

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY, 27TH JULY 2015**

- PRESENT:** S Firbank (Chairman), G Miller, J Morgan, L Jones , M Martin, T Heaton
P Williams, M Withers.
- APOLOGIES:** A Miller, PCSO Vicki Levy (Dorset Police).
- ATTENDING:** Andrew Cattaway (County and District Councillor), 11 members of the public and I McVie (Clerk).

15.49 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.

A member of the public raised concerns about the re-opened C13 road. SF reminded her this was not within the parish and suggested she inform Dorset County Council (DCC) of her concerns.

A member of the public informed the meeting that footpath 1 was badly blocked with overgrown vegetation. SF asked the member of the public to report this direct to DCC via their website. A member of the public informed the meeting that the 'honesty box' in Brickyard Lane for the purchase of plants had raised £260, but sadly an unknown individual had recently stolen some money from the box, which is emptied at least once a day. She informed the meeting that a far stronger security box has been built and will be used in the future. All councillors expressed their disappointment that the honesty box had been stolen from. The same member of the public asked if the parish council would write to DCC requesting a review of the effectiveness of the cross hatchings at the junction of the main road, Brickyard Lane and West Bourton Road as numerous drivers just ignore them and are causing a danger to others. Following a discussion the councillors agreed this should be done. (Note: DCC Highways sent an e mail on 29/7/15 for them to progress).

A member of the public then raised four points. Firstly that the wildlife and habitat group continue to work with the contractor on the management of verges and banks. Secondly that, as agreed last month, suitable signage had been placed asking dog walkers to be more responsible and pick up their dogs waste, but there has not yet been any feedback from landowners as to any improvement in behaviour by certain dog walkers. Thirdly that he wished to acknowledge the positive response from a local landowner, Mrs Taylor who upon a report of a dangerous footpath gate on her land she immediately took action and had the gate repaired. Finally the member of the public wished to remind everyone that while DCC are responsible for the management of footpaths landowners are still responsible for ensuring that footpaths on or bordering their land are kept clear and maintained so that rights of way can safely be used. He stated that it is not the job of DCC to do this work on behalf of landowners and that where they do this detracts from work they could do, such as further improvements to footpath 11. The clerk informed the meeting that his experience has been that DCC inform landowners to do the work and if on occasions they do have to do work on behalf of landowners they will recover the costs. AC then reminded the meeting that the rangers department of DCC are responsible for hundreds of miles of footpaths and other rights of way and complete their work within a limited budget and that they do get landowners to meet their responsibilities. AC stated that there may sometimes be a delay but all reports are responded to on a priority basis with the rangers using sound judgement to do this, he reminded all present that DCC respond to many requests for work on a daily basis and Bourton is one of many towns and villages in the county. TH stated that it can be frustrating when there is a delay in action being taken by DCC and he cited that the previously reported damaged bridge on footpath 16 still had not been dealt with. SF reminded everyone that as soon as any footpath issues are found they should be reported direct to DCC via the 'Dorset for you' website and not left to be raised at a later date at the parish council meeting, then if DCC fail to act within a couple of weeks this should be brought to the attention of our nominated Rights of Way Officers Tim Heaton and Bernie Sullivan or the clerk who will take it up with the rangers department directly. TH confirmed he would do this for footpath 16.

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

15.50 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).

15.51 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

15.52 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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

15.53 REPORTS BY THE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

AC (County Councillor) updated the meeting that the C13 re-opening appeared to be working and that he himself uses the route regularly and has seen first-hand that the one way traffic light system is effective. AC reminded the meeting that the HGV control system is a voluntary scheme and is an experiment only. He confirmed that the C13 will close again in the future to complete the necessary land stabilization work either side of Dinahs Hollow, once all landowners agree.

PW (District Councillor) updated the meeting concerning the amended NDDC Local Plan as outlined in last month's meeting. He stated that the public consultation period had now been extended from 24th July 2015 to 18th August 2015. The plan is available to the public to view at the NDDC offices in Blandford Forum, at all town libraries in North Dorset and online via www.dorsetforyou.com/northdorsetlocalplanmainmod. Any comments or representations can be made online at the above location or emailed to planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk.

