

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2013**

PRESENT: S Firbank, M Withers, D Lawes, G Miller, P Williams, A Miller,
H Baker, L Jones

APOLOGIES: C Price

ATTENDING: A Cattaway, 19 members of the public, D Scott acting Clerk

13.89 OPEN FORUM

13.89.1 SKATE PARK

Ben Baker and Ollie Unwin gave a presentation on the possible designs, costs and locations for a Skate Park in the village. They had identified a firm, the Freshpark Ramp Company, which claims to deliver affordable facilities. The presenters illustrated two options, one which was costed at £7,128 and another at £9,216. The installation cost would require a concrete base, 15m X 15m, at an additional cost of £65 per square metre.

Ben and Ollie also suggested some possible options for fund raising, such as sponsorship by Waitrose Charity Tokens, The National Lottery, Hall and Woodhouse Brewery and local businesses. In addition, money could be raised locally by young people doing odd jobs around the village.

Suggested locations for the facility were opposite the Church grounds or adjacent to the New Village Hall.

Having sought the views of friends and those travelling on the school bus, Ben and Ollie said there was enthusiastic support for the concept of a Skate Park in Bourton.

SF asked for any questions/comments. P Withers suggested that the football ground at Zeals might be an alternative location and E Gibbs thought that the NDDC might also sponsor the project. H Palmer thanked Ben and Ollie for their excellent presentation.

13.89.2 OTHER ISSUES

Mrs Palmer said that the Village Hall Committee was hoping for a positive reaction from the Parish Council to Item 9 on the agenda.

R Hounsell reported that she had attended a meeting in Wincanton on local public transport facilities. She said that Wincanton was to be a hub for public transport, with excursions available to towns and villages in the surrounding area, however, there would be no connection from Bourton to Wincanton because the village is in Dorset.

Gillingham is also to be a local hub but, again, there is no plan for a connection to Bourton. Mrs Hounsell suggested that it might be possible to arrange a subsidised taxi service to connect with Wincanton and Gillingham by negotiating with local companies, however, this would have to be demand led and not scheduled.

13.90 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

S Firbank declared a personal interest in Bourton Mill (neighbour).

M Withers declared a personal interest in the New Village Hall development (neighbour). He also stated that, although not a regulatory matter at this stage, he did not intend to speak or vote on Item 9 on the Agenda.

G Miller declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the wind turbines at Holly Farm.

13.91 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Annual Meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting (on 20th May) were agreed and signed as true records.

13.92 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Voscombe Farm: PW reported that the broken pavement had still not been repaired. SF asked **A Cattaway** to speak to the local contact officer.

Grass Cutting: SF said that money was now available from the County Council and Phil Cowell would be asked to cut the foot paths.

13.93 REPORT BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A Cattaway reported that there had been a £400,000 underspend on the County Council budget for the last financial year and reiterated that the County Council element of the Council Tax had been frozen for the third year in a row. He also informed the PC that the armed forces flag had been raised at County Hall to mark Armed Forces Week.

GM reported that the armed forces flag had also been raised at the District Council offices in Blandford. He also stated that NDDC was scrutinising the strategic delivery of all services, such as gas, electricity, etc. The Council had invested £750,000 into the provision of superfast broadband for North Dorset.

13.94 PLANNING

13.94.1 APPLICATIONS

Application received:

2/2013/549 15 New Close Erect 2 storey extension (revised plans)

Permission granted:

2/2013/0387 Land at Forge Garage Erect dwelling and create new access

13.94.2 BOURTON MILL

John Hammond has reported that the assessed annual cost of inspection, general maintenance and clearance of debris at the dam was between £2,500 and £7,500. An estimate had been received from the Fairhurst company and discussions were taking place between solicitors for the NDDC and the Company. JH also indicated that Clublight were prepared to offer the IOQA plus the riverside footpath to the Parish Council. This needs to be supervised by NDDC in order to make sure that an adequate sum of money is set aside for subsequent maintenance. JH has asked for a meeting to discuss progress further.

GM expressed concern that the long term management and safety of the dam is the key issue over the site and stated that he is doubtful that a long term solution is viable.

13.94.3 WEST BOURTON WIND TURBINES

SF reported that the applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the NDDC requirement that an Environmental Impact Assessment should be carried out. PW said he was surprised that the NDDC has not insisted that an EIA should take place and asked whether the PC has the right to appeal if the Secretary of State says that an EIA is not necessary. MW said there should be some means by which the PC could have an input to the Secretary of State on issues affecting the village. **HR** was to make enquiries concerning the status of the appeal.

13.95 FINANCE

13.95.1 PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

Accounts to be paid

HMRC	Quarter 1 PAYE	£153.40
Vale Signs	Sign for Playground	£25.00
DAPTC	Annual Subscription	£268.36
Playsafety Ltd	Annual RoSPA Inspection	£88.80
PCC of Upper Stour	Adverts for Parish Clerk & Marquee	£7.00
Helen Baker	Mileage	£6.30
Phil Cowell	Verge cut	£50.00

Phil Cowell	Cemetery cut	£149.00
Heather Ransley	Policy Documents Printing	£44.70
Mike Withers	NDP Advert in Blackmore Vale	£105.60

It was proposed by DL and seconded by PW that the above accounts should be paid.

Accounts received:

HMRC	2012-13 VAT Refund	£757.80
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13.95.2 SIGN OFF ACCOUNTS FOR 2012-13

It was proposed by HB and seconded by PW that the accounts should be accepted.

13.96 NEW VILLAGE HALL

SF acknowledged the Village Hall Management Committee’s request for the support of the Parish Council in taking the project forward. SF reminded the Parish Council that they had all received a paper from Cathy Price.

