

THE BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Community Hall on Tuesday October 8th 2024 at 19:30

In attendance : Cllr Mrs S Upton (Chairman), Cllr A Johnson, Cllr Mrs G Duckworth, Cllr Mrs J Beales, Cllr S Martin, Stephen Bowen (Clerk), Mrs R Pheasey (RFO) ; **Apologies :** Cllr Mrs G Brooks (holiday), ,DCllr Mr P Chapman (CDC business).

Declarations of Interest : none declared

Public Participation : No members of the public attending

Minutes : The previous Council meeting (September) minutes were reviewed and authorised to be signed.

Minute Ref	Item	Delegated to
2410-01	Footpaths	
2410-124	An update was received from the OCC CAO re footpath FP8 advising that no progress had been made in contacting the landowner. They have been put in contact with officers at CDC Planning Enforcement to co-ordinate future activities.	Information
2410-02	Highways & Road defects - Progress Report	
2410-02.125	Community Speedwatch : report shows that 4 sessions have been held and 45 speeding vehicles were noted and reported to TVP. The highest speed recorded was 37mph. 3 repeat offenders have been noted : a blue Nissan [28/41/27 mph], a silver VW Golf [26/32/29/30] and a blue Audi [46/41/39/38]. It was proposed that a meeting be held with PC L Turnham, the TVP supervising officer, together with an invite to attend a Council meeting to brief on follow up actions.	Chairman
2410-09	Public Transport:	
2410-09.126	Completion of the bus stop survey requested by OCC is underway. Completion anticipated this month. Chairman will attend the next OCC Transport Meeting on 19th November.	Chairman Cllr Duckworth
2410-60	Planning applications:	
2410-60.127	New applications : no new applications received	
2410-10.128	Current applications	
	24/01353/Q56 : Mr & Mrs Aries, Home Farm Barn, Crow Lane GB : conversion of barn to dwelling. Council has no objections re this application.	Chairman
	24/01885/F : Land behind Mole End, Main Street, GB : the draft response was reviewed by Cllrs and is was RESOLVED this should be submitted when the data tables on housing density and ecology have been added.	Clerk
2410-60.129	Decisions :	
	24/2013/REM : Claridge Gardens, School Lane, GB : variations to previous approval for 2 dormer bungalows ; PERMITTED	Information
	Enforcement matters :	
2410-60.130	The Stables/The Paddocks : The new Enforcement Officer, Mrs Amy Sedman has confirmed that she has visited The Stables/Paddocks sites and is consulting within CDC on future action. Follow planned within 10 days	Clerk
2410-60.131	The Bell Inn : A public meeting is to be held on October 10th in the Village Hall.	Information
2410-90	County & District Councillors report:	
2410-90.132	As no District or County Cllrs were present there is nothing to report. Concern was expressed by Council that we have not had any attendance from OCC or CDC Cllrs in recent months. This restricts our ability to understand issues being discussed at District & County level. Contact will be made with individual Cllrs.	Chairman
2410-04	Defibrillators:	
2410-04.133	Both units reported operating well. The pads used on the devices are nearing their expiry dates and new ones have been ordered and delivery is awaited.	Information
2410-05	Website:	
2410-04.134	More requests for page updates received from page sponsors; these will be actioned.	Chairman
2410-06	Projects update:	
2410-06.135	LB improvement : The Wildlife Group will be planting spring bulbs this month at various sites in the Parish. Thanks to all who have volunteered.	Information
2410-07	Playgrounds & Public Spaces:	
2410-07.136	GB Garners Field LAP : delays in responses from Hayfield Homes solicitor still being experienced by CDC legal and the value of the commuted sum is increasing.	Information
2410-07.137	Playgrounds : the previous decision to appoint Sovereign to provide their Compliance Maintenance package at both playgrounds will be actioned this month. They will be briefed on the current uncertainty regarding the future of the GB playground.	Clerk
2410-07.138	Efforts continue to try and contact the landowner of the GB Playground to discuss/understand their intentions when the current lease expires in October 2025. While this may seem a long way ahead, Council feels it will need significant time to investigate and locate a new site, if this is required, due to the scarcity of suitable land with the village.	Information
2410-08	Allotments:	
2410-08.139	Council was very sad to hear of the sudden death of Mr Peter Brooks, a new plot holder, and is pleased that his family have decided to retain the plot for the coming year.	Information
2410-08.140	Now that the growing season has ended the water supply will be turned off to prevent leaks and potential burst pipes. Now plot number signs have been obtained and these will be fitted, and a survey completed re the number of gate posts requiring replacement.	Clerk Cllr Mrs Beales
2410-10	Halls:	
2410-10.141	VH : plaster has been removed in the areas affected by damp and the 1st stage of the treatment has been completed. It is anticipated that final replastering will be completed this month, followed by repainting.	Information
2410-10.142	CH : Final works around the oil tank will be completed this month with the extension of the slab to comply with regulations, and the installation of protective bollards as required. The oil pipe soldered joints have been inspected by Gas-Tech and we await their quote prior to commissioning this work.	Cllr Martin

2410-11	Healthcare: Nothing to report.	
2410-50	Finance & Administration	
2410-50.143	The FIN REP prepared by the RFO was circulated and it was RESOLVED that the associated bank reconciliation be accepted and that 7 payments totalling £3411.12 be approved. To comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code those in excess of £100 are listed below : Zurich Insurance : annual renewal : £2133.31 Safeguard Store : damp proofing materials for VH : £153.96 CDC : dog bin emptying : £494.21 Moore : external audit fee : 252.00	Information
2410-50.144	The External Auditors have issued their signed report & certificate for the past year confirming that our activities comply with Proper Practices. A completion certificate has been posted on notice boards and the website.	Information
2410-50.145	The RFO advised that following research it has been decided to open a deposit account with our bankers, Unity Trust bank, transfers our funds remaining with Barclays, & close that account. This action will result in much better interest.	Information
2410-50.146	Work in preparation for the 25/26 budget has started & the RFO presented a report showing current performance vs the current budget which indicates that we anticipate being able to close the year in line with forecast. The Clerk & RFO will meet this month to finalise a draft budget for presentation to Council in November. It is anticipated that a further increase in precept will be required due to ongoing pressure on costs.	RFO/Clerk
2410-50.147	Following discussions with Smith of Derby [our Clock specialists] and Zurich Insurance Council has RESOLVED to accept their quote of £127.36 to provide limited cover for repairs should such be required. This additional premium is included in the renewal figure reported above.	Information
2410-70	Correspondence:	
2410-70.148	Request from the Volunteer Driver Service operating in Oxfordshire for support in current challenging times. Council has reviewed the request and AGREED to defer the decision until the draft budget presentation next month.	Information
2409-80	New business:	
2410-70.149	It was AGREED to purchase 3 new dog bins to replace the metal ones which are now not fit for purpose. Meeting closed at 21.15 Minutes drafted on 09/10/24 by the Clerk The next meeting will be held on Tuesday November 12th 2024 at 19:30 in the Community Hall meeting room.	Clerk