PW also updated the meeting concerning the public consultation by NDDC on the future community infrastructure levy (CIL) charging schedule. He confirmed that the consultation period will run from 24th July 2015 to the 18th September 2015 with all the relevant information available at the NDDC offices in Blandford Forum, at all town libraries in North Dorset and online via www.dorsetforyou.com/northdorsetcil. PW explained that the proposal would be that a CIL charge would be set at £45 per internal sqm for developments outside main towns and £18 per internal sqm in towns such as Gillingham. Of this 75% would go to NDDC and 25% to the local town or parish council. JM asked if this would replace the section 106 conditions and PW stated it would. MW pointed out that it seemed unfair that any local developments would only realise 25% of the community infrastructure levy charged. Following a discussion it was agreed that the parish council should make representations to NDDC that the 75/25% 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.

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

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

15.54 PLANNING MATTERS

15.54.1 Applications received – Two

899/15- The Old Parsonage, West Bourton Road – Repoint walls on three floors of building.

213/15-15 Mill Rise - Erect external staircase and first floor landing. Replace window with doors.

Both applications reviewed by the Planning Sub Group and no objections raised.

15.54.2 Applications granted – One

651/15, River View, Bridge St – Raise roof height to create additional living accommodation.

15.54.3 Applications withdrawn - None

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

15.54.4 Bourton Mill

PW stated that NDDC had confirmed the owner has submitted a plan to resolve the security of the site and this is being reviewed as to its suitability and effectiveness.

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

15.54.5 Solar/Wind/Photovoltaic Sites

PW confirmed no updates at this time.

15.55 FINANCE

15.55.1 Accounts to be paid

St George	Play Area Maintenance	£373.50
Design Jam	Web Domain 15/16	£ 96.00
DAPTC	Addition to annual fees	£ 3.96
P. Cowell	Cemetery and verge cutting, June 2015	£448.80
IJ. McVie	Expenses	£ 13.41
British Telecom	Purchase of village telephone kiosk	£ 1.00
BDO LLP	External audit 2014/15	£240.00
P. Cowell	Cemetery and verge cutting, July 2015	£388.80

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

GM stated that the cemetery looks excellent and is now one of the best kept in the area. He asked that this work be acknowledged in the minutes and was agreed by all councillors.

TH asked that now the village owned the telephone kiosk what were the plans for its future. SF reminded everyone that the public (card only) phone would remain operational and be maintained by BT but that the parish council could now utilise the telephone box and would be responsible for its upkeep. MM pointed out that kiosks like the village one have been used for art exhibits, book exchanges and many other community projects. Following a discussion it was agreed to canvas the village to find volunteers and ideas for the use of the telephone kiosk.

ACTION: All councillors to canvas residents for volunteers and ideas. IM to advertise same.

15.55.2 Accounts received

Mr. and Mrs. Moorby	Hire of marquee.	£ 200.00
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15.55.3 Grants and Donations. None.

15.55.4 2014/2015 Accounts/First Quarter Accounts

IM confirmed that the 2014/15 accounts had been returned from the external auditor BDO (see cheque above for payment) and there were no comments or alterations from the auditor. He confirmed that the notice had been placed in the large noticeboard. This was noted by the council. SF asked if there were any questions concerning the first quarter accounts which were published on the village website and circulated to all councillors. There were no questions.

15.56 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP

MW updated the meeting and stated that the NPG had met with NDDC to discuss various aspects affecting the proposed neighbourhood plan. He stated that NDDC had confirmed that subject to any necessary changes in the public consultation phase for the response to the amended Local Plan the existing settlement boundary would be retained and there would now be an allocation of 825 new homes in Stalbridge and the larger villages over the period of the plan 2011 to 2031. This would mean a pro-rata allocation of 35 new homes for Bourton. However, as there had been some 43 planning consents granted since 2011 in Bourton, NDDC would not be asking for any further homes to be built over the plan period. Despite this, it is intended that there would be some new housing allocated within the neighbourhood plan for the new village hall enabling development and on the existing village hall once the new hall was complete. With the retention of the existing settlement boundary there was also the possibility of a small number of infill development. MW then explained that despite written reminders the NPG has still not received any proposal from the landowner/agent of the village hall management committee's (VHMC) preferred new village hall site. MW confirmed that proposals had been received from other landowners. MW stated that there remains work to complete on the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in relation to the short listed sites which will be done by the group's consultants. However, it is not possible to complete the site selection process until all proposals have been received from landowners. Following a discussion it was agreed that the VHMC would speak to the agent for the preferred site to get him to submit the landowner's proposal and once this was done the NPG would write to the agent again formally requesting a response with a stated deadline for reply of the end of August.

