

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2011.**

**PRESENT:** S Firbank, D Lawes, B Martin, P Williams, C Price, G Miller, M Withers, H Baker, A Miller

**APOLOGIES:**

**ATTENDING:** J Frederick (The Clerk), David Masters, Andrew Cattaway, Michael Salisbury and Heather Ransley and 2 members of the public

**12.01 OPEN FORUM**

Michael Salisbury explained that the building work at the school was now complete. The field would be reinstated once the weather got better. The pavement would also be repaired. The overall effect is very good and a real asset for both the school and the village. It was lovely to have older people at the opening ceremony. The school is looking forward to involvement in the village Jubilee celebrations. The school is always keen to collaborate with the Parish Council and other organisations in the village.

**12.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Simon Firbank and Cathy Price declared a personal interest in Bourton Mill (neighbours).  
Peter Williams declared a personal interest in the Silton Wind Turbines (SOS committee).

**12.03 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**12.04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Chairman noted that he had arranged a meeting for the coming Wednesday with Steve Savage from Dorset County Council Highways regarding highway matters relating to the Bourton Mill site. Andrew Cattaway would also be attending the meeting. Parish Councillors were invited to attend.

**SF** agreed to speak with John Williamson of Dorset County Council regarding the condition of Back Lane. This may be a footpath enforcement issue. Regarding the definitive map application, Roger Bell of Dorset County Council was anticipating that this matter would be presented for decision around the beginning of March.

**12.05 SILTON WIND TURBINES**

This item was brought up the agenda. It was noted by the Clerk that it had been advertised as an open item and as such anyone was able to speak.

David Masters of Silton Parish Meeting explained that it was possible for Bourton Parish Council to provide a Proof of Evidence and be represented by the SOS barrister.

*Proposed by Mike Withers and seconded by Brian Martin it was agreed to provide a Proof of Evidence and present a united community case through the Save Our Silton barrister.*

David Masters explained that **following** Silton Parish Meeting a number of other people including residents were producing Proofs of Evidence in the same way. Proofs were needed for exchange by 31<sup>st</sup> January. It was agreed and advice had been taken from Counsel, the current Clerk was the person to produce a Proof despite her resignation.

Ecotricity had failed to use the wind speed data collected on site in the application. They have recently conceded that the load factor for the site was in fact 22.4% and not 29.4% as they had previously claimed. SOS would be launching the Blimp again around 10 days before the start of the Public Inquiry on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

The Clerk circulated her Proof of Evidence based on a previous statement to the NDDC Development Control Committee and letter to the Planning Inspector.

*Proposed by Mike Withers and seconded by Helen Baker it was resolved to submit the Proof of Evidence circulated.*

## **12.06 REPORT BY THE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

County Councillor – Waste partnership – county, district and borough have combined to collect and dispose of waste. A common system would be implemented. Aim to increase recycling to 65%. Changes in the collection system will be instituted at some point. Aim to save £2million through efficiency.

Collaboration between councils across Dorset. New local enterprise partnerships – all sectors joining to improve employment opportunities and growth possibilities. Chaired by Graham Page. Unsure when the new schemes would be implemented.

Health Bill progress – government confident bill will be enacted this year. It should see health and adult social care integrating more effectively. All GPs in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole forming a single commissioning body to spend 80% of health funding – should be major efficiency savings. Public Health moving back to Local Authority control in April 2013.

Dorset County Council has published intention to freeze council tax to get 2.5% grant from central government.

District Council – Council tax – NDDC has had one of the lowest council taxes in recent years so council tax may go up in a modest way. Rise might work out about £3 per household.

Housing Association rents will rise by 6.1% but this is set by the HAS.

Localism bill will come into effect on the 31<sup>st</sup> March. Matters of interests will be relaxed.

Cathy Price asked if there would be a forum for villagers to contribute to a vision for the village. Simon Firbank explained that this would be addressed as part of the development of Neighbourhood Plans.

## **12.07 PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.**

### **12.07.1 Applications received**

2/2011/1473 – Brook Cottage – Erect garage – no objection

### **12.07.2 Permissions received**

None

### **12.07.3 Bourton Mill**

It was understood that the application had been submitted but the Council had not received official notification yet.

