

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY, 26TH MARCH 2012

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

APOLOGIES D Lawes, A Miller

ATTENDING: Heather Ransley The Clerk, 9 members of the public, Andy Bowtell of Gillingham Police

12.28 OPEN FORUM

Adrian Cox expressed concern about the canvassing done by CP and requested that it not be used as statistical data as it did not include the views of Bridge Street or Factory Hill residents. Adrian also asked whether the issue of access for emergency services especially to Kites Nest Lane had been raised. He has emailed NDDC about this and will pass a copy to HR. Parish Council will also draw this to the attention of NDDC - **HR**.

Mr Sturt said the meeting about the new Village Hall on Fri 23rd March had been well attended. A summary of the events of the meeting will be circulated shortly. Comments from the questionnaires are being reviewed. A report will be written and discussed with the Parish Council prior to publication.

Mrs Sturt aired her personal view that there was animosity from members of the Parish Council towards the New Village Hall Committee. SF replied that the whole village including the Parish Council support the move towards the new Village Hall and that the Parish Council strives to serve the community as a whole.

Mr Sturt said the meeting to plan events for the Jubilee had gone well. 3 days of events are planned and he asked that everyone spread the message and all offers to help would be welcomed.

Back Lane: Both Angela Ambrose and Simon Holloway were given the opportunity to put their case regarding ownership of this strip of land.

12.29 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).

Brian Martin declared a personal interest in Back Lane.

Geoff Miller declared a personal interest in planning permission at Blackwater Farm.

12.30 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 27th Feb 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Changes to paragraph 1 of the Extraordinary Meeting of 5th Mar 2012 were agreed as follows:

Mr Sturt offered a formal apology to the Parish Council for interrupting proceedings at the previous Parish Council meeting on 27th Feb. The Chairman accepted Mr Sturt's apology.

Mr Sturt also requested that an apology be given by both the Chairman and Cllr G Miller to Cllr Peter Williams for unwarranted outbursts at the previous meeting and for Cllr Miller's request for the resignation of Cllr Williams. There was no response from the Chairman or Cllr G Miller.

Paragraph 2 to stand as is:

Mr Sturt said that in his opinion 2 members of the council had prejudicial interests in the Mill development and proposed the Chairman should stand down. SF said he did not wish to stand down.

HR to reissue minutes.

12.31 REPORT BY THE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS

GM reported that the Gillingham Town Design Statement is coming to council this week. It is expected that the Neighbourhood Plan will follow.

There will be a big beacon lit at Melbury Hill for the Jubilee which GM has been asked to attend.

12.32 PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

12.32.1 Applications received

2/2012/0215 – Blackwater Farm – Erect extension over basement garage – no objection

12.32.2 Permissions received

2/2012/0100 – Little Wolford – Erect conservatory

12.32.3 Bourton Mill

This is now with NDDC. GM has spoken to John Hammond. It is expected that the meeting will be held in the Village Hall. The Development Control Committee will go to see the site on that day. Anyone will be able to speak at the meeting but not at the site visit. Date to be confirmed.

CP has contacted the Stour Vale Hydro Group. The main concern is the management company and maintenance of the proposed Archimedes Screw. **CP** and **PW** to visit established water mills to gather information in this regard.

12.32.4 Silton Wind Turbines

Hearing adjourned until Tue 18th Sept 2012.

12.32.5 New Village Hall

SF thanked Harriet and the team for their presentation. There are currently 3 potential sites on the short list. There are no recommendations at this time.

12.32.6 Back Lane

Further to the Open Forum discussion, the Parish Council agreed that it was a dispute between neighbours and that the land where the footpath used to be (marked B-C on relevant map) was of no benefit to the general community.

Proposed by Peter Williams and seconded by Cathy Price it was resolved that there was no community benefit to be gained by taking this small strip of land for the village. 3 in favour and 3 abstained.

HR to notify Land Registry of this resolution.

