

THE BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON
TUESDAY JANUARY 9TH 2024 AT 19:30

In attendance : Cllr Mrs S Upton (Chairman), Cllr Mrs G Duckworth, Cllr A Johnson, Cllr Mrs J Beales, Cllr G Reynolds, Stephen Bowen,-Clerk, Rachel Pheasey-RFO, Steve Martin (co-opted at this meeting) ; **Apologies** : Cllr Mrs G Brooks, DCllr P Chapman

Declarations of Interest : none declared

Public Participation : no public attendance.

Minutes : The previous Council meeting (November) minutes were reviewed and corrected [see below]; they were then approved for signature.

Minute ref	Item	Delegated to
2401-00	Co-option	
2401-00.169	Further to the application received from Mr Steve Martin, and consideration of his resume and references, Council unanimously RESOLVED that he be co-opted with immediate effect.	Information
2401-01	Footpaths	
2401-01.170	Email received from OCC CAO advising that she has visited The Stables site regarding a pig being loose within the site, the matter is subject to investigation.	
2401-02	Highways & Road defects - Progress Report	
2401-01.171	The Community Speedwatch team now has 11 members, all trained, & with 5 qualified as co-ordinators. Official monitoring has now started with offenders being reported to TVP. To date they have recorded 153 speeding cars in 11 sessions. The max speed recorded was 41mph in a 20mph zone.	Information
2401-02.172	A replacement Community Speedwatch sign has been ordered to replace the small one at the gateway on Main Street to make it more visible.	Clerk
2401-09	Public Transport:	
2401-09.173	The announcement re additional bus provision on the Southam Road has been delayed and should now be announced in February.	Information
2401-60	Planning applications:	
2401-60.174	New applications: 23/03428/OUT : Greystoke : warehouse estate development on A362 at M40 junction : Council has OBJECTED 23/01339/Q56 : Crockwell Farm barn conversion : announcement of appeal against refusal. 23/03575/F : Mrs Sockett, Old Manor Cottage, Manor Road, GB : demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey extn, plus new attic toom and dormer window, solar panels on roof : Council will comment.	Information
	Decisions No new decisions received.	Information
2401-60.175	Community Plan : the supporting data for our Plan is now almost complete and drafting is in progress. Council intends to hold a public meeting to present a draft of the Plan when complete so residents can review and comment. This is important as the Plan must represent with view of the Parish.	Information
2401-90	County & District Councillors report:	
2401-90.176	A new Chief Executive for CDC has been appointed and started work at the beginning of January. This Council welcomes Mr Gordon Stewart and looks forward to meeting him in person.	Information
2401-90.175	Work continues on the plan to relocate CDC offices from Bodicote House to the Castle Quay centre to be followed by the disposal of the former HQ site for possible housing development. No date has yet been confirmed for the relocation.	Information
2401-04	Defibrillators:	
23401-04.177	Both defibrillators working.	Information
2401-05	Website:	
2401-05.178	Review of pages on the site has indicated that additional ones would improve accessibility, work on this will begin. Updates of information will be uploaded to support the forthcoming internal audit and our statutory responsibilities under the Transparency regulations.	Information
2401-06	Projects update:	
2401-06.179	LB : the posts for the new village sign are on the way finally and we hope to erect the sign very soon. Disturbing news has emerged that The Dirt House is to be put up for sale. Council is very sad to hear of this, in view of the support given to the pub since it's rebirth as The Dirt House and earnestly hopes that it will remain as a pub to be enjoyed by residents.	Information
2401-07	Playgrounds & Public Spaces:	
2402-07.180	GB Playground : our lease on this playground expires in 2026 after a period of 21 years. Council will work to get a response from the Landowner to understand if a renewal can be negotiated. Much of the equipment is now approaching its end-of-life and we also need to start on planning for replacement which will be very costly. We therefore intend to create a fundraising and grant application plan, further details later in this year.	Information
2401-08	Allotments:	
2401:08.182	The Chairman presented her update regarding the ongoing dispute with Castle Water re their outstanding invoices. A spreadsheet clarifying Councils' opinion as to our calculation of water consumed. We have replied in writing to their solicitors explaining our case again and await a response.	
2401-08.181	Number signs have been ordered to make plot identification easier. Council plans to hold a Tenants meeting probably in April, at the start of the growing season, to understand any issues, discuss maintenance, and any other matters. A date will be confirmed in February.	Information
2401-10	Halls:	

2401-10.183	VH : Damp issues/Roof repairs : Quotes have now been received and a considerable outlay will be required. Council are reviewing external funding opportunities, including fund raising and grants to support the cost. Following this research we will review and hope to be able to commission the required work later in the year.	Information
2401-11	Healthcare: No updates.	
2401-50	Finance & Administration:	
2401-50.184	The FIN REP was circulated and it was RESOLVED that the associated bank reconciliation be accepted and that 7 payments totalling £2,327.10 be approved. Note that this was the first to be issued by our new RFO. To comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code those in excess of £100 are listed below : Salaries (2 chq's) £1662.90 HMRC - Staff PAYE £ 396.20 SLCC - annual membership £112.00	Information
2401-50.185	The budget for the coming FY, previously circulated, was discussed. Some numbers still require confirmation, but early indications are that a rise of circa 12% will be required in order to maintain services provided at their current level, due to inflationary increases experienced over the current year. It should be noted that the employment of an RFO has no impact on the budget, being funded by a reduction in the Clerks' hours. Further work will be done to identify any possible savings and the final budget will be presented at the January meeting, when it must be agreed to comply with CDC submission deadline.	Clerk
2401-50.186	The budget spreadsheet/support doc was discussed and it was RESOLVED that the proposed precept of £15,250 be implemented.	Clerk
2401-50.187	The proposed change of bank from Barclays to Unity Bank was discussed and the RFO was asked to confirm that current application process and review the details of the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund. This information to be reported at the next meeting prior to implementing the change before the year end.	RFO & Clerk
2401-70	Correspondence:	
2401-70.188	A communication received from CDC re Climate Change digital meeting was noted and Cllrs were asked to consider if they wished to attend and Cllr Duckworth and the Chairman have both volunteered to log on. Council feels it needs to understand what is happening in other Parishes before determining its action plan.	Information
2401-80	New business: There was no new business to consider.	Information
Meeting closed at 2130		
Minutes drafted by the Clerk on 16/11/23.		
The next meeting will be held on February 13th 2024 in the Community Hall commencing at 19:30		