

BOURN PARISH COUNCIL**The minutes of the Meeting of Bourn Parish Council held on Thursday 12 September 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

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

In attendance: 11 members of the public, District Councillor Alison Elcox and Mrs Kathleen Baptie (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Cllr Ball opened the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

No apologies received.

1.1 To consider the model code of conduct

It was agreed to adopt the model Code of Conduct.

1.2 To consider the procedure for dispensations under the Code of Conduct

The procedure for dispensations under the Code of Conduct was considered and agreed.

1.3 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

None

1.4 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None

1.5 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None

2. Election of Chairman and to receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

There were no nominations. Cllr Ball chaired the meeting.

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

An update on the Definitive Map Order was given. They now had 30 evidence forms from residents of Toft, Caldecote and Longstowe and the intention was to go ahead with the Definitive Map Order. The stile on Footpath 4 at Caxton End, on the right hand side to Brook Road was difficult to cross as it has been overgrown for several months and the resident felt there was no need for a stile or kissing gate on this footpath.

Chris Poulton reported that plans for a Solar Park had been re-submitted and were broadly unchanged for the original application. There were now in the region of 300,000 homes in the UK which now had photovoltaic panels (PV's), and also 2 solar farms in the region at Haslingfield and Wilburton. The visual impact of these was limited and at Bourn the site had been designed to fit in with the topography. What was an intensively farmed arable field will become a wildlife field. As part of the scheme the developers had offered to install 2 community photovoltaic panels, possibly for the school and 1 for the village hall.

It was noted that the 2 PV installations would be feeding in to the grid. While the one third of the field would be covered with receptors the rest would be meadow and animals could go under them as they are off the ground. The PV's had an approximate life of 25 years.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 19 July 2012 and the extraordinary meeting of 30 August

Following an amendment to note Cllr Jones' apologies, the minutes of the previous meeting on 19 July 2012 were approved ^(Prop NB, 2nd VB) as a true record and signed by

the Chairman. The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 30 August were also approved ^(Prop NB, 2nd GP) and signed by the Chairman.

4. Co-options to fill casual vacancies

Dr Neil Blair of Church Street was co-opted to the Parish Council and he signed his declaration of acceptance of office

The Chairman proposed to vary the order of business to take item 9.1 here as the resident concerned had come to the meeting.

9.1 Resident – removal of steps and waymark post on FP6

Cllr Ball read out the resident's email and Angela Marcham, the P3 Co-ordinator's response. The P3 Co-ordinator's response is to be sent to the resident.

5. Matters arising from the meeting

5.1 To receive the Clerk's report

Noted.

5.2 (Comments) Twinning report

Cllrs Bruce and Jones will be the Parish Council's representatives for this project and the Parish Council are happy to move forward with this.

Gareth Jones and another member of the public left the meeting.

5.3 (4.5) Hall Close play equipment project – to consider quotes received and to decide if grant funding should be applied for.

Two further quotations from Produlic and Lars Laj were considered. Cllrs Ansell and Pountain had met with the suppliers. Lars Laj's additional quote of £300 for safety surfacing under the monkey matting and information on two grant schemes from SCDC were also considered. The Council was unclear if the Parish Plan consultation would count as the local consultation for the grant application. It was agreed that Lars Laj was the Council's preferred supplier and to accept their quotations. It was also agreed to apply for a grant from SCDC however if this process took longer than two months the Council would place the order and pay for the equipment in full.

5.4 (4.7) Play inspections including Annual Wicksteed quote and Volunteer Operational Inspector

The quote from Wicksteed Leisure for an accompanied inspection at £71 was accepted. ^(Prop NB, 2nd VB) It was also agreed to accept Frank Haxton's offer of Volunteer Operational Inspector.

Cllr Loynes was invited to give his report and he indicated he was willing to attend any meeting regarding Bourn Airfield and report. He then left the meeting.

5.5 (7.3) 107 Caxton End – review of outstanding issues and enforcement

It was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting.

5.6 (4.7 of 21.6.12) Access road to playing fields – to consider response

It was agreed that the "slow down" sign would be relocated by a Parish Council working group of members. The response from the owners that they were not prepared to sell the land to the Council at the price the Council had offered was noted.

5.7 Youth Bus

The email seeking permission to use the recreation ground was considered and the dates approved.

6. To consider planning, tree work applications and any planning related matters

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

6.1.1 S/1611/12/FL –Caxton Road, Bourn – Construction of solar energy farm

The proposal that the Parish Council reject the application on the basis that the photo montage produced by Bidwells did not give an accurate view of the site was not carried with no votes in favour.

The proposal that the Parish Council recommend that the application is approved was carried ^(Prop GP, 2nd RA with 4 in favour and 3 against)

It was reported that the developer had spoken with the School about the offer of PV panels and that planning permission was only required if on a listed building but not in a conservation area.