12.33 FINANCE

12.33.1 Accounts to be paid.

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1&1 | Internet Domain | £46.64 |
| Wessex Water | Cemetery | £16.97 |

12.33.2 Grants & Donations

| Group | | 2011/12 | Payment Type |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------|--------------|
| S137 Payments | Disability Action Group | £100 | S137 |
| | D&S Air Ambulance | £250 | S137 |
| Other grants | Nordis | £150 | S142 |
| | Mere Linkscheme | £150 | S26-29 |
| CAB | Citizen's Advice Bureau | £350 | S142 |

Proposed by Helen Baker and seconded by Peter Williams it was resolved to make these grants & donations.

HR to get more quotes for soft pour for the playground.

SF mileage to be approved at next meeting.

12.33.3 Playground Seating

SF circulated a leaflet on a pair of 4 person basic seats for consideration as possible replacements for the 2 benches that have been removed.

Proposed by Helen Baker and seconded by Peter Williams it was resolved to spend up to £400 for replacement seating.

HB to follow up.

12.33.4 Jubilee

PW has opened a Lloyds bank account for the Jubilee sub-committee. HR to be a signatory.

HR had downloaded information on Temporary Events Notice and Street Party licence and passed to PW.

Insurance – SF read back AON guidelines as follows:

Our policy will only cover Jubilee events if

- The Jubilee committee is an official sub-committee of the Parish Council
- Meetings of the sub-committee are open to the public in the same way as Parish Council meetings
- Minutes of the sub-committee are part of and incorporated into the minutes of Parish Council
- Any accounts form part of the accounts of the Parish Council and are subject to council audit

AON must be advised of the activities that will be taking place to confirm that they are covered by the policy.

HR to seek advice on what needs to be done to ensure the Jubilee sub committee is legally regarded as an official sub-committee of the Parish Council.

It had been agreed in Nov 2011 (11.122.4) to include £1500 for the Jubilee in the 2012-2013 budget. PW requested that £1000 be transferred to the Jubilee bank account and that the remaining £500 be used to purchase a gas beacon for the Church tower. PW has ordered the beacon and passed the paperwork to HR.

Proposed by Cathy Price and seconded by Helen Baker it was resolved to transfer £1000 to the Jubilee bank account once we are satisfied that this has official sub-committee status

Proposed by Helen Baker and seconded by Cathy Price it was resolved to purchase the gas beacon for the church tower.

PW requested that £500 from the Parish Council 'seed fund' be used for the purchase of Jubilee mugs, some to be given away free and some for purchase. This to be repaid from the proceeds after conclusion of the Jubilee events.

Proposed by Geoff Miller and seconded by Helen Baker it was resolved to loan £500 from the seed fund for the purchase of Jubilee mugs.

12.34 FOOTPATH 5

Satisfactory interim repairs have been carried out. Waiting for clearance from landowner to install kissing gate.

12.35 PUBLICATION POLICY

HR circulated updated document.

Proposed by Helen Baker and seconded by Brian Martin it was resolved to adopt this revision of the Publication Policy.

12.36 CORRESPONDENCE

Harriet Palmers letter regarding Village Hall survey expenses to be discussed at next meeting. **HR** to circulate to Parish Council.

Dorset Police Enquiry Review – Gillingham office will only be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 6pm.

Bus Committee - Ruth Hounsell is attending quarterly meetings. **HR** to circulate minutes from meeting of 24th March. The minutes contain a link to a survey

Peter Nathans letter of 14th March regarding Bourton Mill development was discussed.

Para 2: **HR** to write to NDDC requesting the site be cleared. This has been done before but to no avail.

Para 3: A Public Consultation with NDDC before they make their final decision will be requested at the appropriate time.

Para 4: It is for NDDC to determine boundaries

Para 5: No footpaths or bridges on the field to the east of Bridge Street are shown on existing plans.

12.37 AOB

We are behind on collecting rent from Gerald. **HR** to follow up.

Jubilee Oak - The Sturts have grown saplings from acorns from the old Jubilee Oak. Suggestions as to where this new oak should be planted for discussion at next meeting.

Millers Close – please advise GM of any bad behaviour

Homewatch – Bob Child is the Bourton co-ordinator. Request that all low level crime is reported to the police so that they have an informed view of what's going on. The number to call to report crime not requiring emergency response is 101. The next Homewatch meeting is to be held on 24th April 2012 in the Village Hall.

Skate Park – **HB** to investigate costs.

12.38 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY 23RD APRIL AT 7PM