

BOURN PARISH COUNCIL**The minutes of the Meeting of Bourn Parish Council held on
Thursday 16 February 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Mr G Smith (Chairman) Mr J Hansford
 Mr R Ansell Mr S Jones
 Mr N Ball Dr G Pountain
 Mrs V Bruce Mrs X Rees-Howell

In attendance: County Cllr L Wilson and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

- 1.1 No apologies were received.
1.2 Cllrs Smith, Pountain and Ansell declared a personal interest in any Allotments item as allotment tenants. Cllr Bruce declared a personal and prejudicial interest as Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee.

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Bruce spoke as a member of the public and reported that, at the recent Village Hall Committee meeting, the Church had expressed its disappointment that the Council had not paid the full amount for the grass cutting, although it was grateful for the contribution made.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 19 January 2012

The minutes of the previous meeting on 19 January 2012 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman ^(Prop NB, 2nd RA)

3. Matters arising from the last meeting**3.1 To receive the Clerk's report**

The Clerk's report was noted.

Recreation Ground access road - It was agreed that the possibility of transferring the ownership of the Recreation Ground access road to the Parish Council should be investigated with the registered owners, AMA developments Ltd.

Mrs Jan Burrell of Bourn Youth Project arrived and delivered the signs which are to be erected at the access road. She then left the meeting.

3.2. Community Centre – request for signage

It was agreed that a sign should be erected in the vicinity of the shop/Village Hall directing people to the Community Centre in Hall Close. It was agreed to check whether permission would be needed from either SCDC or CCC.

3.3 Twining

Cllr Galvin was not present to report. Carried forward.

3.4 To consider the quote for tree work at the allotments

One quotation is awaited and further quotations are to be obtained. Carried forward.

4. To consider planning and tree work applications and any planning related matters**4.1 Planning applications and appeal notices****4.1.1 S/0106/12/FL – Lalbagh restaurant, 49 Alms Hill – Single storey rear extension to form restaurant conservatory**

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop GS, 2nd NB) to recommend the application for approval as it conforms to ET5 (allows for expansion) and DP2 (design of new development).

4.1.2 S/0132/12/FL – 37 High Street – Proposed solar panel installation to existing flat roof

The possible visual impact on neighbouring properties was discussed. It was agreed that members would take a look and send their comments to Cllr Ball to collate and email the response to the Clerk.

4.1.3 S/2112/11 – Davids Lodge, Old North Road – Hay Store, Menage and Lighting Columns

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop GP, 2nd VB) to recommend approval subject to the ménage not being used for commercial purposes. Conforms to DP2 design specification.

4.2 SCDC Decision Notices

4.2.1 S/2399/11 – Brook Cottage, 158 Caxton End – Variation of approved consent S/0832/07/F. Permission granted by SCDC. Noted.

4.2.2 S/2465/11 – Bourn Golf and Leisure Club – Four Chalets. Permission granted by SCDC. Noted.

4.2.3 S/2598/11 – The Grange, Broadway – Erection of a hangar for light aircraft. Permission granted by SCDC. Noted.

4.2.4 S/2040/11 – 25 Riddy Lane – Two storey side extension. Permission granted by SCDC. Noted.

4.3 Tree Works Applications

None.

5. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

5.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

The financial report was received and considered. The invoices and bank statements were checked before the cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

The payments, as detailed in the financial report, were signed by two members ^(Prop NB, 2nd RA).

ICO (DPA)	£35.00
LGS Services (Admin Support)	£934.03
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£125.41
Wicksteed (underpayment in cheque 1463)	£20.00

5.2 Play inspection reports – to consider work required and set up a rota

The kind offer from Mrs Susanne Armitage to compile an inspection rota each quarter was accepted. The Parish Council will require fortnightly inspections of all the sites and reports to be submitted within 24 hours. It was agreed that Cllr Bruce would be the member responsible for collecting in the reports, sending them to the Clerk and acting as the point of contact. It was delegated to Mrs Armitage to organise a rota for the fortnightly inspections.

Quotations from RPM and Wicksteed for the works required were considered. The Parish Council agreed to delegate the decision about acceptance of the quotations to Cllrs Pountain, Bruce and Ansell. Copies of the quotations and specification are to be emailed to them urgently and they are to inform the Clerk of their decision as soon as possible.

5.3 Half-pipe – reply from Clever Curves

On 6 February the Parish Council had reported to the manufacturers that water had collected under the joint at the bottom of the curve on the left side of the half-pipe, and was sitting on the surface. The Parish Council expressed concern that the wood might start to rot, and asked that the recently installed equipment be examined and any remedial action be undertaken at no cost to the Council. The reply from Clever Curves that “All the materials used are pressure treated and are designed to get wet; this should not be a problem. We do offer a warranty in any case should a later problem

occur” was noted. It was agreed to monitor the position and return to Clever Curves should problems arise.

