

THE BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Community Hall on Thursday 9th

January 2025 at 19:30

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

Declarations of Interest : none declared

Public Participation : No members of the public in attendance

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

Item

Rights of Way

Concerns had been raised about the condition of the right of way down Mill Lane and over the train line. This road has not been adopted by Oxfordshire Highways so the council will contact Network Rail for their advice.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Highways & Road defects - Progress Report

Community Speedwatch : TVP had confirmed that a new letter system is now up and running. Letters are expected to take around 14 days to be sent. One session was completed over the last period due to various reasons including weather. This session was attended by the police which had a maximum speed of 25 mph recorded.

The safety at the junction of Crow Lane onto Main Street was raised as visibility can be an issue when turning out. It was agreed that an email would be sent to Oxfordshire Highways to arrange a visit to see how this can be resolved.

Public Transport:

The Chairman has contacted Stagecoach to get details of the bus schedule while Thames Water are doing work on the A423 to assess the impact on the bus stop at Little Bourton. No response has been received so far.

An email has been received to say that the Bus stop data capture project has been paused pending a review.

Planning applications:

New applications :

24/03444/F : New application received for work on The Old Bakehouse. No immediate concerns were raised and it will be discussed in the February meeting if needed.

Existing Applications

The pre-submission review of the Local Plan is closing on February 14th 2025. Council will finalise it's submission in the February meeting. The decision to continue to show Great Bourton as a 'Cat - B' Village has been noted and clarification will be needed, as the council do not believe the village meets the criteria. Correspondence will be made separately to David Peckford (Assistant Director of Planning and Development) to highlight and discuss this with a view to changing this to Cat - C.

Decisions : no new decisions have been notified

Enforcement matters :

The Stables/The Paddocks - Discussions are ongoing with the Enforcement Officer.

County & District Councillors report:

Cllr Chapman updated the Councillors on the discussions taking place in regards to potential changes with the running of district and county councils.

Defibrillators:

Both units reported operating well. Cllr Martin has offered to take over the checking of the Great Bourton unit.

Website:

A comparison of the costs between the current website and email providers with another provider - Parish-on-line - will be looked into.

The Village Hall have had amendments made to their web page and updates are in hand for the Church pages.

Playgrounds & Public Spaces:

Dog notices are to be put up at the playgrounds and the replacement of the broken dog bins are being actioned.

Allotments:

An email was sent to the allotment holders to find the scale of the repairs needed to the fence posts around the outside of the allotments. The allotment holders' support in installing the posts when they arrive is gratefully welcomed.

The yearly review of the allotment rents and agreement will be discussed in the February meeting

Halls:

VH : All remedial work has been completed save for a final preparation on the interior paintwork. Next year the cleaning/repainting of the external windows is being looked at to complete the work needed.

CH : The final work to the oil supply line has now been completed. Chairman will write to Tom Edwards to thank him for the work which he has carried out at no cost.

Healthcare:

The roof to the surgery in Cropredy still requires work to complete. Discussions will be taking place with the owners of the new development in Cropredy in regards to the commitment to the new surgery.

Finance & Administration

The FIN REP was circulated and it was **RESOLVED** that the associated bank reconciliation be accepted and that 9 payments totalling £2,772.39 be approved. To comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code those in excess of £100 are listed below :

Prybros - Weedkilling - £342

SW Services - mowing - £427

Payroll - £1,770.75

The budget was presented and agreed. The RFO had recommended that 20% of the Fairport ticket sale proceeds in the coming year should be transferred to reserves for future projects. However the decision by Fairport to reduce their ticket numbers has caused uncertainty in this income and the budget has now reflected this. No information on the tickets allocation to the village is available at this time. Budget proposed by Cllr A Johnson and seconded by Cllr G Brookes

The changes to the 2025 meetings calendar have been confirmed and the meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month.

The risk assessment has been reviewed for this year and it was **RESOLVED** that no changes are necessary. This was proposed by Cllr G Brookes and seconded by Cllr S Martin.

Correspondence:

Councillors have previously reviewed and agreed that they will not draw their allowances, but will be able to claim for meal and travel allowances if they are on Council business.

New business:

No new business was discussed

Meeting closed at 21.15

Minutes drafted on 11/01/25 by the Clerk