

BROADSHEET

THE BOURTONS

February 2023



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Bell Tower fund to date is **£69,200**

Next Big Breakfast will be on **Saturday, 4th March!** 😊

Welcome ...

So sorry to hear that some of you had the festive holidays marred by Covid and do hope that you're feeling much better and with no long-lasting effects.

Fun was had in and around the village with new year celebrations and now many of us are sad to see the Bell Inn closed again. We've enjoyed some fun with Sarah and Rachel during their short time with us and, despite the sadness, it was a lovely farewell evening for them and their team; we'll miss you and send our love and best wishes for whatever and wherever you go next. Fingers crossed for the future of the Bell.

During January we heard that our printer, Roger Gooding, is taking his well-earned retirement and we wish him and his wife well. Roger has printed the Broadsheet for very many years and will be much missed. Please bear with us whilst we finalise arrangements with a new printer.

Now as we move into February – will Groundhog Day mean winter carries on or will it finish soon? Then we've that special one (?! 😊) romantic day of the year; followed by Pancake Day and Ash Wednesday.

Enjoy!

Sue



Love to hear from you:

Email: bourtonsbroadsheet@gmail.com

Tel: 01295 758036

Copy deadline: 17th of each month



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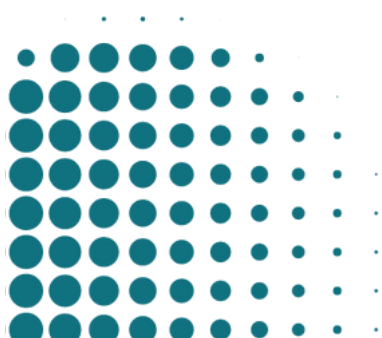
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Bourtons' Gardening Club

Note from Ann Brooks

Chairman, BGC

"As I write this in mid-January, the evenings are beginning to lengthen, and my thoughts are turning to all the wonderful garden visits and talks the Bourtons' Gardening Club will be planning for our new programme which runs from May for 12 months.

In the meantime, our spring talks beckon, the first of which is Bourtonian Julie Tomlin talking about her experience of designing and growing a prairie-style garden right here in the parish. That is on Wednesday, 1st February starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall; it is at this meeting we will be taking membership fees for 2023 which remain at £10 per person.

Plans are afoot for a coach trip to RHS Wisley in April, a visit to Pettifers in June and an evening picnic at Rousham in high summer as a joint shindig with the Boddingtons and District Gardening Association. There will be lots to look forward to so if you want to join or want a taster of what we get up to, you are welcome to attend as a guest at our February meeting."

BOURTONS MUSIC SOCIETY - on Wednesday 15th February. This month's theme is 'Colours'. Colour is all around us and influences our lives. It is used creatively within music using lyrics and instruments. See what music you can find to add to this colourful kaleidoscope of sound. Bring your own drinks. We meet in Bourtons' Village Hall at 7:30pm. Visitors, guests and prospective members are welcome to attend at £1.50 per person. New members are always welcome from the Bourtons and surrounding villages. Information about the Society or any events can be obtained by contacting Margaret on 01295 758519 or Paul on 01295 750596.

Foodbank

contributions may be left with
Gina Cumming, Greenslade,
Crow Lane, GB

(Please leave items under covered
area near door)

Please only donate items which are
'in date'.

Items are taken to the Banbury
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Thank you!

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**The British Hedgehog
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MOTHER'S DAY SATURDAY

18TH MARCH 2023

BOTTOMLESS AFTERNOON TEA 12PM & BOTTOMLESS SUPPER 5PM

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL
FULL DETAILS ON WWW.THEBRASENOSE.CO.UK OR FACEBOOK**

SUNDAY LUNCH MOTHERING SUNDAY

19TH MARCH 2023

**£16.50 adult - with a gift for Mum
£12.00 children 's | £6.00 Under 5's**

Roast pork loin

Sirloin of beef

Slow roasted shoulder of lamb

Ballotine of chicken wrapped in bacon

Brasenose lentil loaf (ve)

**Broad bean falafels served with vegan pesto
dressed zoodles & roasted tomatoes (v)**

Sittings

11.30 - 1.45 | 1.45 - 4.00 | 4.00 - 6.15 | 6.15 - 8.30

Booking essential on 01295 750244



THE  BRASENOSE



Hear this...



