

## **BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL**

Draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Those present: Cllrs S.Leszczynski (Chair), B.Bull (vice-chair) , S.Upton, M.Prew.

In attendance: G.Slade (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr J.Tomlin, District Cllrs K.Atask and OCC Cllr G.Reynolds.

1. Public time - there was one member of the public present, Chris Bates, who raised the following points:
  - a) The times of the bus service which will be diverted through the Bourtons are not suitable for commuters. . It was noted that the new timetable has been implemented temporarily to run during the diversions relating to the work on the flood scheme. GS said that the first and last buses, which used to run at 0650 and 1810 through Wardington, were cancelled in December, due to funding problems for the bus company.
  - b) 30MPH sign on Main Road, misaligned. Cllr SU advised that this has already been reported
  - c) Notices on grit bins re 'only for use on public paths and roads'. Cllr SU to follow up. Notices being placed by CDC.
  - d) Tree pollarding: Cllr SU advised that this is scheduled approx. every 4 years
  - e) Financing of the footpath to Cropredy: Cllr SL has been investigating possible sources of funding. At present the only funds set aside for the footpath are from the sales of Fairport tickets for the past 3 years. Mr Bates asked if Cropredy parish are to contribute, they have not given a commitment to this yet. Cllr SL is investigating the legality of funds that can be used for such projects; it may be that only Section 137 payments can be used.
  - f) Who is responsible for the War memorial maintenance? – Confirmed BPC responsible. Cleaning may have been done by another body in the past.
2. Minutes of previous meetings - The minutes of the meetings for 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010 and 10 January 2011 were agreed as true records of the meetings and signed off by the chairman.
3. There were no declarations of interest.
4. Correspondence –
  - a) Thames Water have sent an estimated bill for the water at the allotments. Cllr Bull was unable to read the meter, which is sealed, as weeds have grown inside it.Cllr SL has spoken to them, and they have agreed to clear and read the meter and send a new bill . Water supply is turned off during the winter.
  - b) Energy performance certificates –for village hall. After some consultation, CDC and Oxon Trading Standards had confirmed that no EPC required.
  - c) Cluster Care - a request for a donation has been received. Cllr BB proposed £100 be donated, seconded by Cllr M Prew.
  - d) OPFA membership renewal – Cllr SL proposed this be renewed, Cllr SU seconded. Cheque for £35 to be sent.
5. Finance - Current situation as at 7.02.2011. –

Barclays account	5,417.71
Uncleared receipt	30
Cheque to Barclays from Nat West	26,348.28
(Clearing Nat West at no further charge)	
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>31,759.99</u></b>

Provisioned funds:	Path to Cropredy	13,480
	Bus shelters	6,000
	Playground (LB)	7,151.70
<b>Total provisioned</b>		<b>26,631.70</b>

Clock account 3,007.51

**Current disposable income 2,156.78**

(Anticipated costs: tree pruning 1,115 + VAT)

Cost of trimming GB playground hedges awaited

War memorial – (already dealt with in public time.) Quotes to be obtained for cleaning and re-printing the memorial lettering.

6. Matters arising –

- a) Councillor replacement – CDC advised that as no candidates for election have come forward following notification of vacancy, the position can now be filled by co-option. One nomination has been received for Caroline Timms. Cllr SL proposed that C Timms be co-opted to join the council, Cllr MP seconded. SL to inform C Timms.
- b) Clerk vacancy - 3 candidates applied, one withdrew and 2 were interviewed. The council is pleased to announce that Gill Slade, who was previously clerk to Wardington PC has been appointed. Cllr MP proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr S U for all her hard work during her time as clerk.
- c) Allotments – 2 rents remain outstanding. Cllr BB to chase for payment. One plot is to be vacated; *Cllr MP will check that the plot has been cleared. Cllr SU to clarify who qualifies to apply for allotments.* Two enquiries have been made and one application has been completed.
- d) GB playground hedges, quote awaited. LB playground tarmac is cracking in places. *Cllr SL will deal when weather permits.*
- e) Churchyard tree pruning – to be done when weather permits.
- f) Weeding South View garages - to be done when weather permits.
- g) Highways:
  - i. Snow and ice grit bins have been filled. The location of the bins was discussed, with a view to moving the bins closer to the road to prevent spillage over the verges. *Cllr SL to contact*
  - ii. Road signs at Crow Lane, awaiting CDC to deal. *Cllr SL*
  - iii. Swan Lane and lorries, nothing further to report *Cllr SL*
  - iv. Dog bin for Main Road has been received, *Cllr SL to contact Highways re the possibility of attaching the bin to an existing pole.*
  - v. Footpath to Cropredy – nothing further to report.
  - vi. Bus shelters – nothing further to report.
  - vii. Pinson Close/Avoncroft bus lay-by. It appears that this has been halted due to insufficient funds. Dist Cllr Atack is investigating.
  - viii. Electricity – *Cllrs SL and SU will mark the lights requiring attention on a map for OCC to deal.*

7. District Councillor's Report – K Atack was unable to attend the meeting.

8. Planning – There were no outstanding applications.

9. Date of next meeting – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

The meeting closed at 21.25.