County Councillor Lister Wilson arrived during this item.

6. Members reports and items and actions arising from any recommendations

6.1 Playing Fields including Bourn Youth Project

As the access road was not owned by SCDC or CCC it was not felt necessary to seek permission to erect the signs. Cllrs Ball and Smith will carry this out.

6.2 Parish Plan Working Group

Nothing to report.

6.3 Caxton End Working Group

There were no further developments. Members were asked to make enquiries locally and submit any old photographs of the site to SCDC. Cllr Smith undertook to email Matt Hare of SCDC to ask about the up to date position.

Nigel Blazeby of SCDC is to be contacted to request a discussion as to whether Mr Harris was entitled to request a Certificate of Legal Development on the site. Cllrs Smith and Ball would be willing to meet Mr Blazeby. The Parish Council was concerned to follow this matter up as it was not true that someone had lived on the plot for ten years.

6.4 Highways Working Group including review of membership

Membership - The membership of the Highways Working Group was unanimously agreed ^(Prop GS, 2nd NB) to be Cllrs Galvin, Bruce, Jones, Rees-Howell and Hansford.

Speedwatch - The operation of the Speedwatch scheme was outlined. Cllr Smith will ask John Fuller whether the scheme only applies to 30 mph areas and what the procedure would be to apply a 30 mph speed limit for The Broadway. A copy of the CCC document “Your Community Your Speed limit” is to be emailed to all members for further consideration.

Bus link – The history of discussions regarding a bus link from Cambourne to the Broadway was outlined. It was noted that Cambourne Parish Council were considering the possibility and Bourn Parish Council is concerned to ensure that should a bus link application be approved, that no additional traffic should be permitted. It was agreed that the Parish Council should keep talking to Cambourne Parish Council and that it would be useful for a member to attend Cambourne Parish Council meetings, to keep aware of developments, establish a voice on the issue, and negotiate what course of action would best benefit the community of Bourn.

Accidents on A1198 – The email from a resident was noted. The reply from Highways was not felt to be satisfactory. It was agreed to contact the Highways department to urge that the signs be replaced as soon as possible and ask for signage to be painted on the road also. Longstowe Parish Council is to be contacted to see if their Highways representatives would be prepared to meet with the Bourn Highways Group. A reply is to be sent to the resident that the Parish Council shares her view that the junction is hazardous, and that it has asked for the signage to be reinstated and its Highways Group is also pursuing discussions regarding the introduction of safety measures.

Gritting – Cllr Smith undertook to look into the offer from CCC of manual pushable spreaders. An item is to be placed in the next Parish Newsletter seeking volunteers to assist with grit spreading in icy weather. Cllrs Smith and Ansell indicated their willingness to help. The salt bin outside the doctors’ surgery was empty and a request has been made for this to be filled as soon as possible.

It was reported that a pyracantha hedge was obscuring visibility for drivers turning out of the Jubilee playing fields entrance onto Alms Hill. The Parish Council agreed that a letter should be sent to the residents between the entrance and the Brook at Bourn

Brook Barns, asking them to cut back their section of the hedge as the reduced visibility was hazardous.

Cllr Wilson was invited to give his report. He raised the proposed Council Tax increase of 2.59% and the risk of being £30m worse off in five years' time if government funding for the current year was accepted now. He expressed the view that CCC should reduce its expenditure rather than increase Council Tax and sought the Parish Council's opinion. It was observed that freezing the Tax might not necessarily bring about efficiency gains, if there were any to be made, and a small increase might be more effective to maintain services.

Cllr Jones apologised and left the meeting during this discussion at 9.25 pm.

6.5 Planning and Affordable Housing Group

Cllr Smith reported on a discussion with Paul Gildersleeve who had had no problems in principle with allotments on his land but highlighted a potential problem with access as the farm gates were locked. It was agreed that the Allotments Association should discuss this directly with the landowner to see if a solution can be found.

7. To consider correspondence/communications received including

7.1 CCC Protected Road Verges sign management

In response it was agreed to reply that the Parish Council would be willing to be involved in the management of the PRV at Alms Hill, but it was unable to absorb the cost. The Parish Council had no knowledge of the costs required and was unable to provide contact details for possible local contractors.

7.2 Annual Litter Pick

The forthcoming event was noted.

8. Closure of meeting

The letter from the Churchwarden thanking the Council for the donation towards grass cutting was noted.

The letter from Elsworth Parish Council enquiring about the shared retention of a planning consultant will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cllr Bruce will attend the Sports Clubs meeting.

Cllr Jones will attend the Parish Planning meeting on 22 February.

Cllr Smith will attend the Police Panel meeting.

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.38pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____(Date)