

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY, 24TH AUGUST 2015**

PRESENT: S Firbank (Chairman), G Miller, J Morgan,
T Heaton, P Williams, M Withers.
APOLOGIES: L Jones, A Miller, M Martin, Andrew Cattaway
ATTENDING: 7 members of the public, PCSO Vicki Levy (Police) & I McVie (Clerk).

15.67 OPEN FORUM

SF welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting and reminded all present that the 'Open Forum' is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make statements. Once the 'Open Forum' is concluded the public are present to watch and listen to proceedings only.

PCSO Levy informed the meeting that the last month had yet again seen no reported crimes, she confirmed that she would continue to put information or updates on the police section of the village website. PCSO Levy informed the meeting that there had been three theft from vehicles in the Gillingham and Motcombe area where vans containing tools and equipment had been targeted. She also reminded all present that this time of year sees a rise in theft of oil. She advised owners of the prevention steps they can take and provided some leaflets with advice. SF thanked her for attending and the officer left to continue her late turn patrols in the area.

A member of the public informed the meeting that volunteers from the village had cleared a number of footpaths that had become overgrown and was pleased to report that local landowners were also taking their responsibilities seriously and cutting back overgrown vegetation. The same member of the public informed the meeting that the waste bin by the bus stop, diagonally opposite the garage was broken. SF reminded everyone of the need to report these types of issues direct to the county council on the 'dorsetforyou' website. The member of the public asked if it would be possible to see if the county would remove one of three bins that are in close proximity to each other in the village between the bus stop and Breech Close. Then ask if a bin could be placed in the layby on the road to Wincanton. (Note: Dorset Waste Partnership informed 25/8/15).

PLEASE NOTE: Any member of the public can report a problem on line to DCC on the dorsetforyou website, these include highways, litter, bins and footpath faults.

15.68 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

S. Firbank declared a personal interest in Bourton Mill (neighbour).
M. Withers declared a personal interest in the new village hall (neighbour).

15.69 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes were agreed by all as an accurate record and signed by SF.

15.70 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

SF confirmed that the actions had either been completed or were agenda items to come.

15.71 REPORTS BY THE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

SF confirmed that there were no new updates for this meeting from the county council.
PW (District Councillor) updated the meeting concerning the NDDC Development Management Committee decision to grant planning permission for a 191 dwelling development in Shaftesbury. There was much local opposition to this application with concerns about how local services will cope with further increases to the local population.

15.72 PLANNING MATTERS

MW asked that his action from the July meeting in relation to making representations to NDDC that the proposed 75/25% community infrastructure levy (CIL) split be changed with a larger proportion of the charge going to the local town or parish for the benefit of all residents and visitors be held over until the next meeting (Note: This action was completed by MW on 26/8/15).

Proposed by MW, seconded by JM and agreed by all.

ACTION: MW through the NPG will write to NDDC on behalf of the Parish Council.

15.72.1 Applications received – Four

2/2015/1026/LBC and 2/2015/1025/HOUSE Little Chaffey, Chaffey Moor Hill, Minor internal alterations to dwelling, install conservation roof-light (demolish 1 No. chimney, and small rear

extension) and carry out associated internal and external alterations.

2/20151107 Wood View Erect detached garage, demolish existing garage. The meeting was informed that these three applications had been agreed as appropriate and NDDC informed. MW asked then that the meeting discuss and consider the fourth application.

2/15/1090/REM Rugby Cottage, Church Track - Erect 10 No. dwellings. (Reserved Matters application to determine access, layout, appearance and scale following grant of Outline Planning Permission No. 2/2014/0755).

MW reminded all present that this application had previously been given outline planning permission by NDDC and that this application was to provide the detail of the proposal. MW confirmed that the copy of the application had been sent to all councillors and he then explained the proposed layout and style of the houses. Following discussion it was agreed that the parish council would object to the proposals based on inappropriate layout, style, mix of housing, parking, accessibility and how the development does not fit with the village design statement.

Proposed by MW, seconded by TH and agreed by all.

ACTION: IM to write to NDDC with the objections (Note: Done via the planning portal on 25/8/15).

15.72.2 Applications granted – None

15.72.3 Applications withdrawn - None

All applications can be viewed on dorsetforyou planning portal or via the village website.

15.72.4 Bourton Mill

SF informed the meeting that the owner had applied to the Builders Finance Fund, a government initiative to support developers to fund housebuilding projects. SF stated that he believed the process will take three months and if successful will provide funding to support the owner.

ACTION: PW to continue working with NDDC to resolve the security and safety of the mill site.

