

THE BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Community Hall on Tuesday March 12th 2024 at 19:30

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

Declarations of Interest : none declared

Public Participation : no public attendance.

Minutes : The previous Council meeting (February) minutes were reviewed and were approved for signature.

Minute Ref	Item	Delegated to
2403-01	Footpaths	
2403-01.215	The clerk has written again to the OCC CAO re the footpath across The Stables site. Her response may be delayed because the landowner is currently abroad.	Information
2403-02	Highways & Road defects - Progress Report	
2403-02.216	Cllr Martin provided a comprehensive report on the Speed watch team's activities for the last month, the essence of which will be published on the Bourtons' Facebook page. Two of the team have now moved away from the village so we shall try to recruit some new members to take their place, anyone interested should contact the Clerk. A new initiative will be set up to work in conjunction with the Cropredy Speed watch team.	Information
2403-09	Public Transport:	
2403-09.217	Although the latest additions to local transport did not include the Bourtons directly, the new Hornton service will add another service to Little Bourton on Thursdays. Discussion are ongoing with the OCC Transport team (Stuart Kocan-Payne) regarding the addition of an approved Bus Stop on the A432 for Great Bourton. The proposed site has already been agreed by OCC Highways.	Information
2403-60	Planning applications:	
	New applications:	
2403-60.218	23/00418/F : Mr & Mrs Hanschell, 6 The Close, GB : demolition of porch and replacement with 2 storey version. No objections from the parish council.	Information
2403-60.219	Decisions: Appeal launched re Vistry Homes 170+ housing application at Hanwell. Local parish councils were asked by Hanwell Parish Council to resubmit their objections to the Inspectorate which the chairman has done. Our concern is that if this is approved by the Inspectorate it will set a precedent and we know that there was a suggestion in the CDC local plan that Little Bourton could be joined to Banbury to which we would object.	Information
2403-60.220	Enforcement matters: Many residents were concerned about the open day planned at the Falconry Centre but it passed off without any issues as far as we can gather. The organiser of the Falconry Centre has been advised by CDC that he will need to apply for planning permission to run the centre but that planning permission cannot be granted for both activities – a traveller site and a Falconry Centre. We await an update for the enforcement team.	Information
2403-60.221	Conservation area application : No updates on this but we need to reapply again in June as no new applications can be registered before then.	Information
2403-90	County & District Councillors report:	
2403-90.222	No CDC update as apologies received from Cllr Chapman. Councillor Reynolds attended the meeting and said there was not a lot to report. He had met the new CEO of CDC who has come from a different leadership background so that may be helpful. He explained the increases in CDC charges this year.	Information
2403-04	Defibrillators:	
2403-04.223	Both defibrillators working. Cllr Duckworth, who monitors the LB defibrillator, will be keep a diary on checking dates.	Information
2403-05	Website:	
2403-05.224	Amendments anticipated from the Village Hall for their page and possibly the addition of an on line booking system. New pages will be added for the Friends of All Saints and the Wildlife group.	Information
2403-06	Projects update:	
2403-06.225	We await confirmation from OCC Highways on the siting of the new LB village sign.	Information
2403-07	Playgrounds & Public Spaces:	
2403-07.226	GB Garners Field LAP : update on legals re transfer from CDC – the searches being conducted by CDC re the transfer have now come back with no issues identified. The question of the boundary of the site remains unclear and further investigation will be completed to try and clarify. The issue being whether the hedgerow at the front of the site abutting the Main Street pavement is included or is part of the highway. We need to clarify this to establish what we as the parish council are responsible for with regards to ongoing maintenance.	Information
2403-08	Allotments:	
2403-08.227	No further communication has been received from Castle Water. We are paying the 2024 water usage charges only until the outstanding issues have been resolved.	Information
2403-08.228	A recent break in on the allotment site resulted in a tap being stolen and the need to turn off the water at the stop-cock on the A423. It was agreed to investigate a remote read meter which we had originally requested so we can monitor consumption safely, if this is not possible or expensive then we will consider installing our own meter on site.	Information
2403-10	Halls:	
2403-10.229	VH : We have explored the possibility of gaining any grant monies to address the damp problems to no avail.	Information
2403-10.230	CH : any updates, issue with unauthorised parking and possible remedies. Cllr Gill Brookes gave an update on the latest CH activities. We have previously agreed to erect a notice to advise that parking is for CH users only – this will be progressed.	Information
2403-11	Healthcare:	

2403-11.231 Cllr Johnson presented an overview on the current Healthcare concerns about the future of the Cropredy Surgery. The latest Brasenose application 23/00977/OUT has now included a new medical centre – their application will be presented to the planning committee on March 21 at 4pm. This application is first on the agenda. We understand Dr Tom Holyoake will be speaking at the meeting. Information

2403-50 Finance & Administration:

2403-50.232 The FIN REP prepared by the RFO was circulated and it was **RESOLVED** that the associated bank reconciliation be accepted and that 9 payments [inc salaries] totalling £2,465.96 be approved. To comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code those in excess of £100 are listed below : Information

Lovells: VH Oil Tank Cladding £355.20

OALC Membership: £168.00

Sign Wizzard : additional Community Speed watch signs : £246.51

HMRC: PAYE £272.00

Churchyard Tree pruning £200

2403-50.233 A document has been drafted to support grant applications for the Parish Clock. We await advice from our insurers about how much we should insure the clock for. Information

2403-50.234 The 2024/25 precept request has been accepted by CDC. Information

2403-70 Correspondence:

2403-70.235 A request has been made to include the allotments as open for viewing on the Gardens Open Day – councillors are concerned about the insurance implications. None of the allotment holders have expressed a negative response but Cllr Duckworth will contact the Open Gardens organisation to see if they have any information which may be helpful. Information

2403-80 New business:

There was no new business to consider.

Meeting closed at 21:20

Minutes drafted on 18/02/24.

The next meeting will be held on April 9th 2024 in the Community Hall commencing at 19:30

Signed: **Sue Upton** Chairman on 09/04/24

Hard copy of these wet signed minutes are held on file.