

BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday April 4th 2011.

Those present: Cllrs S.Leszczynski (Chair), B.Bull (vice-chair), S.Upton, M.Prew, C.Timms, J.Tomlin and District Cllr K.Atask.

In attendance: G.Slade (clerk)

Apologies: County Cllr G.Reynolds.

1. **Public time:** The meeting was preceded by the Annual Parish meeting, which was attended by several residents who were able to see reports from the various groups within the parish, and look at information about the flood alleviation scheme and the options for bus shelters.
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** the draft minutes of the meeting held on March 7th were amended to show the amount of VAT received; that Cllr SL had reported that excavations were required by OCC for the GB bus shelter site to be permitted, and Cllr JT suggested that the excavations would be the responsibility of the contractor who would install the shelters. The amended minutes were agreed as a true record and signed off by the Chair.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - a) Allotments– Thames Water has now sent a letter saying that they will sort out the problem with the meter at the allotments. One of the allotment holders who has now left the village wishes to keep his allotment until October, which all agreed he is entitled to do, provided that he continues to cultivate it. Cllr SU proposed a vote of thanks to MP and Simon Bull for all their hard work in clearing the allotments.
 - b) GB playground hedges- Cllrs SL and BB went to look at the work required to cut the brambles, this has already been done.
 - c) Churchyard tree pruning- the yew trees are still to be done. The contractors said the work took longer than expected, and have said that future work would be easier if the basal growth on the lime trees can be kept down. M Jeffries will send a bill for the hedge cutting of the burial ground for this year, and has then offered to make a donation.
 - d) Weeding South View garages – nothing further to report. but another fallen tree on the boundary at the site has been reported
 - e) Highways:
 - i. Moving of grit bin – nothing further.
 - ii. Crow Lane road signs - Cllr SL reported one sign has been replaced, but the other has now been damaged. Cllr SL has suggested the signs be moved further from the road to avoid damage, which has been agreed by CDC
 - iii. Swan Lane road sign – Cllr SL advised that a new road name sign including a no-through-road symbol will be repositioned to be more visible. This has been agreed by the homeowner. The ‘T’ sign on a rusty pole is an OCC matter.
 - iv. Dog bin for Main Road – This has now been installed. Cllr SL proposed another vote of thanks to Cllr MP and Simon Bull for work.
 - v. Footpath to Cropredy – Cllr SL reported Paul Wilson at OCC has agreed that the council will accept a quote from an approved contractor. Cllr BB said that a proper specification needs to be obtained, as has been requested, and then quotes can be sought. Cllr SL to deal.
 - vi. Bus shelters – Cllr SL received a positive response from OCC about possible grants for the shelters. Andy Leigh at OCC can only deal with repairs, not investigations. Cllr SU said that Thames Water and E-ON need to provide maps of the routing of their pipes and cables which can then be given to prospective contractors. Cllr JT suggested that any further decisions be deferred to the next council.

- f) Bus lay-by - Dist. Cllr KA said 7 houses have now been sold at Pinson Close and he has requested the funds that are due following the sales. He has also reminded the company of their obligation regarding the bus lay by.
- g) Streetlamps – Cllr SU has sent OCC a map showing the locations of 3 lampposts that are overgrown with ivy. They are due to replace the light in Pepper Alley at the same time. Cllr BB reported that the wall is crumbling in Pepper Alley; this will be discussed at the next meeting.
- h) Bus service – Cllr SL proposed a vote of thanks to JT for her efforts in promoting the service. It was noted that the service tends to run late in the morning due to the volume of traffic caused by the diversion, and may be 8 – 10 minutes early during the day, but it has been quite well used from the Bourtons.
- i) Parish council elections – Dist Cllr KA reported that no election is needed.
- j) Little Mill footpath railway crossing– Cllr CT confirmed that this has now been reinstated, with plastic matting which is less slippery when wet than wood

5. Correspondence:

- a) OALC - PAYE for all council employees. GS to seek advice from OALC.
- b) ‘Complete Weed Control’, free offer – needs to be investigated, unclear if purchase is required to benefit.
- c) ORCC membership renewal is due, all agreed to renew, £30 paid.

5. Finance: Expenditure since last statement: £1,631.64

Income since last statement	: £ 95.00	Total	£33,277.10
Provisioned funds : Bus shelters	£ 6,000		
	Footpath	£13,480	
	LB playground	£7,151.70	
	Clock account	£3,007.75	Total
			£31,645.46
Disposable income			2,006.01
Anticipated income	GB playground fund		892.02
	Half yearly precept		4,000.00
Anticipated disposable income end April			6,898.03

War Memorial – Quote from Banbury Memorials of £395. As this was not included in this year’s budget, it was agreed to leave this until the next financial year. All agreed that discussion for the 2012 budget should be at the October meeting.

7. Planning: Application No. 11/00356/F kitchen extension – no objections.

8. Other matters:

- i. Cllr SL and SU will undertake the review of the parish roads and footways. Dist Cllr KA suggested that in particular potholes be reported as more government funds have been made available for their repair.
- ii. Cllr BB reported that there are additional trees along the main road which require attention. GS to request a visit from the tree officer at OCC to assess.
- iii. Cllr BB advised that the same quota of Fairport tickets will be available this year. He suggested the same price £40, Cllr JT seconded. Cllr JT to publicise on www.bourtons.net and send information for inclusion in the Broadsheet. Requests for tickets to be made to BB before 22/05.
- iv. Cllr SU proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr SL for her efforts in arranging the Annual Parish Meeting displays.

9. District Councillors report: Matters already covered in previous items.

10. Date of next meeting: Monday May 9th 2011.

The meeting closed at 22.15.