

BOURN PARISH COUNCIL**The minutes of the Meeting of Bourn Parish Council held on
Thursday 20 March 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Mr N Ball Dr G Pountain
Dr N Blair Mr L Rolfe
Mrs V Bruce Mrs X Rees-Howell

In attendance: 2 members of the public and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services)

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

A resident of Riddy Lane reported that she had learned from a meeting at the District Council that nobody was responsible for the balancing lakes put in when Cambourne was built. She expressed concerns that water had been running down Riddy Lane and across the road, and stated that the drains at the bottom were beginning to block again.

Cllr Pountain arrived at 7.35 pm.

The resident also reiterated her concerns at an oak tree growing on top of the culvert and the risk of possible collapse and flooding. She asked that the Parish Council take action to protect the flood defences and prevent flooding, particularly in the light of further development at West Cambourne.

The Parish Council emphasised the actions it had already taken and its continuing efforts to counteract flooding, including initiating the laying of pipes, and the revival of the Flood Group. The Council stressed that it shared the resident's concerns and was doing everything it could to seek improvements. The responsibility for the lake and its height lay with the Wildlife Trust and developers were responsible for the outlets. The new group was intending to obtain a survey and was pressing for monitoring equipment to be installed. The Council stressed that it was taking the issue very seriously.

Cllr Rees-Howell arrived at 7.40 pm.

With regard to the culvert, the Council had arranged for the Highways Supervisor to inspect this within the last month. Her report was awaited and the Parish Council would follow the advice of CCC and the Trees Officer when received. The Council reiterated its assurance that it was doing everything in its power. The resident left the meeting.

Mr Mark Proud outlined his proposals for the restoration of the Tithe Barn, with a view to opening it to the public as a local heritage exhibition venue, research resource and community space, and sought the Council's views. The Parish Council indicated its support in principle and suggested that the proposal be placed on the website asking for feedback from the community and suggestions on potential activities. Mr Proud left the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jones (out of parish).

2. Declarations of interests**2.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**

Cllr Ball declared an interest in item 7.1 (Playing Fields) as adjacent resident.

Cllr Bruce declared an interest in any item concerning the Sports Club as Parish Council representative.

Cllr Pountain declared an interest in any item concerning the allotments as Secretary of the Allotments Association.

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

None.

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 20 February 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 20 February be approved ^(Prop NB, 2nd VB) as a true record and signed by the Chairman after the following amendments: under Item 7.3, to read “bid for an interactive sign to reinforce the existing speed limit”, and under the open session, to read “Rev Alexandra Clarke”.

4. Matters arising from the meeting

4.1 To receive the Clerk’s report

Noted.

4.2 (5.3) Hall Close play area boundary trees – to consider the quotation from CGM

The quote is awaited – carried forward.

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

5.1.1 S/0214/14/AD – Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill – Replacement of two existing signs

RESOLVED to recommend approval. ^(Prop NB, 2nd GP)

5.1.2 S/0013/14/FL – The Knoll, 131 Alms Hill – Replacement of an existing fence, pedestrian gate and vehicle gate

RESOLVED to recommend approval on the grounds that the application conformed to DP2 and DP3 as the design was acceptable and safety was increased. ^(Prop NB, 2nd GP)

5.2 SCDC Decision and appeal notices

5.2.1 S/2288/12/VC – Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission ref. S/1874/11 to agree revisions of dwelling design – Permission granted - Noted.

5.3 Tree works applications

None.

It was noted that hedging had been removed from Byway 26 to widen the footpath. RESOLVED that Graham Bruce should take a look and determine whether it was in Bourn Parish.

Two trees were reported to have come down on the footpath leading from Alms Hill, along the side of the field. This was currently inaccessible. RESOLVED that Graham Bruce should take a look.

Peter Gaskin of CCC is looking into whether there is evidence of an incursion onto on a Public Right of Way reported at the last meeting.

It was reported that water is being discharged onto a path from the back of a house on Water Lane. The legislation about the discharge of water onto public footpaths is to be clarified.

It was noted that the damaged ash tree on the Broadway was the landowner’s responsibility. RESOLVED to ask Hilary Gretton to meet the SCDC tree officer on site to see whether this is dangerous.