Proposed by JM, seconded by LJ and agreed by all

ACTION: MW will arrange the letter to the agent, Diccon Carpendale once the VHMC have spoken to the agent.

MW confirmed that the NPG has registered with the government body responsible for providing further funding. If a subsequent application for funds is successful then this will remove the necessity to use the budgeted funds allocated by the parish council. MW informed the meeting that the NPG had written formally to landowners of four sites which are intended to be designated as 'Local Green Spaces' within the draft neighbourhood plan. The landowners are the parish council for the current village cemetery and the new village cemetery, the county council and Clublight developments. The clerk confirmed that the parish council had received this letter on 23rd July. Following a discussion it was agreed that the parish council would wish to agree their two sites as local green spaces within the neighbourhood plan.

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

ACTION: IM to confirm this in writing with the NPG. (Note: Done by email on 29/7/15).

15.57 NEW VILLAGE HALL

PW stated there was no further updates at this time.

15.58 TRAINING

SF confirmed that he would be forwarding, to the new DAPTC chief executive, Hilairy Trevorah, the feedback from MM as to the standard of training delivered.

15.59 FOOTPATHS

15.59.1 Mile markers and posts.

SF confirmed that JM had spoken to local residents and the feedback was that they would like the railings situated on the grass verges opposite the telephone exchange to be removed and the railings in the two locations in the two other locations to be painted white.

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

ACTION: IM to arrange with contractor for verges. (Note: Completed by email on 29/7/15).

15.59.2 Proposed footpath Mill Lane to New Close.

SF confirmed that the landowner has objected to this application, which was first submitted in 2012. AC informed the meeting that the recommendation from the county council officers is to reject the application. SF stated that while this was disappointing the parish council understood the reason.

TH informed the meeting that the finger post for footpath 11 has remained in its place albeit his notice has been removed. PW stated that footpath 21 that runs past the doctor's surgery in Silton was very overgrown. AC stated that he was already chasing this matter up. PW stated that the stile on footpath 3 is falling apart. TH said that he would report this along with the other footpath matters. (Note: DCC informed by TH 29/7/15).

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

15.60 HIGHWAYS

15.60.1 A303 noise reduction petition.

JM confirmed that Highways England intend to resurface both sides of the A303 Dorset section by the end of 2018. This will be completed in three phases, with the first phase being done between Snag Farm and River Crossing. The exact start times of the remaining two phases are to be confirmed. JM informed the meeting that it is DEFRA who are responsible for deciding and erecting sound reduction boarding. This though will only be considered if requested through DCC, AC said he would look into this matter and report back at 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.

SF asked who is responsible for the removal of ragwort on the A303 and the junctions on and off the A303. AC confirmed this was Highways England and JH stated she would confirm the location of the ragwort with SF after the meeting and report it to Highways England.

ACTION: JM to report to Highways England ragwort growing on the A303 verges.

15.60.2 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 the parish council is awaiting a date for the visit.

ACTION: IM to follow up with action for review of cross hatchings Brickyard Lane/West Bourton Road. (Note: DCC contacted by email on 29/7/15).

15.61 TRANSPORT

SF confirmed there were no new updates and that the county council were currently completing a consultation exercise concerning 'Dorset Community Transport' which has been advertised on the noticeboards and the website.

15.62 COMMUNITY SAFETY

IM read out an update from PCSO Levy. He stated that there had been no reports of any crime during the last month in Bourton.