We will be holding our third Wildlife Day at All Saints in June. Lots more details will follow but one of our themes this year is bees so if anyone has any contacts who might be able to help or support us, please contact annbrooks100@gmail.com

**MAGGIE's COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING –
come for a cuppa, cake and a chat!
YE OLD VILLAGE HALL GREAT BOURTON
WEDNESDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY :: 10:30^{am} – Noon**

Looking for a venue in the Bourtons?

For Hall enquiries and bookings:

Community Hall: 07967 631770
bourtonscommunityhall@mail.com

Village Hall: Maggie: 01295 750497

Condolences...

We are sorry to announce that Frank Thomas, late of School Lane, passed away peacefully in Green Pastures on 14th January. His funeral is at the Crematorium on 1st February at 10am.

Frank was a prominent character in the village having served on the Fete committee many years ago and was also a founder member of Cluster Care. An interesting and 'worldly' person to chat to and has been greatly missed in the village.

With our condolences to Frank's family.

The All Saints Bell Tower Conservation project



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On behalf of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) - Bell Tower update...

Note from Mark McCann

- We have raised £69,200 since 2019; we need to raise a further £3,100...
- The target is £72,300 – which includes essential professional fees
- Costs have been fixed with a builder – J G Restoration
- During a recent site meeting with the architect and builder it was agreed to **start the work on 9th May** - it may be possible to erect scaffolding the week before. Watch this space for more updates!
- As ever, **thank you** for your continued support!

Friends of All Saints

The next Bourtons' Big Breakfast will take place on **Saturday, 4th March**, 9-11:30am, in the Village Hall.

* * * * *

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Coming Soon – All Saints Saturday Lottery!

Watch out for more information of how to be part of the Bourtons very own lottery - raising funds for the upkeep of All Saints – a focal centre of our two lovely villages.

Prizes will be awarded weekly (on Saturdays) using the national lottery bonus ball number as the winning number.

You have to be in it to win it!

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BOURTONS' PARISH COUNCIL minutes (abridged)

Tuesday, 10th January 2023 – minutes available on Bourtons' website...

Highways & Road defects - Progress Report

Both of our new FixMyStreet superusers - Cllr Beales & Mr Jon Pheasey - have now been fully trained and received on-site guidance from OCC, so are operational. They have already completed one inspection and reported a number of significant potholes which are targeted to be fixed by 4th Feb. Residents should continue to report potholes they are aware of on FixMyStreet but they can also advise our superusers. Residents are further reminded that if they suffer any significant vehicle damage or personal injury as a direct result of a pothole they may be able to make a claim against OCC. The PC would be happy to assist with this if required so please contact a Cllr. The trees causing concern on Main Street continue to be at risk and the Chairman has spoken directly to Arboriculture Officers at both OCC & CDC, but there is now a query as to whose responsibility the trees are! Further discussion will happen.

Parking issues - Manor Road - congestion continues to cause concerns, particularly relating to vehicles parked in the area near the pub. This has prevented oil deliveries to Manor Road and difficulties for refuse collections.

Parking issues - LB - concerns continue re vehicles parked on Spring Lane causing obstruction. Council will investigate with OCC the possibility of creating a small parking layby in the area to assist the congestion.

Public Transport: No response from Stagecoach and confusion remains about service provision. Differing information appears on the bus stop timetables. This is an important issue as developers are using incorrect information to support planning applications claiming a bus service operates!

Planning: New applications: 22/03870/Q56: Mr & Mrs Aries, Home Farm Barn, Crow Lane, GB: re-application of previous submission to allow consultation on changes.

