tourism strategy, providing a strong Dorset brand for enterprises and assisting those who wish to be included in agri-environment schemes whatever their location.

Landscape, Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage. The National Park should work with all partner organisations to conserve and enhance Dorset's outstanding landscape, biodiversity and cultural heritage. It would invest in Dorset's natural capital, and tackle long-standing issues of landscape degradation, species decline and water catchment pollution. It would promote landscape-scale conservation and connectivity in southern England, working with other NPs, AONBs, farmers and landowners, and conservation organisations within and beyond Dorset.

Recreation and Health. The National Park should promote recreational opportunities and enjoyment both locally and nationally, fully inclusively connecting more people with the natural environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local people and visitors.

Tourism. The National Park should develop a Dorset-wide Sustainable Tourism Strategy. This should benefit the whole of Dorset, extend the tourism season, promote eco and heritage tourism and visitor diversity, encourage increased visitor spending, widen the areas visited and lead to higher value tourism and increased skills in the tourism industry. This Strategy, plus the funding of a comprehensive ranger service, should help communities, landowners and others to manage the pressures which can arise from some tourism and recreational activities.

Farming and Agribusiness. Landowners and farmers are central to Dorset and the health of its living landscapes. The National Park should work in partnership with landowners, farmers and agribusinesses through a Land Managers Group (as in the

South Downs) including to develop funding proposals which deliver a range of benefits. This should include agri-environment solutions suited to the character of the county, taking full account of farmers' expertise in order to improve farm productivity and resilience, enhance income and reduce costs. It could support farm clusters to share expertise and bid for additional public benefit funding. Through policies that are sympathetic to farm diversification and the adaptation of farm and forestry buildings and through raising public awareness of the importance of farming, it should help the long-term viability of our agribusinesses.

Business Growth and Economic Development. The National Park should work in partnership with the Dorset Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to promote Dorset-based businesses, products and services, to attract further growth businesses and innovation and to support investment in appropriate infrastructure including public transport. It should attract young families who value what Dorset can offer in terms of a high quality of life, health and wellbeing. It should support the work of the LEP and LNP and work with the LEP in the development and delivery of a Rural Economic Strategy for Dorset, for example through the Government's "Shared Prosperity Fund".

Planning. The National Park should work with the Dorset Council to create a seamless planning resource, develop compatible dovetailed plans for rural Dorset and provide a one-stop-shop service for planning advice as part of a streamlined customer focussed approach. The National Park should be proactive in facilitating homes for local people (including truly affordable homes), and help retain and attract young people, families and growth businesses.

Governance and funding. The National Park Authority should be constituted in accordance with the practice that some 50% of its members would be from the Dorset Council, around 25% from Town/Parish councils and 25% local volunteers appointed by Ministers to reflect other key interests and expertise. Core funding for the National Park provided by the Government should be adequate for the job.

Dorset National Park Team October 2018

The Isle of Portland – A Royal Manor

The Isle of Portland is a limestone tied island, 4 miles (6 km) long by 1.7 miles (2.7 km) wide, in the English Channel. A barrier beach called Chesil Beach 'ties' it to the mainland. Population 12,844.

Portland is a central part of the World Heritage Jurassic Coast Site, important for its geology and landforms. Portland stone is famous for its use in British and world architecture, including St Paul's Cathedral and the United Nations Headquarters, it continues to be quarried. Portland's 'Heart of Stone' is also used for the vast majority of War Grave Headstones and The Cenotaph.



Portland Harbour is one of the largest man-made harbours in the world. From its inception, it was a Royal Navy base and played prominent roles during the First and Second World Wars and carries with it a great heritage. The name Portland is used for one of the British Sea Areas. The harbour is now a civilian port and popular recreation area and was used for the 2012 Olympic Games.

The Isle of Portland has been designated by Natural England as National Character Area 137. Natural England National Character Area Profile advocates "continuing to support The Portland Quarries Nature Park, which showcases Portland's geology, the history of extraction and inspiring sculpture created by carving Portland Stone." Natural England's Report – 'Inshore Special Areas of Conservation (SAC); Studland to Portland (2012)' reminds us how special Portland is. The Assessment emphasises the need to conserve and manage the internationally important coastline, the islands geological and mineral assets and its distinctive landscape character, the strong sense of history and the magnificent views.

Portland has been inhabited since at least the Mesolithic period (the Middle Stone Age)—there is archaeological evidence of Mesolithic inhabitants at the Culverwell Mesolithic Site, near Portland Bill and of habitation since then.

Although the beginning of the Viking Age in England is dated to their raid in 793, when they destroyed the abbey on Lindisfarne, their first documented landing occurred in Portland four years earlier, in 789, as recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.

Due to its isolated coastal location, the Isle of Portland has an extensive range of flora and fauna; the coastline and disused quarries are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Sea and migratory birds include rare species which draw ornithologists from around the country. Rare visitors to the surrounding seas include dolphins, seals and basking sharks.

