The Bourtons Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Bourtons Community Centre
Thursday 12 November 2026 at 7.30 pm

Minute Ref:11/26-

1. **In attendance:** Cllr Upton (Chair), Cllr Johnson (Vice-Chair), Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Brooks, Cllr Martin, Cllr Beales, Cllr Borkmann, Mrs Rachel Pheasey (Parish clerk & RFO), Mr Steve Bowen (Assistant clerk – planning)
2. **Apologies for absence** – no apologies
3. **Declarations of interest** – no new declarations.
4. One member of the public was present.
5. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the previous Council meeting - October 2026 were received and approved by the Chair.

6. **Highways**
    a. Speedwatch – there have been 4 sessions completed in the last month and 37 letters sent over this period. It was noted there are two repeat offenders.
    b. The council had previously asked for the give way lines to be repainted at the entrance to South View, however, there have just been give way marking painted to School Lane. It is assumed these are in place of the South View ones and it was noted that these are not in accordance with the Highway code, but they will be monitored to ensure there is no issues with the new placement.
7. **Planning**
    a. 26/0202729/PIP: Land west of Foxden Way, Great Bourton. A letter has been prepared to object to this proposal.
    b. The council was briefed on the communication with the enforcement team.
8. **District and County Councillors report**
    a. Cllr Borkmann was in attendance and she discussed the Local Government Review (LGR). She confirmed that this is now going ahead and that the majority of Cherwell DC will be merged with West Oxfordshire to form a North Oxfordshire Council with the hope of streamlining and cost saving, however this will not happen until 2028.
    b. Cllr Borkmann mentioned there has been a spate of rural crime including tools and garden machinery.
9. **Playgrounds and public spaces**
    a. Little Bourton continues to be fenced off and the repair work is being looked at by Cllr Duckworth.
    b. The Chair is still in discussion with the solicitors as we are now on a three month verbal extension to the lease for Great Bourton park.
10. **Allotments**
    a. The Chair is in discussion with Castle Water about the historic charges and a solicitor has been approached.
    b. Any other issues
11. **Village Hall and Community Hall**
    a. The Chair is still in discussion with the solicitors about the renewal of the Village Hall lease.
    b. The Community Hall is looking to save energy costs, but it was confirmed that they were unable to have solar panels. The guttering and front door locks will be looked at.
12. **Finance and Admin**
    a. The council RESOLVED to accept the FIN REP and bank recon for this month and December and authorise the requested payments.

b. The budget plan for next year was discussed and the points raised will be considered for the final budget and precept figure for the January meeting.

13. Correspondence

a. A potential new bus stop for the school busses on Main Street was discussed and two options have been offered. After discussion with the residents involved and parent for some of the school children it was noted that the preferred site would be the existing stop, but as this will involve digging into the verge there will need to be careful discussion to ensure this will work.

14. New Business

a. A new salt bin for Buzzards close was suggested and this will be looked at.

Date of Minutes 15 November 2026. Prepared by: *R Pheasey* – Clerk to the Council