Decisions: 22/03380/F: Mr Lowin, 11 Manor Close, GB: ground floor extension - **PERMITTED**

CDC Local Plan Review (LPR): the previously announced publication of the draft Plan for consultation has been delayed by CDC and is expected later this month. We have seen the draft of the main body of text, submitted to the CDC Executive earlier this month, but not information on the offered sites. This is awaited and we will respond within the 6 week consultation period.

The Bourtons' Community Plan: work continues alongside finalisation of our response to the CDC LPR as some of the info will be common to both.

Great Bourton Conservation area: interest continues and it was **AGREED** that a project plan be developed and initial investigations commenced. The plan will include community engagement proposals, area determination and a process review.

Enforcement: No updates - Jane Law (Senior Enforcement Officer) has been contacted for update.

County & District Councillors report: DCllr Chapman reported that he had seen the proposed draft version of the LPR but not the offered sites data which is of great significance to local villages. He will keep us fully briefed.

Defibrillators: Both defibrillators reported working.

Website: Work continues on new pages for Wildlife project. A new policy has been drafted for the website and this was considered and it was **RESOLVED** that it should be adopted. Concerns were expressed by Cllrs about a number of scam emails that have been received. It was pointed out that this is not directly connected to either the website nor our email provider, but unfortunately a consequence of modern life. Cllrs were instructed to take great care to ensure they do not open potential scam emails.

Projects update: Garners Field: A client care letter [contractual agreement] has now been received from CDC re the adoption of the LAP. Unfortunately this does not make clear the understanding that no legal costs will be charged to us; this is being challenged and Council will NOT agree to the adoption if this is not the case. Otherwise work on the adoption continues but we have been advised it may be an extended process.

Garners Field: A discussion was held regarding residents' dissatisfaction with the level of service being provided by Ground Solutions, the company appointed by HH to manage the public areas on the development. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would meet with a representative resident to understand the current situation, and report back to Council in February.

LB Project: No further work due to weather conditions, but the emergence of the snowdrops is awaited! Discussions with the LB Improvement group to agree further steps.

Tree pruning in Churchyard: It has been identified that urgent pruning is required. A quote has been obtained from our preferred supplier and it was **RESOLVED** that this be accepted and work be authorised. The Clerk will ensure that this work will be budgeted correctly in future years.

Community Speedwatch: due to the impact of the works on Main Street no further activity has taken place. Once these works have concluded Council will establish the level of support from the community and subject to sufficient volunteers and the appointment of a co-ordinator, the project can start.

Playgrounds & Public Spaces: GB playground - the search for a local person to fit the swing seats continues as it is proving difficult to locate someone who has the necessary level of insurance. The Clerk will speak with Banbury Town Council to see if they can assist.

Allotments: Final rent payments to be chased. Letters to tenants breaching their tenancy agreements to be followed up. Damage to plot dividing fences to be reviewed and costs understood. A process to support essential work to be established and the way of raising funds to be clarified.

A metered bill has now been received from Castle Water for the past year which shows consumption higher than anticipated. A review will be completed to ensure that costs are covered by rental income. It was **RESOLVED** that this bill will be paid and sent with a letter to try and resolve the current situation over historic water bills.

Halls: CH: Nothing to report.

VH: An estimate will be sought to repair/replace damaged external window-sills. Oil tank casing will also be replaced. The extended lease expires in April and a letter will be sent to the VHMC Chairman regarding the renewal process.

Healthcare: Cllr Johnson advised that Cropredy Surgery has confirmed that their list is now nearly full and only new patients living within their territory can be accommodated.

Finance & Administration: Following incidents of fraud involving Clerks in other areas we have completed a review of our internal control procedures. The Internal Controls Policy has been updated and it was **RESOLVED** that this be adopted. Further the current Financial Report - FIN REP - was considered inadequate by the Clerk and a new version was proposed that allowed Cllrs to see the full details of the monthly bank reconciliation along with the cheque requests; it was **RESOLVED** that this be adopted.

The FIN REP for December & January previously circulated in the new format was **ACCEPTED**. It was **RESOLVED** that 4 payments requested totalling £364.12 be approved. To comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code those in excess of £100 are listed below

A request has been received from Wardington PC for us to replace our cheque sent in payment for the hire of their Hall last October which has been lost in transmission. It was **RESOLVED** that this be supported.