15.72.5 Solar/Wind/Photovoltaic Sites – Clapton Farm, Cucklington – Solar Farm 15/03373

PW outlined the history of this application and confirmed that he had sent copies of the original information to all councillors. PW confirmed that the land in question slopes away from west to east and so, even with planting, will be very visible from the escarpment to the north of Bourton and from homes on the western side of Bourton, as well as within West Bourton and Silton. Following a discussion the council agreed to write to South Somerset planning and register a formal objection to the application.

Proposed by PW, seconded by JM with 5 votes in favour and 1 against.

ACTION: IM to inform South Somerset planning department of the objections (Note: Done **25/8/15**).

NOTE: Members of the public can also make comment on this application by going to the following:

www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-a-planning-application-online/?keyword=03373

15.73 FINANCE

15.73.1 Accounts to be paid

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|--------------|---|----------|
| Mr M Withers | NPG Expenses | £ 69.00 |
| Mr B Martin | NPG Expenses | £ 36.00 |
| HMRC | PAYE (Q1) | £ 320.51 |
| P. Cowell | BridgeSt/FactoryHill verge cut (Claimed back from Mill Owner) | £ 492.00 |
| P. Cowell | Cemetery and wasp nest work, August 2015 | £190.80 |
| P. Cowell | Banks/Verges under wildlife cutting regime, August 2015 | £ 324.00 |
| P. Cowell | Village verges, August 2015 | £150.00 |
| P. Cowell | Post and rails removal | £636.00 |

IM confirmed that there is a total of £298.80 within the above cheques to claim back as VAT.

Proposed by PW, seconded by JM and agreed by all.

15.73.2 Accounts received

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Bourton Events Fund | Closing down of old account | £ 97.60 |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------|

15.73.3 Grants and Donations. One.

Citizens Advice Bureau, Gillingham had requested a **donation of £350**. IM confirmed that the application met the criteria, the application form had been completed and that the council had taken this application into account when setting the precept and considering likely Section 137 applications. Following a discussion the council agreed to the donation.

Proposed by MW, seconded by JM and agreed by all.

15.73.4 Extend existing maintenance contracts to 31st March 2018

IM confirmed that councillors had received a copy of an application from our current maintenance contractor offering to retain his current prices for the remainder of this year and the next two financial years to 2018. IM confirmed this would bring the arrangement in line with our current DCC contract and enable the council to keep costs the same and remove the additional expense of adverts amounting to in excess of £160 over two years. IM reminded the meeting that while the council has a set of financial regulations there is nothing that prevents the council considering such an option if it will realise savings and reduce the cost on residents in future years. Following a discussion the proposal was agreed.

Proposed by PW, seconded by GM and agreed by all.

15.74 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP

MW updated the meeting and stated that the NPG had now received proposals from all the short listed sites for the development of a new village hall, car parking, amenity space and an enabling housing development. MW confirmed that he had completed the action from last month as well. He further explained that the NPG had consulted with NDDC planners and DCC highways on these sites and they have confirmed that, in principle, there are no over-riding objections to development on any of these sites from a development management and highways access point of view. MW explained that before the NPG can finalise its selection process, there are a number of steps to be completed. These include the completion of site selection report, carrying out Phase 1 Environmental Surveys on all of the short-listed sites and the writing of the Strategic Environmental Assessment report. MW confirmed that each of these will require the input of consultants, with the need for fees. The NPG has submitted an application to 'Locality' for a government funded grant for this expense in the total sum of £7,800 and is expecting a response within two weeks. If the application is successful, then these reports could be completed in four weeks. MW explained that should the NPG process identify more than one site with similar qualities and potential to accommodate the new village hall, then it is proposed that the NPG will call for a meeting with the Parish Council and the VHMC to discuss alternatives before a final site selection is made.

MW confirmed that the NPG had received responses from two of the three landowners who were approached about designating their land as local green space. Bourton Parish council have agreed to accept designation for the old and new cemetery sites. Dorset County Council have objected to the designation of the school playing field on the grounds there may be a future need for extending the school. However DCC has suggested that the NPG consider listing the school field as a local community facility so that its benefit to the community could be acknowledged without the more restrictive implications of local green space designation. The NPG will consider this at its next meeting. No response has been received from Clublight Developments on the proposed public open space at the mill development site. PW asked what would happen if the NPG funding bid was declined. MW explained that the NPG would then apply to the parish council for additional funding.

15.75 NEW VILLAGE HALL

PW stated there were no further updates at this time and he confirmed the VHMC were happy with the way the matter was being handled and progressed by the NPG.

15.76 TRAINING

SF confirmed that the clerk would now look to progress a training evening delivered by DAPTC at Bourton for all councillors to attend.

