

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY, 22ND JULY 2019

PRESENT: Mike Withers, Margaret Martin, Mike Chapman, Andrew Sturt, Ian Cooper, Iain McVie, Peter Williams, Andrew Gillett, Allan Miller, Eve Wynn (Clerk) Dorset Councillor Belinda Rideout.

APOLOGIES: Councillor David Walsh

ATTENDING: Approximately 30 members of the public

APOLOGIES – AS PER ABOVE.

19.42 Open Forum

- A MoP gave a brief update on the Bourton Village Day and reported that further details will be presented at the next meeting.
- A MoP commented on the state of the pavement opposite the two new builds on Bridge Street. The pavement has been damaged; a spring has appeared on Factory Hill; a hedge has been removed.
- A MoP raised concerns about the lack of markings on the road up Factory Hill.
- A MoP said that they had wrote to the planners re the compensation basin and the environmental hazard but said that his concerns had not yet been dealt with.

19.43 Declarations of Interest

None.

19.44 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the June 2019 meeting were agreed as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

19.45 Actions Arising from the Minutes. Nil – all included elsewhere within Agenda.

19.46 Report from County Councillors

Councillor David Walsh couldn't attend the meeting but sent the following report:

Portfolio Holder – Planning

I have now been given powers of delegation to speed up the Neighbourhood Plan process so that the only time it will come to Cabinet is when it is officially made/adopted. Adoption of Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan was adopted at Full Council on the 18th July. The adoption of the Waste Plan will provide Dorset Council and BCP with an up-to-date policy framework that will replace the 'saved' policies from the 2006 plan. Under the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework development should be determined in accordance with the adopted development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Having a plan that accords with the latest national policies will provide both Authorities with greater certainty in securing acceptable development that provides for Dorset's waste needs in a manner that is consistent with the Waste Plan. For these reasons I had no hesitation in commending the Waste Plan to Cabinet who agreed unanimously.

Dorset Armed Forces Covenant Review 11th July

As member Champion for the Armed Forces and Chairman of the Armed Forces Covenant Programme Board I had the honour of hosting the resigning of the Covenant and reporting on the Programme Board's progress. "The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly." In attendance and signing, amongst others were the Minister for Defence and Veterans, the Lord Lieutenant for Dorset and Dignitaries from the Armed Forces in Dorset. I had the honour of Signing for Dorset, at what was a very big event held at Bovington Camp.

Councillor Belinda Ridout gave this report: "On Tuesday 18th June 2019 the Northern Area Planning Committee was held at The Exchange, Sturminster Newton. No planning application with relevance to the Gillingham Ward.

Parishes I attended all parish meetings during June and July, apart from the Stours parish meeting on Thursday 11th July and Gillingham Town June/July Full Council, which clashed with Bourton's parish meeting. As you may know, I have been heavily involved with Gillingham in Bloom the first two weeks in July. However, following up on my last report regarding Dorset Waste Partnership talks, I have been organising talks for Bourton, Motcombe and The Stours parish councils as requested.

Climate Change Executive Advisory Cross Party Panel I am pleased to announce that I have been selected as a member of the Climate Change Cross Party Panel recently announced at the first Full Council of the new Dorset Council, following the Climate Change Emergency declaration. Unfortunately I could not attend the first meeting owing to a prior engagement but it is the intention of the panel to consult with the parishes and towns for ideas, comments and questions on how we as a council can be more carbon neutral, so I invite your thoughts please. Second meeting is in September.

Proposed junction and sustainable transport improvements for Gillingham

I was really pleased to see a good public turnout at the exhibitions on Tuesday 16th and Thursday, 18th July. The presentation was clear and informative, with officers available to discuss and explain the proposals and address any concerns. We await the final draft.

Dorset Full Council, Thursday, 18th July, County Hall For the second full council meeting it was decided to try out the council chamber at County Hall. On the whole I think it was a better venue than South Walks House, more fit for purpose, with better public viewing, the only let down was the public address system! The meeting lasted for 3 plus hours with hoarse voices towards the end!! However, there was good public engagement, with public statements and questions at the start of the meeting answered by the relevant port-folio holder, followed by petitions and deputations. These tended to focus on the academisation of Budmouth College, Chickerell and climate change.

