



## Bournheath Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 7.30pm

Committee Room, Bournheath Village Community Centre  
Claypit Lane, Bournheath

**Present** Councillors Karen May (Chairman), Stuart Hall (Vice-chairman), Keith Drew, Brian Lodge, Steve Westwood

**In attendance** Parish Footpath Warden: June Maw  
Clerk: Gill Lungley

14/03/01 **Apologies** Cllrs Hazel Feeney, Carolyn Marshall

14/03/02 **Declarations of interest**

ODI: Cllr B Lodge occasionally employs the grass cutting contractor.

14/03/03 **Dispensations**

**Agreed:** Cllr B Lodge would stay in the meeting and discuss the grass cutting contract.

14/03/04 **Public Participation / Question Time**

There was appreciation of the social history evening held 7/3/2014 in Bournheath village community centre.

14/03/05 **County Councillor and District Councillor Report**

**County Councillor Sheila Blagg** had sent her apologies for non-attendance and had provided a written report that was circulated to all prior to the meeting.

14/03/06 **Other Reports**

**1) Parish Path Warden (PPW)**

With regard to Footpath 532c (between M5 and Wildmoor Lane) the diverted path which now follows the edge of the field and is a good alternative to the definitive path, appears to have never been officially diverted.

PPW's neighbour has been very helpful in keeping paths tidy and clear of obstruction and the Parish Council expressed thanks for their input.

Members expressed concerns about litter and fly-tipping.

June Maw is enjoying the PPW role; there are 34 footpaths totalling 6.6km in the parish and no bridleways. There is still some way-marking to be done.

**2) Neighbourhood Watch (NW)**

Bryan Hewett (NW Co-ordinator) had sent apologies for non-attendance.

14/03/07 **Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held 25/02/2014 were approved and signed.

14/03/08 **Chairman's Report – Cllr K May**

- **Fiona McIntosh**, North Worcestershire Water Management had asked if the Parish Council could help regarding a tree that had fallen across the Bourn brook creating the potential to cause local flooding problems. Under emergency procedures working with the Clerk a contractor was hired to remove the tree; this incurred £50 costs and thanks from the resident.
- **Bourn brook culvert** (Parish Hill) – black leachate has been noticed 25/03/2014; the Environment Agency is to check.
- **Veolia (Sandy Lane, Fairfield)** plan for Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) plant - it would appear that Ballast Phoenix (the potential operators of the IBA on the Veolia site) have applied to the EA (Environment Agency) for a permit. EA have identified the site as a site of High Public Interest.
- **Odours** that have caused complaint may be due to supply of energy to the National Grid at the Veolia site where more holes have been drilled.
- **Pinches Landfill 3** Earth-moving works have been noticed at this site and WCC Development Control has been asked to check on the site.
- **DoT application** has been submitted to park 7 lorries at Wildmoor Quarry.
- **Wildmoor Lane** – the drains need attention from county highways and residents have asked for speed cameras.
- **New Gas Main - Rocky Lane street works** Residents have spoken of concerns for road safety when passing through the temporary traffic lights in Rocky Lane whilst a trench is being dug to take a new gas main. It would appear the barricades block the road and are not attended to by the contractors working on site and the road is too narrow to allow for traffic to pass whilst the contractors are working and the trench is very deep. Also concerns that the amount of mud arising from the works will affect the drains further down.
- **New Gas Main - Claypit Lane** Concerns about the amount of mud following the recent gas-main laying works and the 'disappearance' of a drain (appears to have been tarmacked over). The clerk will contact County Highways Liaison officer and Division Member to view.
- **WorcsCALC (Bromsgrove Area Committee)** held on 12/3/14 was
  - a) addressed by Richard Osborne, Environmental Health Officer at Wyre Forest and NWWM where KM asked about help for flood and pollution relief and the need to identify 3 further 'drivers' before action can be taken in Bournheath.
  - b) **Parish Council tax support relief grant** – Money has been made available to BDC by Central Government for the purpose of providing 'support to town councils and parishes to help mitigate any reduction in their taxbase due to the local Council Tax support scheme' (Brandon Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DCLG). BDC have decided to divide this money between all its members to spend as they like in their ward (BDC Meeting held 26/02/2014). The parish councilors expressed concerns about the lack of transparency in this decision and the lack of accountability for the spending of the money and agreed to write to Brandon Lewis MP, and Sajid Javid MP (Bromsgrove).
  - c) **Parish Council PR** campaign was discussed. It was suggested members may take this further.

14/03/09 **Progress reports from the Clerk:**

- **Lengthsman report**

Damage to Tuppenny Cake traffic island is not considered requiring attention.  
Litter in Wildmoor Lane has been collected.  
WCC/PC Lengthsman Contract 2014/15 now includes a slightly wider remit; the repayment amount remains as for 2013/14, ie £1894.73. **It was agreed** to continue with the contract (discharge of function via LGA 1972, s101).  
The Clerk will ask Belbroughton PC to attend to the hedge at the bottom of Parish Hill.

- The Lengthsman would be asked to contact the owners of the hedge that overhangs the road in Doctors Hill by the New Inn.
- **Grit bin update:** the Lengthsman will be asked to review requirements and site tidying.
  - **Purchase of 'floodsax'** via NWWM – residents are being asked to advise requirements.
  - **Plans for the Annual Parish Meeting** on 28/05/2014 will be discussed at the next meeting.
  - **Highways Agency improvements to M5 j4a – j6** (central reserve and “Smart Motorway”) – members would be happy to meet with HA to discuss proposals; it was noted that the work can be heard in Bournheath.
  - **HA improvements to M5 Lydiate Ash traffic island** members agreed to meet at Hagley Parish Council’s office if available.
  - **WW1 Centenary** To mark the first World War Centenary and raise funds for the Royal British Legion poppy appeal B&Q are selling packets of poppy seeds to be sown around the countryside. Members agreed to purchase some packets to be sown in the parish.
  - **Bromsgrove District Plan** 2011-2030 was submitted to the planning inspectorate on 12/3/2014.