- 6.1.2 S/1712/12/FL – Rotortech Ltd – Change of use of the site and buildings and works
Having considered traffic, visual impact and noise levels, it was agreed to recommend approval as per planning policy ET5 – encouraging relocation and expansion of local business.
- 6.2 SCDC Decision and appeal notices
- 6.2.1 S/2190/11 – Manor Farm, Alms Hill – Erection of offices following demolition of outbuildings – Withdrawn
- 6.2.2 S/2233/11 – 14 Alms Hill – Demolition, rebuild and alteration to barns to form offices – Withdrawn
- 6.2.3 S/0415/FL – Hall Farm 36 Gills Hill – Application for change of use from B1(c) (light industrial use) and B8 (Storage & Distribution) Use to a Garage for Repair and Motor Vehicle Testing Station for MOT (B2 General Industrial) Use – Permission granted
- 6.2.4 S/1874/11 – The Apiary, 107 Caxton End – Replacement dwelling and extension and alteration to existing structures to provide carport and storage buildings – Permission granted
- 6.2.5 S/0870/12/RM – Reserved matters (Phase 3 of S/6438/07/O – Construction of spine road link S and SE of Upper Cambourne Village Green – Permission granted
- 6.3 Tree works applications ^(NB)
None

The Chairman varied the order of business for Cllr Elcox to report.

Cllr Elcox reported that SCDC are going to start building Council Houses. The first ones will be in Linton. They will have the right to refuse anyone from being placed on the housing list who is not from South Cambridgeshire or without links to the area, apart from forces personnel. The houses will have 100% gas compliance.

SCDC are in the process of consulting on Council Tax; they have to cut 1 million in benefits.

The Police Crime Commissioner will be voted on in November.

They are planning far more shared services in environmental health.

7. Finance, procedure and risk assessment including to consider any quotes for urgent work required because of health and safety or risk

- 7.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

The financial report was received and considered. The invoices, statements and bank statements were checked at the end of the meeting by the signatories before the cheques were signed. The payments as listed in the finance report were unanimously approved ^(Prop VB, 2nd GP) plus CGM (grass cutting) £344.56. Credits received between meetings were noted.

CGM Cambridge (grass cutting)	£271.19
Moore Stephens (annual audit)	£480.00
RPM (play area repairs)	£1027.20
LGS Services (Admin support)	£952.37
Alarm Maintenance (alarm service)	£90.00
J & P Plant Ltd (kissing gates)	£522.00
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1064.64
EON (electricity)	£28.69
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£125.41

- 7.2 Play inspection reports

These were being collated by Cllr Bruce and emailed to the Clerk. The Parish Council agreed it was happy to go with Frank Haxton's opinion about the bolts, and monitor the situation.

- 7.3 Moore Stephens Audit conclusion
Moore Stephens have written as follows:
“On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met”.
- 8. Members reports and items and actions arising from any recommendations**
- 8.1 Playing Fields including Bourn Youth Project
The Gardening Group will be doing some weeding etc at the play area.
- 8.2 Parish Plan working group
Nothing to report.
- 8.3 Caxton End Working Group
It was agreed that this can be taken off as a regular agenda item.
- 8.4 Highways Working Group
Cllr Bruce reported following her discussion with Arrington Parish Council which had looked at what residents wanted in terms of speed reduction. The cost of new signage was approximately £5,000 and it would fund this out of the precept over a 3yrs period. The next stage for the working group is to have a meeting (before the next Parish Council meeting) to plan ahead and discuss the number of signs, spacing of housing and costings. It was agreed that Cllr Hansford should be taken off the working group.
- 8.5 Planning and Affordable Housing Group
SCDC had confirmed that it now had some funds available to build 12 council houses in the village. Shulyer Newstead will meet with Paul Derry to discuss pre-planning. Cllr Ansell was happy to meet with Anita Goddard (SCDC) to discuss parking and road access. Philip Crow had offered a site on Gills Hill, which was not entirely suitable as it was on the edge of the village; however details would be kept on file.
- 8.6 Allotments
Nothing to report.
- 8.7 Diseased branch at allotments
Cllr Ball will take a look at this.
- 8.8 School traffic at Hall Close
It was reported that parents were parking on the corner near the middle of the cross roads. It was agreed to invite the chair of Governors from the school to attend a Parish Council meeting. The school numbers are rising from people outside the village, but there is no extra parking space.
- 9. To consider correspondence/communications received including**
- 9.2 SCDC Gambling Act consultation
Noted.
- 9.3 SCDC Grants funding review consultation
Noted.
- 10. Closure of meeting**
There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.51pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____(Date)