The previously **AGREED** precept of £13,595 which represents an increase of 5% was confirmed and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should formally request this from CDC as is required. This will mean a slight reduction in reserves in order to avoid a higher increase.

The previously circulated Risk Assessment was considered and with only very minor changes it was **RESOLVED** to adopt it. Further discussion then followed about the earlier minute regarding scam emails; electronic communications are not covered in the Risk Assessment and this will be added with the document being re-presented for adoption in February.

Correspondence: Chairman has arranged a meeting with Voneus to discuss the need for latest comms development in GB.

The Bell Land Charity has been contacted regarding monies which may be available for the refurbishment of the Parish clock.

No new business was introduced.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 7th February 2023 at 19:30hrs in the Community Hall.

* * * *

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News from Little Bourton by Jan Williams...

Prize Bingo at The Dirt House: Thursday, 2nd February 7pm

Come and have fun as you play along for just £1 a game or £5 for a book of 6 games. There will be prizes for all the winners!! It could be yooooou!

PUB CLOSED for a well-deserved staff holiday! 4th–11th February

Sunday, 12th February: Six Nations Rugby - England v Italy

You can enjoy watching the game with friends at The Dirt House

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th February more rugby!

Coffee Morning: Thursday, 16th February 11am

Please note that this is happening a week later than our normal meeting date, falling in the third week of the month. January's meeting was very well attended by ladies (and gentlemen) from all around the local area and there was a wonderful choice of cakes, biscuit and pastries provided free of charge! Do join us in February to spend a happy, chatty morning with local friends and neighbours.

18th February: Private Party from 6pm

Little Bourton WhatsApp Group call 07730 570639 to join!



Shires' Edge Benefice

Church services across the Benefice during February:

| When: | | Service: | Where: |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 5th Sun | 9:30 ^{am} | Holy Communion | Cropredy |
| | 10 ^{am} | Family service | Wardington |
| | 11^{am} | Holy Communion | Gt Bourton |
| | 4 ^{pm} | Evening Prayer | Claydon |
| 12 th Sun | 10 ^{am} | United Benefice Communion | Cropredy |
| 19th Sun | 8:30 ^{am} | Holy Communion | Claydon |
| | 10 ^{am} | Seeker Service | Cropredy |
| | 10 ^{am} | Family Communion | Wardington |
| | 11^{am} | Sunday at All Saints | Gt Bourton |
| 21 st Tues | Noon | Iona Communion | Cropredy |
| 22nd Wed | 9 ^{am} | Morning Prayer | Claydon |
| | 10 ^{am} | Holy Communion with Ashing | Claydon |
| | 7^{pm} | Holy Communion with Ashing | Gt Bourton |
| 26 th Sun | 10 ^{am} | Morning Worship | Cropredy |
| | 10 ^{am} | Holy Communion | Mollington |
| 28 th Tues | Noon | Iona Communion | Cropredy |

Please note that All Saints GB is open only for services now until the clock change in March 2023. **The Bell Tower/Lychgate is available for prayer and reflection - a prayer is posted on the notice board each month.**



Bourtons' goings-on... February

| CH = Community Hall | | DH = Dirt House | VH = Village Hall |
|---|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| When | | What | Where |
| 1 st Wed | 7:30 ^{pm} | Gardening club | VH |
| 15 th Wed | 7:30 ^{pm} | Music Society | VH |
| 16 th Thurs | 11 ^{am} -Noon | Coffee morning | DH |
| 22 nd Wed | 10:30 ^{am} -Noon | Coffee morning | VH |
| What's coming up... watch out for more info... | | | |
| 4 th Mar | Bourtons' Big Breakfast, Village Hall | | |
| 24 th Mar | Choral & Instrumental concert directed by Helen Swift – CH - tickets on sale soon! | | |
| 7 th May | Coronation Barn Dance, Old Manor Farm, LB | | |
| tbc June | Wildlife Day | | |

See **page 11** for more **Dirt House** events.