A draft proposal was tabled to seek to formalise the PC’s support. It read:

“BPC notes that the VHMC, mandated by BPC to identify the site for a new village hall plus recreation area, has now selected a preferred site, which is immediately to the West of Sandways Farm.

In the light of this development, BPC:

1. Supports the proposal to build a new hall on the preferred site and to secure the adjacent land for amenity support and recreation space.
2. Will provide support and encouragement to VHMC to help it to achieve these objectives, as shown on drawing “Option B”.”

There was some discussion over the wording of the draft proposal. PW suggested that the PC should avoid boxing in the VHMC by tying it in to a specific design. GM expressed concern that the PC’s commitment to support the project would result in the PC having financial responsibilities for the development in the future. PW said that there was no financial commitment implied in the draft proposal.

PW said that the Action Plan in the Bourton Village Plan 2008 had stated the requirement to “Identify and secure a preferred site and to achieve planning permission, funding and construction” for a new village hall and to “Seek to provide additional indoor and outdoor facilities”. This plan had been endorsed by the Parish Council and it was important to get the PC’s support to proceed with the proposed site.

SF said that, on the design issue, there would have to be an application for planning permission in the future.

The proposal was amended to read:

“BPC notes that the VHMC, mandated by BPC to identify the site for a new village hall plus recreation area, has now selected a preferred site, which is immediately to the West of Sandways Farm.

In the light of this development, BPC:

1. BPC supports the proposal to build a new hall on the preferred site and to secure the adjacent land for public open space.
2. Will provide support and encouragement to VHMC to help it to achieve these objectives.”

This motion was proposed by HB and seconded by LJ. Five members (SF, PW, HB, LJ, AM) voted in favour and three members (GM, MW, DL) abstained. The proposal was, therefore, passed.

13.97 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING ISSUES

MW reported that some twenty five responses have been received from people who had indicated they wished to volunteer for various tasks to assist the NPG. Meetings will be arranged with these volunteers to allocate tasks within various focus groups under a team leader.

There have also been responses from landowners and businesses who have been invited to meet with the NPG to discuss their aspirations and those yet to respond are being contacted. This is a real opportunity for people within these groups to be involved in the NP process and make their views known – if they do not do so then the NPG cannot include their views and aspirations within the draft NP and they may lose out on this opportunity.

The NPG applied to Locality for funding to help with promotional, printing, incidental costs and professional assistance for the NP in the total sum of £6,088.00. Following detailed questioning on budget and programme issues, a conditional offer of £5,720.00 has been received from Locality, which has to be expended by the end of March 2014. The terms and conditions for this grant are yet to be received but the likelihood is that it will enable the NP to proceed at minimal cost to the PC and that the more specialist areas of work within the NP, such as planning policy writing, can have the benefit of professional assistance.

Focus group meetings with volunteers and NDDC planning policy officers are expected to take place over the next few weeks as well as meetings with the various groups who have responded to the invitation and professionals from Locality.

13.98 WEBSITE

NH reported that all documentation was complete and had been passed to Alex at DesignJam - most of the data had been input. Alex was currently going through the process of changing the ownership of the site, which could take a week or 10 days. When this was done, he would hand the site over to NH for final review.

13.99 GATES AT ENTRANCE TO VILLAGE

HB said that she had received advice on the location of the gates from Sam Paulley at DCC. If acceptable to the PC, they will go ahead but there is some additional cost for the gate at the Zeals end, which has not been specified yet. SF said that the location of the gate at the West end of the village had been queried by NDDC. **HB** to follow up.

SF reported that NDDC has said that Bourton will never get a 30mph speed limit. A Cattaway suggested that it isn't a case of never but funding is not currently available. The Community Beat Officer, PC Maureen Hayward, has carried out a series of speed checks at drop-off time for school children and only one vehicle was exceeding the limit - at 41mph. The Headmaster of St George's has written to parents to encourage drop-off parking on the main road, where safe.

13.100 NEW PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

SF reported that the recruiting process is ongoing. It is felt that someone local would be preferred, rather than paying someone from outside the village.

13.101 REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS

The Chairman reported that he and the Parish Clerk had carried out a review of all PC documents. He had passed a copy of the review to all members of the PC and it would be discussed at the July meeting.

13.102 VILLAGE TENT

SF reminded all present that the village owns a 12m X 6m marquee, which is easy to erect and is available for rent, at a cost of £200 per session.

13.103 CORRESPONDENCE

Date	From	Subject
24/05/13	DAPTC	Invitation to stakeholder engagement events to be run by NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group at Charlton Down & Canford Magna.
28/05/13	NDDC	Trees & Hedgerows - moved to a fully electronic document management system now so all correspondence to be by email.
29/05/13	NDDC	Confirmation that material found at Brixkeys Farm is asbestos but no more has been found.
04/06/13	DCC	Mill Lane/Bridge Street/Factory Hill to be closed until 26th June for continued urgent sewer repairs.

13.104 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.104.01 TRAFFIC

GM stated that, with reference to cars around the school area, locals don't have a fair deal because of the amount of traffic. He suggested that the parish field across the road from the Church could be used for parking but road crossing might be a problem. PW said that having a lollipop person on a 40mph road was not practical. SF undertook to discuss the issue further with Michael Salisbury.

13.104.02 DAMAGED TREES

PW queried whether action had been taken over the vandalism to trees at the bottom of Footpath Number 16, behind Miller Close. SF said that PC Hayward had investigated and the nails have been removed.

13.104.03 DEAD BADGERS

P Curry asked who should be contacted for the effective removal of dead badgers. NDDC are supposed to take responsibility but, despite them being informed of a roadside corpse in the Sandways area five days ago, it was still there. S Williams recommended contacting Badger Watch who, in her experience, removed them within 20 minutes ! GM said he would find out who is responsible.

13.105 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 22nd July at 7pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....