The comparatively warm and sunny climate allows species of plants to thrive which do not on the mainland. The limestone soil has low nutrient levels; hence smaller species of wild flowers and grasses can grow in the absence of larger species. Portland sea lavender can be found on the higher sea cliffs; unique to Portland, it is one of the United Kingdom's rarest plants. The wild flowers and plants make an excellent habitat for butterflies; over half of the British Isles' 57 butterfly species can be seen on Portland, including varieties that migrate from mainland Europe. Species live on Portland that are rare in the UK, including the limestone race of the silver-studded blue.

Portland is in the final stages of developing its Neighbourhood Plan. Through the Neighbourhood Plan the Portland Town Council and the community have expressed their support for developments that do not lead to significant loss or damage to any of the islands natural assets including landscape character, amenity, historic environment, views, ecology and wildlife corridors, archaeological or geological values of the course, shoreline, beaches, adjacent coastal waters and countryside.

Politics, Community and Culture

In April 2019 Portland becomes a part of Dorset Council Unitary Authority. It regains its independence from Weymouth, and the Portland Community has recently supported Portland Town Council's ambition to take full responsibility for its local services. ***Portland Town Council has resolved that it is fully supportive for the inclusion of Portland within a Dorset National Park.***

Portland has a unique coast, character and location that has determined its culture, its economic agenda and shaped its geography. There is a widespread feeling that the tourism potential has not been fully tapped. The community at large supports making efforts to attract and accommodate more visitors. Green and sustainable tourism is the objective that will build on the natural environment and uniqueness of Portland supported by a matching quality of service. The island offers significant activity adventure opportunities and recognising this Portland Town Council supports an approach to tourism that makes Portland and outdoors activity hub – Dorset is 'The Countryside', Weymouth 'The Seaside' and Portland 'The Outside'.

The challenges Portland faces include identifying tourism growth that respects the quality of landscape, identifying appropriate areas sensitive to tourism development. The PTC policy is designed to mainly encourage small-scale sustainable tourism development proposals aimed at providing land-based and offshore based activity and adventure experiences – all accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment e.g. water sports, fishing, climbing, walking and bird watching that capitalised on its unique location. ***Reference the Portland Recreational Activities Spreadsheet.***

The island will be helped significantly by the development of a major tourist attraction. In the last few days an 'Eden Project for Portland' has been announced that will use the underground Albion Stone's Jordans Mine and have the associated buildings largely set into the ground. The £20+ million project has strong political, financial and community support and fits in well with the above policy.

Eden's mission is to explore our dependence on the natural world, to use that understanding to excite people into delivering transformation where they live and to ask really serious questions about what a great future might look like for all of us. Portland's incredible landscapes heritage and location at the heart of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage site mark the Isle out as a place where global stories can be told with strong local roots. It will tell the biggest story of all: the evolving story of life. It's a story four billion years in the making and a really important chapter is unfolding right now with modern biodiversity loss. This is the "Sixth Extinction" - the fifth wiped out the dinosaurs.

For most of the last century, Portland was defined by its role as a Royal Navy base. Building on this legacy, the 2012 Olympic Games put Portland firmly on the marine tourist map. The Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy has world-class facilities for sailing in Portland Harbour plus providing a venue with a full range of water sports including diving, paddle boarding and kayaking. There are also developments that reflect the maritime and naval history of the area – from air-sea rescue to the bouncing bomb, torpedoes, sonar and D-Day.

The RSA England Heritage League Table for 2016 is based upon local authority administrative boundaries rather than specific areas that may have outstanding heritage credentials. In 2016 Dorset had three areas in the top 30, out of 325 local authority areas in England, with 2 in the top 4%. Weymouth and Portland came 10th but only 234th in using that potential.

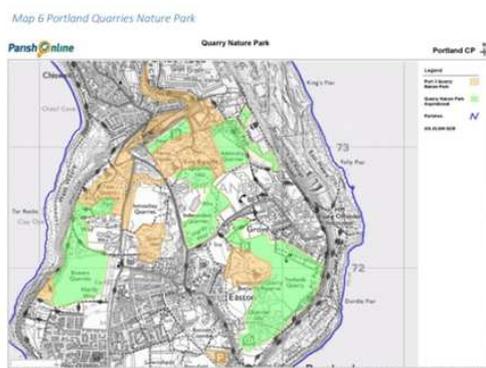
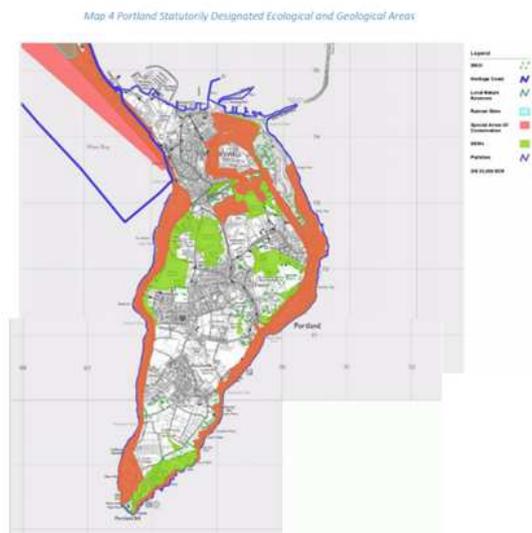
It is the balance of maintaining and improving the natural environment and at the same time providing opportunities for economic-related development, which is at the core of the Island's future. ***Portland Town Council and the Community believe that being within a Dorset National Park will significantly help them to meet this challenge.***