Recommendations from Cabinet. It was resolved:

- a) That Council agree, effective from 1 April 2019, that 100% of all income **from War disablement or War Widows Pension** be disregarded when calculating entitlement to Housing Benefit. To ensure that a consistent approach is taken in relation to the award of discretionary awards, discounts, payments and reliefs.
- b) That council adopts the **Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan** subject to the inclusion of the main modifications appended to the Inspector's report, with formal adoption beginning two weeks from date at which both Bournemouth Christchurch and Pool Council and Dorset Council have resolved to adopt the plan. To ensure Dorset Council has an up-to-date statutory policy framework for considering planning applications for waste development and to comply with the requirements of the statutory/consequential orders concerning shaping Dorset Council which require a council-wide local plan by 2024. Note, at the time of this report, BCP Council have yet to vote on adoption of the Waste Plan. Portfolio Holder, Cllr Walsh, made it very clear to members that the Waste Plan had been widely consulted upon and that its adoption by both unitary authorities is of the utmost importance for the future of Dorset, to prevent speculative planning applications for waste development. The plan will be subject to review.

Notices of Motion – five motions: two regarding Climate Change, Social Mobility, Safe Passage Dorset and the Academisation of Budmouth College, Chickerell. In accordance with the Constitution Procedure Rule 14.3 (b) the motions regarding Climate Change and Social Mobility will be forwarded to the relevant Executive Advisory Panel for consideration and report back to Full Council.

Safe Passage Dorset, proposed by Cllr Val Potheary, received the overwhelming support of the council: "That, provided Government fully funds the programme, Dorset Council will give the strongest possible support to Safe Passage (Dorset) by accepting a minimum of three unaccompanied and vulnerable refugee children per year, over a ten year period."

Budmouth College, Chickerell - a motion to further investigate concerns raised regarding the proposed academisation of Budmouth College was supported, acknowledging the work of senior councillors and Executive Director of People – Children in writing to the Rt Hon Damian Hinds, Secretary of State of Education and seeking his agreement to a delay in the timetable for academisation. Also, confirmation from the Regional Schools Commissioner of the reasons for the choice of intended academy provider.

Thursday evening surgery at the Town Hall, Gillingham, 5-7pm to discuss any issues you may have. It would be advisable to make an appointment by phoning 07496413114 or email the town council: cllrbelinda.ridout@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

All agendas and minutes can be found on the Dorset Council website: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>

19.47 New Village Hall

MC gave this report:

"Firstly, I should like to thank the Village Day team for their efforts yesterday. I can report the Village Hall raised almost £400 from its participation at the event.

I should now like to report that Dorset Council planners have just advised that the Parish Council should be a party to the S106 Agreement for the NVH and Amenity Land site of which Dorset Council's solicitors will be preparing the first draft shortly. As anticipated at meetings earlier in the year, the PC will need to appoint solicitors to act on its own behalf. Exactly which firm will be chosen should be as a result of the content of Dorset Council solicitor's first draft and they should be selected from a small number of local firms. Clearly the type and cost of solicitors chosen will depend on how comprehensive and accurately the PC's interests are recognised in the first draft received. The solicitors selected will require that two duly appointed signatories of the PC, one of whom shall be the chairman, will be authorised to sign any legal documents. This process needs to be by agreement of the PC and therefore debated at a future meeting on the basis of more complete information.

There has been some concern expressed at previous PC meetings and elsewhere about the impact of the selection of the Jubilee Field site on Mr Gerald Moores, the present tenant farmer. I am advised that in total he rents 82.3 acres of land (67.52 acres under farm tenancy and 14.78 under grass keep) from the S C Hannam Trust. The proposed area for the NVH, amenity land and nine dwellings is 5.6 acres which represents less than 7% of the land which Mr Moores currently rents from the Trust. He also has other land in and around Bourton that he either owns or rents.

The S C Hannam Trust has an agreement in place with Mr Moores that as and when the Jubilee Field site is granted outline planning for a new Village Hall and dwellings the S C Hannam Trust will:

- Make a 'one off' compensation payment.
- Reduce the rent in line with the loss of land.
- Erect and maintain a stock proof fence.
- At the appropriate time redirect the water which runs under the site that feeds some farm water troughs.

Mr Moores was fully aware of the nature and terms of the agreement for a number of months before signing it. It has not come as a surprise. It is an agreement that reflects best practice in such matters and the S C Hannam Trust indicates that it has a good and long-standing relationship with Mr Moores and keeps in regular contact with him. There is no question that anyone, not the PC, not the Hall Trustees, not the SC Hannam Trust is seeking to deprive Mr Moores of his living nor damage it now or in the future”.

19.43 Planning

19.43.1 Dorset Local Plan - North Dorset Area Strategic Landscape and Heritage Sensitivity Assessment Study

MW suggested that the Planning Sub-Group meet to discuss this and to then report at the next meeting. MC said it was unacceptable that the PC only has 2 weeks to respond as this did not give enough time to draft an authoritative report. BR said she would pass this comment on to the relevant department. AS said he would also like the chance to comment and requested that he be added to the Planning Sub-Group. MW explained to AS that the Planning Group had already been formed and agreed at a previous meeting and that AS would receive information as per other councillors.