PW updated the meeting concerning the last month's activity from the Speedwatch Group who had conducted two more watches in the month and observed a marked decrease in the volume of traffic which was believed to be due to the start of the summer holidays. PW then asked on behalf of the Speedwatch Group if the parish council would consider purchasing a speed indicator device as this would help towards reducing excess speeding. MM asked if there was sufficient evidence to suggest that there is excessive speeding and what the effectiveness of such warning devices is. MW stated that he felt the devices were a good way to remind drivers who accidentally exceed the

speed limit. TH stated that he believed this would be a good idea and was in favour of progressing the purchase of a device. PW reminded the meeting that while the village can access a shared device with Gillingham and other villages the reality is that the device is rarely available and when it is provided there appears to always be some fault or issue with the equipment. The clerk suggested that this device could also be sited in places where currently the Speedwatch Group cannot operate in as there is a safety risk that Dorset Police rightly do not authorise the deployment of the speed watch equipment. PW informed the meeting that the initial costings show that the purchase of such a device will cost in the region of £4000. AC asked that if such a device is purchased DCC Highways expertise is sought concerning suitable and safe siting of the device. Following a discussion the meeting agreed to establish options with costs and decide at the August meeting.

ACTION: Speedwatch Coordinator, Sheila Williams and IM to produce options for the next meeting

15.63 TOM MITCHELL SALVER 2015

SF informed the meeting that the 2015 recipient of the Tom Mitchell salver is Alison Scott. He confirmed that he will present the engraved plate to her in person on 28th July 2015.

15.64 CORRESPONDENCE

30/06/2015	NDDC	Planning consent 651/15, River View, Bridge St-To PSG & website
30/06/2015	NDDC	Planning App.213/15. 15 Mill Rise - To PSG and website
03/07/2015	Mr B Sullivan	Copy of letter from Dorset Wildlife Trust - All councillors
15/07/2015	Mr B Sullivan	E mails re verge cutting to Chairman - Noted Chairman dealing
15/07/2015	Stours PC	Information request to clerk - Replied email 15/7/15
15/07/2015	E mail	Footpath 3 overgrown hedgerow - DCC informed by PW
15/07/2015	DAPTC	Northern Area agenda July - To Chairman and JM to attend
15/07/2015	3 Rivers	3 Rivers Partnership AGM July - To Chairman for information
15/07/2015	DCC	Highways Survey for councillors - To all councillors
15/07/2015	DCC	Mobile library services consultation - All councillors & website
15/07/2015	NDDC	Planning application 899/15 - The Parsonage - To PSG
15/07/2015	DAPTC	National Allotments Seminar - Not applicable, filed
15/07/2015	DCC	Ask Dorset Event - Website
17/07/2015	Healthwatch	Annual Review update - Website
17/07/2015	DCC	Meeting new path, Mill Lane/New close, 30/7/15 - Web, n/boards, All councillors
17/07/2015	DCC	Draft mineral& waste site consultation - All councillors & website
23/07/2015	DAPTC	Public consultation on GP services - All councillors & website
23/07/2015	DAPTC	Public consultation on local radio - All councillors & website
23/07/2015	DAPTC	Public consultation on future of courts service - All councillors & website
23/07/2015	DAPTC	The Big Path Watch - All councillors, RoWO, website, n/board
23/07/2015	DAPTC	Fly the Commonwealth flag 2016 - Chairman and filed
23/07/2015	R Hounsell	E mail re public transport consultation - Chairman and MM
27/07/2015	NPG	Letter re IOWA sites owned by BPC - Chairman and Mtg 27/7.
27/07/2015	NDDC	Consultation for amended local plan - Meeting 27/7/15
17/07/2015	Wildlife Gp	Update on current and future activities – To Chairman

Please contact the clerk if you require any further information.

15.65 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SF informed the meeting that the Wildlife and Habitat Group had submitted a report outlining their activity this year and their plans for the next year. SF informed the meeting that all councillors had received a copy of this update and asked if there were any comments. SF confirmed that the parish council looked forward to the future work and asked that the minutes reflect the parish councils thanks to Bernie Sullivan and the Wildlife and Habitat Group for their efforts to promote a better environment for wildlife within the village. All present agreed with this.

15.66 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 24TH AUGUST 2015.

Chairman: S.Firbank

Date: 27th July 2015

Note: The minutes will be reviewed and formally ratified by the BPC on 24th August 2015