

**BOURTONS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Monday March 2nd '09**  
**Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

Public Time: There was one member of public present  
'100 Club draw' February: 1st prize: No. 84 – Derek Barrett 2<sup>nd</sup> No 9 – Tammy Cronin  
March draw: 1st prize: 84 – Derek Barrett 2<sup>nd</sup> 27 – Freya Adams

1. Apologies: Cllr Leszczynski and County Cllr Reynolds
2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on January 5th 09 were agreed and signed.
3. There were no declarations of Interest.
4. Matters Arising:
  - a. Dog Bins – New bin has been installed but had to be set back further than planned because cables were in the way. A step is now needed to make access to the bin easier This will be looked at. The dog bin in Little Bourton has been re-sited by Cllr Prew to accommodate the wishes of neighbouring residents.
  - b. Farm bird scarers – NFU response – Cllr Atack has spoken to the NFU contact in Deddington and will pass on the information to those residents who have lodged complaints.
  - c. Footpaths – review to be submitted before end of March. Councillors and Clerk will carry out review of the condition of the footpaths and highways and submit to highways department before the end of March. It may take some time for some of the repairs as a lot of damage was done to roads during the recent bad weather conditions.
  - d. LB Playground – update on finalisation. All grants received and invoices paid. It was suggested that an Open Day be organised.
  - e. Local Transport update – a report has been submitted by both Bourtons Parish Council and Cllr Atack and the tender is awaited.
  - f. We hope to get an update on the tendering process around 6<sup>th</sup> April. The Clerk informed Councillors that the bus service that Age Concern ran has now been taken over by Dial a Ride with no changes to the service. This services is paid for by the Poor Lands Charity.
  - g. Church Tower Clock update – Two companies will be visiting to quote for the automatic winding mechanisms for the clock, clerk to report back after their visits.
  - h. Little Bourton development – All development curtailed on the open market housing for the time being and application has been made by the developers to postpone the S106 payments. The council agreed that we should press for the provision of the bus lay-by at least as this was the most important contribution from the developers and would make the use of public transport safer. It will be difficult to look at bus shelter provision for Little Bourton if the lay-by is delayed. CDC have confirmed that there are now applicants on the Housing List with a local connection to the Bourtons so it seems that local people will benefit from the Affordable Housing provision on the development.
  - i. Delegation of responsibilities: a list has been completed and circulated to councillors.

5. Accounts –

- i. Up to date financial situation Current Account £5,614.23, Reserve Account £11,775.73 and the Clock Account £3,003.83  
All outstanding bills will be paid before the middle of March if possible, to reduce the reserve before the year end accounts are prepared.
- ii. Ombudsman findings: The Ombudsman found in favour of the Parish Council and ordered Nat West to pay £1,000 compensation and £30 which was an unpaid refund. The Bank accounts will be moved to Barclays once the compensation has been received. Councillors asked the clerk to ensure that the money is paid promptly.

6. Correspondence:

- a. Allotments – There are three people on the waiting list for an allotment. The Clerk has been trying to contact 2 allotment holders in respect of their plots. Notice will be served on those tenants who have not complied with the terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement. Difficulties have been made with some tenants driving to their plot in a 4 x 4 and causing huge ruts in the track making it impossible for other tenants to access with plots with a vehicle. Clerk will make contact with them. The tap had been reported as broken and would be mended shortly.
- b. We have been contacted by David Cookson from Oxfordshire Highways inviting us to take part in its Carbon Action Plan to reduce carbon emissions by 18% from 2005/6 levels by 2011/12. The Plan sets out a way forward based on reasonable reductions in energy used in properties and street lighting, reductions in fuel used for work-related travel by Council employees, and cuts in the volume of waste going to landfill. Amongst the suggestions is a request to consider switching off the street lighting from approximately 12.30 am to around 5.30 am. This would reduce the carbon emission by approximately 35% for each light that is switched off between these hours. It was agreed that we would inform the Neighbourhood watch team of this proposal and get their feedback before we respond to the request.
- c. Estimates have been received for the re-decoration of the Village Hall, councillors asked clerk to request information regarding both the specification and the other quotes so that an informed choice could be made.
- c. Chairman Cllr Drury submitted a letter of resignation, clerk to post notices re replacement councillor.
- d. No submissions have been received to date to carry out weed spraying in the parish. Clerk will get back to OCC for list of contractors.

7. Planning: Outstanding issues with Planning Department/Highways

- a. Footpath to Cropredy – a site meeting is arranged for Tuesday 31 March beginning in Cropredy at 10.05. (Ian Clarke and Andy Leigh from Highways) with Cllr Attack
- b. Road and pavement repairs – some urgent repairs have been made in Little Bourton. (see 4c)
- c. Application: No. 08/02458/F – Mr Lapper – Planning application awaited, Enforcement team visiting the site regularly apparently.
- d. Application: No. 08/02613/F – Mr Banks – permission granted for two dwellings in Little Bourton subject to a schedule of conditions.

8. Next meeting Monday April 6th '09