## **12.08 FINANCE**

### **12.08.1 Accounts to be paid.**

|                      |                 |        |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Bourton Village Hall | Room hire       | £52.00 |
| PCC of Upper Stour   | adverts         | £25.50 |
| PM Cowell            | gen maintenance | £30.00 |
| Cathy Price          | mileage         | £36.00 |

*Proposed by Danny Lawes and seconded by Peter Williams, it was resolved to pay the above accounts.*

### **12.08.2 Kissing gate**

The landowner regarding the stile on footpath 5 had been identified. The Clerk to contact them re erection of the kissing gate. Dorset County Council won't proceed without the owner being contacted.

### **12.08.3 Noticeboard**

Simon Firbank confirmed that the garage owners were willing to monitor the proposed community board. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Graham Dukes and that the refurbishment of the existing board and the building of the new board were proceeding.

### **12.08.4 Tender for cemetery grass cutting, verge cutting and footpath maintenance**

It was noted that the verges near the garage were in poor condition due to lorries pulling up. A case could be made, for having these verges hardened, to Dorset County Council. This could be dealt with as part of the overall traffic calming scheme in the village. The Parish Council have been trying to arrange a meeting with DCC regarding the whole village traffic calming scheme for some time without success. Andy Brown has failed to reply to communications. **JF** to send a copy of the request to Andy Brown for a meeting to Andrew Cattaway as well so that he can give a push from his side.

It was agreed that the Clerk should send out invitations to tender for the cemetery grass cutting, verge maintenance and foot path maintenance as one document. The contract regarding footpath maintenance would be awarded subject to receiving the funding from DCC.

## **12.09 NEW VILLAGE STEERING GROUP UPDATE**

Peter Williams had previously circulated information regarding the review carried out on all potential village hall sites in the village. Only two sites remained as possible: land adjacent to Sandways Farm and land to the rear of the garage. Negotiations were progressing on both sites but more quickly on the land adjacent to Sandways Farm as less complicated negotiations. It was believed that negotiations should have progressed fairly well by the beginning of March.

Mike Withers asked if the village would be consulted on the position of the new village hall and at what stage? Peter Williams said he would refer the question to the NVHSG.

Peter Williams noted that the VHMC had voted through £1000 to aid professional advice for negotiations and commented that at some point the Parish Council might like to contribute. Simon Firbank commented that the VHMC would need to make any such request in writing.

Peter Williams also suggested that a fighting fund for the new village hall could be set up from the proceeds of hiring the village marquee. It was agreed that this should go on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **12.10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

Mike Withers had circulated a report re NDDC's consultation on the approach that the parishes may take to neighbourhood plans. It was agreed that option 3 with strategic guidance from NDDC but greater local choice was the most relevant choice to Bourton. No commitment to producing a neighbourhood plan at this stage but alerts NDDC to the possibility.

Need to be involved in some way with Gillingham and to be talking across borders.

*Proposed by Peter Williams and seconded by Brian Martin it was resolved to reply to NDDC that option 3 was Bourton Parish Council's preferred choice.*

*(Option 3 – The (North Dorset District) Council gives “light touch” strategic guidance only with greater local choice in Stalbridge and all villages.)*

*Proposed by Geoff Miller and seconded by Cathy Price it was resolved to appoint Mike Withers as the lead on Neighbourhood Planning.*

Mike Withers pointed out that he would need to assemble a team to take neighbourhood planning forward.

#### **12.11 NEW CLERK APPOINTMENT**

The Chairman at this point closed the meeting and asked the public to leave to discuss the appointment of the new Parish Clerk.

*Proposed by Geoff Miller and seconded by Helen Baker it was resolved to appoint Heather Ransley to the position of Parish Clerk with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> March. It was agreed to pay the existing Clerk on a retainer until the 31<sup>st</sup> March to cover a hand over period.*

#### **12.12 CORRESPONDENCE**

Ruth Housell had kindly attended a meeting on behalf of the council on the 19<sup>th</sup> January regarding the 58 bus route.

Peter Williams circulated the response to the NDDC Gypsy and Traveller consultation.

*Proposed by Cathy Price and seconded by Helen Baker it was resolved to return the response to the consultation as per the circulated draft.*

Geoff Miller abstained.

#### **12.13 AOB**

Milestone to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The leak on Factory Hill seems to have been resolved.

The hire cost of the marquee to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The stile by the gateway behind Chaffeymoor was broken. John Williamson had already been informed.

#### **12.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AT 7PM**