The Bourtons Parish Council

Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Community Centre

Thursday 14th May 2026 at 7.30pm

In attendance: Cllr Mrs Upton, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Beales, Mrs Pheasey (Clerk/RFO), Mr Bowen (Assistant-Clerk - Planning),

Apologies : Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Brooks, Cllr Martin

Declarations of Interest - None declared

Public participation - 3 members of the public. Two of whom came to discuss the Community Hall.

As we didn't have a quorum to elect a Chairman, the meeting was chaired by The Clerk.

Ref:		Action
	Footpaths	
0526.01	The steps on the footpath at the bottom of Stanwell Lane will be looked at as there have been reports that they are damaged and there has been water running down them.	Clerk
	Highways	
0526.02	There was only 1 Speedwatch session this month which had 4 people caught speeding.	Information
0526.03	Reports of overhanging branches on The Green will be looked at. It was discussed if any of the branches were over electric wires as the council can ask the electric company to cut these back. The council will get someone to look at the remaining branches.	Clerk/Chairman
0526.04	There have been reports of workmen laying pipes on the road down to Cropredy and blocking the path down to the school and partially blocking the road. The relevant authorities were informed, however this has now been cleared.	Information
	Planning	
0526.05	26/00039/OUT Fernhill Estates. An appeal has been launched against this refusal. This has raised concerns and the council has had the confirmation that all communications and issues raised by comments to the application are still valid and will be considered by the inspector before he makes his decision.	Information
0526.06	The Bell - Enforcement issues - They until the 29th May to lodge an appeal to the enforcement notice issued in April	Information
0526.07	Enforcement issues - The Stables. The chairman is in contact with the enforcement team.	Information
0526.08	Conservation Area - the councillors are hoping to proceed with this and the assistant clerk for planning will arrange to have a walkaround with the relevant contact to help with this.	Information
	District and County Councillors report	
0526.09	DCllr Brant produced a report which included the work that is being done to improve the roads and highways, fly tipping and how the new tip scheme is working, the work being done to help with secondary school places and a reminder that rural crime is still an issue and that everything should be reported by 999 if urgent and in progress. If it has already taken place then to report via 101 or the Thames Valley Police website	Information
	Defibrillators	
0526.10	The new defibrillator has been set up on the wall of the Community Hall by the back door.	Cllr Martin
	Playgrounds	
0526.11	The Chairman is still trying to contact the Landlord in regards to renewing the lease for the park in GB. The Clerk will look to contact a solicitor to see what costs are involved if we get help from them. This will be discussed in the next meeting	Clerk
0526.12	The transfer of monies from Hayfield Homes for the Garners Field park area should soon be completed. The signing of this will be discussed in the June meeting.	Information
	Allotments	
0526.13	Castle Water billing issues will be discussed at the June meeting. The costs to engage a solicitor will be sought.	Clerk
	Village Hall and Community Hall	
0526.14	VH - The new lease is being updated by the Chairman.	Chairman
0526.15	There was an issue raised about the parking for events as there are only 23 car parking spaces and frequently get taken up. This will be discussed to see if a solution can be made. There are a few maintenance issued to be looked at - a slipped tile, the porch and the guttering needing repair. These will be looked at. There was also a discussion about having a sign to say the car park is for the users of the hall.	Information
	Finance and Admin	
0526.16	The financial report and bank statements were circulated and RESOLVED that the associated bank recon be accepted and that 10 payments totalling £2,509.17 be approved. The payments in excess of £100 are: WTG Consultants - Internal Audit £112.50, Castle Water - £311.11, KC Graphics - website - £624.00 (Included extra work to include the up to date accessibility requirements) SW Services - mowing - £929.75 Vision ICT - email services £210.00 Expenses - £292.74,including Copyright fee and Clerks and Council Direct invoice.	Information
	Correspondence	
0526.17	There has been a request for a new salt bin to be put in Buzzards Close LB. This will be looked at to see if one can be purchased before next winter.	Information

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Minutes drafted by the Clerk on the 20th May 2026

The AGM was deferred to May 27th 2026 when a quorum can be present