ACTION: IM to progress the training evening for all councillors. (NB: Email sent to DAPTC 25/8/15)

15.77 FOOTPATHS

TH asked that thanks be given to the volunteers who cleared footpaths 1 and 29. All councillors agreed with this. TH also confirmed that he had spoken to DCC who currently are focusing on cutting back vegetation on footpaths and will address the fixing of gates etc. in the winter.

15.77.1 Mile markers and posts.

IM confirmed the posts and rails had been removed as agreed and that the mile markers were now being made for two locations in the village. IM also informed the meeting that Mr B Sullivan was kindly researching a marker that is on the border of the village with Penselwood and was first placed in 1756. Once further information is confirmed it is hoped to propose purchasing an appropriate sign explaining the historical significance of the original marker.

PLEASE NOTE Any member of the public can contact DCC on the dorsetforyou website, footpaths section and report a problem on line.

15.78 HIGHWAYS

15.78.1 A303 noise reduction petition.

JM confirmed that she was maintaining contact with Highways England to resurface both sides of the A303 Dorset section by the end of 2018 and will report back at the next meeting. She asked that County Councillor Cattaway's action from last month be rolled over to the next meeting.

ACTION: AC to check if DCC are able to request action for noise reduction work with DEFRA.

ACTION: JM to progress and report to the next.

JM also reported that she had started to look at getting Highways England to address the ragwort growing on the A303 verges. Following a discussion councillors were asked to look at the following website link to gain an understanding of ragwort www.ragwortfacts.com/ and that JM would report back at the next meeting.

ACTION: JM to progress and report to the next meeting.

15.78.2 Speed Limits

IM confirmed DCC had been contacted to visit the village and assess the viability of placing marked parking bays on the main road and to assess possible improvements to the cross hatchings Brickyard Lane/West Bourton Road and is still awaiting a date for the visit.

ACTION: IM to progress and report back at next meeting.

15.79 TRANSPORT

SF confirmed there were no new updates.

15.80 COMMUNITY SAFETY – MOBILE SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE

IM confirmed that all councillors had been sent a short report concerning the options and costs for purchasing a mobile speed indicator device. Following discussion it was proposed to purchase a mid-range device and fitting equipment that would inform motorists if they were exceeding the speed limit. The councillors agreed to allocate a maximum of £3500, excluding VAT to the speed watch group to purchase a device. GM expressed concern about the value that would be gained from purchasing the equipment. TH asked who would manage the maintenance, placing and safety of the device. IM confirmed it would be the Speedwatch group on behalf of the council.

Proposed by MW, seconded by PW with 5 votes in favour and 1 against.

15.81 TELEPHONE KIOSK

IM confirmed the public telephone had been removed and the box was now ready to be utilised as a community facility, but as of yet there had been no volunteers to take the project forward. SF stated he was disappointed and asked that all councillors again canvas for volunteers and ideas.

ACTION: All parish councillors to canvas for volunteers to manage the telephone kiosk project.

15.82 CORRESPONDENCE

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|------------|-----------------|--|
| 03/08/2015 | CWGC | Confirmation that maintain ground around war graves is BPC - Noted |
| 03/08/2015 | DAPTC | Request for information superfast broadband - Reply sent 4/8 |
| 03/08/2015 | Lloyds Bank | Confirmation that Events Fund Account closed - Filed |
| 03/08/2015 | BT | Confirmation that telephone kiosk is transferred 11/8/15 – Noted. |
| 03/08/2015 | Mrs Liversidge | Email re boundary issue - Advice given to contact NDDC. |
| 09/08/2015 | CRW | Advert Gillingham Walking Festival - All councillors & website |
| 09/08/2015 | DAPTC | Minutes and reports Northern Area Mtg - Chairman & NPG |
| 09/08/2015 | DAPTC | Update Dinahs Hollow - All councillors and website |
| 17/08/2015 | Bourton Players | Poster for next production 24 to 26/9 - Noticeboards |
| 17/08/2015 | Dorset LAF | Advert - All councillors, website, noticeboards, RoW & W&H Group. |
| 17/08/2015 | CAB (Gillingham | Notice of AGM 1/9 and request for donation - BPC Mtg 24/8 |

Please contact the clerk if you require any further information.

15.65 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SF reminded the council that it had to start considering how to progress preparing the new cemetery as there are funds earmarked in the budget for these works. He asked that councillors consider what work should be done initially such as the planting of a suitable perimeter hedge. GM suggested the most suitable would be blackthorn.

SF stated this would be an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting.

15.66 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2015.

Chairman: S.Firbank

Date: 24th August 2015

Note: The minutes will be reviewed and formally ratified by the BPC on 28th September 2015