19.43.2 Old Pound Court

MW reported that a developer had sought pre-application advice but that the PC wouldn't know the result of this. But as statutory consultants the PC will report fully when an application is made.

19.43.3 Bourton Mill

MW reported that himself and Councillor Williams had had a meeting with Barry Crowley (BC). The following summary of points were raised at the meeting:

1. The site owner/developer remains as Clublight Developments, headed by Mr John Fay
2. C Field are the contractor, albeit having sunk funds into the scheme to assist its progression
3. Mr Dandy remains as C Field's local site manager although not directly employed by C Field. He has also purchased plots 27 and 28 from Clublight and is developing them himself.
4. The proposal by Mr Dandy to build the other side of the River Stour does not involve C Field in any way.
5. The recent planning application for a single storey building on the current sales office has been submitted by Clublight. This building is located on land promised to be transferred to the Parish Council under the S106 Agreement and is also situated on a part of the IOWA (Important Open or Wooded Area) as designated in the Local Plan. Also, whilst numbered plot 35 on the application plan, it is actually the 36th dwelling on the Mill Development site.
6. Subject to the release of funds, it is C.Field's intention to start building plots 1 & 2 on the main site to the north of Factory Hill shortly. The footings for these buildings are already in.
7. BC was made aware that there is public concern about the unfinished nature of the compensation basin and also about whether or not it complies with the original specification concerning its level and capacity. BC agreed to raise this issue with Clublight. There was also the issue of ensuring that the river walkway was constructed in a way that meant it would not be washed away in the event of the compensation basin needing to drain. MW also advised BC that that one of the conditions of the planning consent was that no buildings were to be occupied before the works on the flood compensation basin were completed. BC was asked to relay this to Clublight.
8. The failure of the developer to pay the required sum as a contribution to Bourton's new village hall was also raised; BC stated that currently there are no funds available for this or for starting work on the rest of the development. BC said that both Clublight and c.Field were seriously out of pocket by several millions of pounds on the scheme already and that this was a fact of life.
9. It was agreed that Mr Dandy should still be the main point of contact for the community locally on issues affecting the site but that if the community had major concerns BC stated that he would be pleased to be informed and try to assist if possible.

19.43.4 Bourton View

A proposal had been put forward by Sean Dandy re Walker Accommodation. MW reported that the Planning Sub-Group has had one meeting with Mr Dandy and his consultants and had since received a bundle of documents. However, no application has been received but as a statutory consultee the PC would report fully on this when the application is received.

19.43.4 Enforcement: ENF/2019/0094 **Nature of Enquiry:** Alleged unauthorised use of land for dumping of building waste. **Location:** Land near Chaffeymoor House, Chaffeymoor Hill to Chaffeymoor House – access road, Bourton, Dorset, SP8 5BY.

IM reported that he had met with the person who had received the initial letter and that since then had received a letter to say that no further action would be taken.

19.44.5 Enforcement: ENF/2019/0093 **Nature of Enquiry:** Alleged that buildings on plots 27-28 are higher than approved on planning application 2/2016/0610/REM. **Location:** Site of Bourton Mill, Factory Hill, Dorset.

IC said the plans were incorrect. AS said he had checked the original plans and suggested that it may be worthwhile asking the DC Enforcement Department to check on this matter further. IC said the Enforcement Team should send a letter to the developer. **ACTION:** Clerk to chase DC for letter.

19.45 FINANCE

19.45.1 Accounts to be paid

Mrs E Wynn	Wages; expenses;	£544.33
PM Cowell	July invoices	£396.00
Bourton Wildlife & Habitats	Payment of grant as agreed on minute 19.99.4 (April meeting)	£400.00
DeisgnJam	Annual web host (Bourton Village Website)	£168.00
Cllr Ian Cooper	Claim for 30 miles @ 45p per mile	£13.50

19.45.2– Accounts Received:

Bracher Brothers	Purchase of a grave	£402.90
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19.45.3 – Grant Applications Received: None

Proposed by IM, Seconded by MM, Agreed by all councillors present

19.45.3 – Accounts received – none.

19.45.4 – Grants and Donations – none received.

19.45 Gifts and Donations Policy

At the last meeting MM suggested some minor changes to the grants policy on page 2 para 1.12 – “The Parish Council may consider the award of a grant or donation to a recognised and registered charity in recognition of services to the community by a recently deceased resident of Bourton. Awards will only be given where there is widespread recognition of exceptional and longstanding service to the community. Donations will be to a maximum of £100 to a charity identified by the bereaved family. This award is discretionary and must reflect significant community appreciation of the service given by the deceased”.