The fallen tree debris on The Drift is still there. SCDC are to be informed that telephone cables are underneath it.

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

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

RESOLVED that the financial report be received and considered, and that the invoices, statements and bank statements be checked at the end of the meeting by the signatories before the cheques are signed. RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report be approved for payment ^(Prop NB, 2nd GP) plus SCDC (Trade waste collection DD) £163.80 and SCDC (Rent, land at Hall Close DD) £50.00.

Ian Hildrew (Pavilion lights)	£36.07
Spanglefish (Website removal of advertising)	£24.95
CGM (Hedge cutting)	£110.72

LGS Services (Admin Support)	£863.62
HMRC (PAYE/NIC)	£99.80
Salary	£133.09
D Mackenzie (Housing evaluation)	£250.00
S Jagers (Sustainability and Enviro)	£200.00
GMAC (Transport & Employment)	£200.00

Credits were noted.

6.2 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety

None.

7. **Members reports and items and actions arising from any recommendations**

7.1 Playing Fields

No problems had been reported by Frank Haxton.

Reports had been received of sewage problems near the proposed play area at the Broadway. This land is not yet in the ownership of the Council but when it is a site visit to obtain advice should be arranged. It was noted that a resident was willing to canvass residents as to what was wanted on the site.

RESOLVED that when the new goal posts for Hall Close were delivered a working party would be convened.

7.2 Parish Plan Working Group

Nothing to report.

7.3 Highways Working Group

Cllr Bruce reported on the installation of the new village entrance signs, an interactive sign in the Gills Hill area, and renewed line markings. RESOLVED to obtain more 30mph bin stickers. Cllr Bruce will ascertain the number needed and inform the Clerk. Enquiries are also to be made about obtaining signs reading "Community Speedwatch operates here".

The suggestion for a sign for the centre of the village reading "Unsuitable for large vehicles" is to be added to the list of possible phase 2 items.

RESOLVED to write to a resident in High Street near Short Street about their overhanging hedge. Members are to ascertain the address so that a letter can be sent.

Cllr Bruce will try to attend the SCDC Parish Liaison meeting on 27 March.

7.4 Planning and Affordable Housing Working Group

Nothing to report.

7.5 Allotments

Nothing to report.

7.6 Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report.

7.7 Liaison between Parish Council and School

The response from Chris Poutlon about the solar panels was noted. The Parish Council was keen to obtain detailed proposals for the Pavilion solar panels and if a structural survey was needed it was happy to meet on site. Cllr Blair is to clarify whether there have been any further developments and ascertain what the School's requirements are.

7.8 Website and proposal that the Council serves notice on the website hosting company

Cllr Rolfe reported that the website was going well. An updated copy of the newsletter is to be provided. RESOLVED that future editions of the newsletter must be proof-read and/or edited by one or more councillors before printing. The Chairman agreed to do this for the next newsletter

7.9 SPEP

The thermal camera had been trialled for 5 days. RESOLVED to survey the Village Hall and Pavilion next winter. Images are to be placed on the website and residents are to be asked whether they wish their houses to be surveyed also.

7.10 Bourn Flood Action Group

The group has a membership of five and another resident is to be invited to join. There is also a representative from Toft and a representative from Caxton is being sought. The group is planning walks around Toft and Bourn, and is to talk to Ed Durrant about meeting to discuss getting site levels checked on the lakes and how to set up flow meters in the short term, together with longer term plans to increase the capacity of the system.

8. To consider correspondence/communications received including

8.1 The Council to consider the implications of the repeal of Section 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and its safe and efficient arrangements for the safeguard of public money

RESOLVED to retain the current arrangements of two cheque signatories.

8.2 Resident – Bourn Toad Watch

RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council supports the idea provided the signs are removable after the season, rather than signs requiring poles, and to add that if the group is unable to obtain funding, to speak to the Parish Council.

8.3 SCDC – Bike Bus proposal

RESOLVED to respond that while the Parish Council is broadly supportive, it does not have cycle provision in Bourn. However, it would be interested in obtaining cycle provision, particularly to Toft.

9. Closure of meeting

Cllr Rees-Howell gave her apologies for the May meeting as she will be abroad.

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____(Date)