#### Correspondence

- Western Power Distribution Community Chest 2014 (community funding)
- Worcs CALC updates for March.
- Parish Online (parish mapping) updates.
- Invitation to Parish Conference and Information Market Place at County Hall – 30/04/2014. (KM and SH will attend)
- West Mercia Police Open Day at Kidderminster Police Station 08/06/2014, 11am – 3pm
- Invitation to voluntary and community groups to local outreach meeting 25/03/2014
- Droitwich CVS newsletter
- Worcestershire VOICES e-bulletin

#### 14/03/10 **Wildmoor Report** – report via Cllr H Feeny

- No contact yet with resident in Mill Lane regarding the improvement works in Mill Lane.
- Unsure about the purpose of the work being undertaken at the quarry in Wildmoor Lane.

#### 14/03/11 **Bournheath Village Community Centre** – report from Cllr K Drew

- Notice board has not yet been repaired but these are in hand.
- The latest committee meeting had considered the hall’s future.
- Quiz night date has been moved to 16/04/14.
- Members liked the history evening and would like more of the same.
- There is to be a coffee morning drop-in on 26/4/14.
- Easter Egg/Bunny hunt is to take place on 27/4/14 – hoping for better weather.
- Picnic in the Park is to take place on 22/6/14 and parish council members were asked if they would like to co-operate to mark the Parish Council’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Grant has been received from the county councillor for Woodvale division for equipment.
- The clerk was asked to contact the district councillor to progress lease arrangements with BDC.

#### 14/03/12 **Planning**

1. **There were no planning authority notifications to report.**
2. To note application for lawful development certificate at Badgers Bank Farm.
3. Member’s concerns about ongoing work at 82 Fairfield Road were answered.

- 14/03/13 To award the Lengthsman contract for 2014**  
Having reviewed the tenders **it was agreed** to appoint Mr Phil Dunkley to a 6-month temporary (probationary) contract to provide a maximum of 66 hours' work in the parish during that period and other hours to be agreed if necessary.  
The out-going Lengthsman would be thanked for his past work.
- 14/03/14 Review of Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment**  
This item was deferred to the next meeting
- 14/03/15 Consultation on a draft transparency code for parish councils with a turnover not exceeding £25,000**  
Members agreed to respond to this consultation. They also noted the implications of the Code for this parish council which requires information to be published electronically and agreed to look into establishing an independent website.
- 14/03/16 Expenditure proposals**
- a) **Purchase of outdoor fitness equipment** – this suggestion would be put to the parish via the newsletter.
  - b) **Purchase of maps for members** – Cllr S Hall had obtained copies of maps of the parish which would be available to members. **It was agreed** to purchase a personalised OS Explorer for £16.99.
  - c) **Parish Council office mobile telephone** – **it was agreed** to share the increased cost of up to £10 pcm for a new mobile 'smart' phone with Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council.
  - d) **Grass cutting** of selected highways verges and traffic islands in the parish. It would appear that WCC are happy for the Parish Council to cut selected grass verges and traffic islands in the parish and **it was agreed** to notify WCC of the specific areas that receive this attention. The non-selected areas will continue to receive the WCC twice-yearly attention.  
*Localism Act 2011, General Power of Competence.*
- 14/03/17 To progress environmental improvements**  
**Flower boxes** – re-planting scheme is in hand.  
**Bench replacements** – the bench at the Valley Road end of Tuppenny Cake is to be replaced.  
**Bin** – the litter bin removed by BDC from Tuppenny Cake as part of their bin review has yet to be replaced.  
**Grass cutting** – Mr Rudge has confirmed he is able to continue with the grass cutting contract during 2014. **It was agreed** to contract Mr Rudge to provide eleven cuts during 2014 to the sites listed in the schedule attached. Last year's costs were not representative of a normal year due to unforeseen circumstances and the budget for 2014/15 had been based on the preceding year. Members agreed therefore that funding for this year will be covered by an agreed virement.
- 14/03/18 Content of next parish council newsletter**  
Members agreed to consider this item at the next meeting and provide suggestions of articles to include in the parish council newsletter.
- 14/03/19 Finance:**
- a) Noted - The External Auditor has appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014 as the audit date; the independent internal audit will take place between 02/05/2014 and 16/05/2014.
  - b) **It was agreed** to use internet banking as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 and arrange training.
  - c) The situation on the Parish Councils' Tax Support Relief Grant 2014/15 was noted (03/08 above).
  - d) The payments as per schedule were agreed.

14/03/20 **Items for next agenda:** to include –

- Review of Finance Regulations
- Parish Council Risk Assessment
- Purchase of Worcestershire Flag for Bournheath flagpole
- Grass cutting
- Newsletter
- End of year accounts
- Update from District Councillor B Lewis re BVCC lease
- Picnic in the Park / B-Fest

14/02/21 **Date, time and venue of next Parish Council meeting:**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014, 7.30pm; Committee Room, Bournheath Village Community Centre

**This meeting ended at 23:00hrs**

Signed..... Date.....  
Chairman, Bournheath Parish Council

WEBSITE COPY DRAFT