Proposed by MW, Seconded by AS, Agreed by all councillors present.

19.46 Wildlife and Habitats

BS gave a report:

- We have installed four more boardwalk panels along the footpath between Sandways and Kites Nest Lane and trimmed the overgrowth. (FP11).
- We have received a request from a village walking resident to replace the stile with a gate in order to make the path more user-friendly for those who have difficulty with stiles. Perhaps the RoWLO could ask the owner of the metal gate that has come off its hinges on the Stour Valley Way and is deemed unnecessary, if it could be donated so that we could install it on footpath 11, or even remove the FP11 stile altogether. IC said he would speak to DC Ranger, Graham Stanley.
- We are still awaiting notice from the contractor of the intention to cut and remove from the woodland edge and the area opposite the war memorial. At the last meeting of the council, we requested a one week notice so we could ensure the shrub signs could be made very visible to avoid them being trimmed as happened last year.

MC said the Tan Lane path had been cleared by the footpath team. MC said that where we can let's do the works ourselves. A MoP said that overhanging vegetation was the responsibility of the landowner.

19.47 Bourton and Silton Charity

MW said the annual accounts had been received by the BPC Clerk.

19.47 Highways

PW reported that the West Bourton Road fingerpost pole and brackets are in good condition and therefore do not require replacement. He was sourcing oak for fingerpost panels. Lettering was expensive, possibly as much as £5 per letter but AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)/ CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) were offering a grant towards cost of refurbishment (up to £200). PW will look at alternative sources and will report these at the next meeting.

19.48 Footpaths

IC reported that the bridge on the footpath at Breech Close had a plank missing and had been reported to DC. He also reported that the signage on a gate the other side of Millers Close could be pointing in the wrong direction and will investigate further. MW requested that IC send in a report to the clerk for future meetings.

19.49 Community Safety

SW firstly thanked the PC, on behalf of the Speedwatch Team for the award of the Tom Mitchell Salver. SW then gave this report: "The team has been out regularly on a weekly basis linking in with the school morning and afternoon sessions. Fast moving early morning traffic is an issue so on Monday 15 July at 7am a small team was joined by the Police as traffic was being monitored travelling both east and west in the vicinity of The Old Shop. Over 320 vehicles passed by in the hour and a half's exercise. One motorist slowed down from 50mph as he approached cars parked on the left-hand side of the road. Five others were well over the limit when they spotted the Speed Watch team using the radar gun but seemed largely unconcerned that a Police Officer was also in attendance with a camera mounted on a tripod. The Officer expressed surprise that the main road through Bourton still has a 40mph limit when in so many other villages the speed limits have been reduced".

19.50 Memorial Trees

Nothing to report.

19.51 Microphones

PW gave a report: "You will recall from our last PC meeting that I voiced doubts as to whether a two-channel system will be adequate, especially if one of the microphones remains dedicated to AS's use during meetings. Additional microphones in use with a two-channel system will have limitations since they will require councillors to cancel/ switch off their microphone to allow another councillor's microphone to function. Our requirement to increase the number of channels available is relatively common, hence there are a number of systems available which can be plugged into our new PA system to increase its versatility. Given the layout of tables, etc during PC meetings, I favour opting for the system with an additional 4 channels, which would give us a total of 6 x channels/ microphones; this should prove sufficient to meet the need for all Councillors to have ready access to a microphone and for there to be no pressing requirement for individual microphones to be deactivated after each interjection". PW said the price for this was £275.50 inc VAT.

Proposed by IM, Seconded by MC, Agreed by all councillors present.

19.52 Correspondence

Email from St Georges School – MW reported that he had been in touch with the governors to clarify that IC is the PC Playground Inspector but that for any other business AG would be the first point of contact.

19.53 Community Award

MW confirmed that The Speed Watch Team had been voted to receive the Tom Mitchell Salver.

Proposed by MM, Seconded by AG. Agreed by all councillors present.

19.54 Any Other Business

MW thanked Trevor Knott, Sharron McVie and all the helpers and parish councillors that were involved in making the Bourton Village Day another great success.

MW said he had spoken to Nick Hall regarding the future of the Bourton Village Website and explained that Nick worked extremely hard on the website. They had discussed the possibility of recruiting a helper and asked that if anyone was interested or knows of anyone who would like to help to contact the Clerk directly. **ACTION:** Clerk to post an advert in the noticeboards.

IC reported that the bin in the playing field had still not been emptied.

IM asked that the Bourton Village Day be put on the agenda for the August meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 19th August at 7.00 pm

MW closed the meeting at 8.32pm

Chairman:

Date: 22nd July 2019

Note: The minutes will be reviewed and formally ratified by the BPC on 19th August 2019