The Environment

Portland is a historic and special environment in so many ways. It has a unique coast, character and location that has determined its culture, its economic agenda and shaped its geography. A Heritage and Character Study was commissioned as part of Portland's Neighbourhood Plan <https://www.portlandplan.org.uk/> The Character Assessment Report identified six distinct 'character areas' on Portland and made recommendations about how development needs to be controlled in the interests of protecting or enhancing their unique character.

34% of Portland is designated Priority Habitats

Natural England defines key characteristics as "these combinations of elements which help to give an area its distinctive sense of place" that would result in significant consequences for the current character if they were changed or lost. There are two areas of Portland forming the Island's spine, which are nationally important but with little potential for development, they should remain as they are – "Portland Bill and the Jurassic Coast area" together with "The rugged open landscape area of Quarries and Open Space" that contribute much to the character of the whole Island.



The development of the Portland Quarries Nature

Park is consistent with the recommendations of the Portland Heritage and Character Assessment of 2017. It is focused on the rugged open landscape area of Quarries and Open Space. The Assessment recommended that the principles for managing change should focus on sustaining, reinforcing or enhancing those aspects which enhance the industrial character and contribute to the coastal setting.

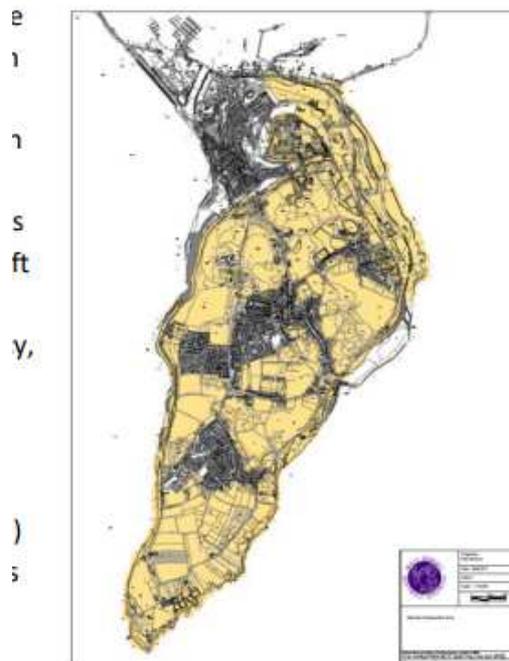
"Development within the disused quarries should be encouraged to celebrate both the industrial heritage on

the island and the diverse and high-quality landscape and biodiversity." Part of the Quarries Nature Park also lies within the Grove and Verne which is significant because of its heritage value.

The built environment is arguably as significant and important as the natural environment. The community wants to ensure that their heritage is recognised and respected. 95% of respondents to the Community Survey in 2014 responded that we must protect our old buildings and heritage. On a relatively small island, we have five conservation areas. There are 178 Grade II (nationally important and of special interest) buildings and structures on Portland. The Island also has three Grade I (of exceptional interest) and 10 Grade II* (of more than special interest) buildings and structure. Beyond these, there are many other buildings, structures and locations that we regard as being an essential and important part of our history and heritage. Eight locations on the Island are scheduled as ancient monuments. An example of the Harmony regarded as important are the landscape areas of the Vernon nature reserve, largely man-made because of modelling at the time of construction of the Verne Citadel. This area has recently been fenced off to allow the introduction of goats to control the vegetation.

Almost the whole of Portland is designated as a Mineral Safeguarding Area. Portland stone is seen as a strategic resource. Portland Stone is derived principally from a 9m thick bed known as the Freestone which occurs within the Portland Limestone Group. It is overlain in most places by several metres of thinly bedded limestones and clays ("the Caps"). Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) protect known locations of specific mineral resources from sterilisation.

There are limited employment areas on Portland, and the Isle is well used to development being constrained by national environmental, housing and mineral policies.



Map 3 Portland Mineral Consultation Area

Neighbourhood

planning is intended to give communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of the local area. The Portland Neighbourhood Plan is in close harmony with the aims and objectives of a Dorset National Park, an ambition that is reflected in a strong desire to:

- revive and diversify the island's economy
- create more and better local jobs
- improve existing centres
- facilitate the delivery of local services
- meet the housing needs of the 21st century in the interests of local people
- attract visitors and serve them well

and while doing so:

- strengthen the sense of community and its sustainability
- protect our unique natural environment
- respect our heritage
- safeguard the island's minerals

Portland deserves to be in a Dorset National Park – it has given its 'heart of stone' to the nation in many ways, asking nothing in return. A Dorset National Park, which includes Portland, will enrich the lives of Portlanders, sustain their beloved environment and bring a sharp environmental contrast to the rolling hills of Dorset's mainland.

END