

Parish Council of Bournmoor

Meeting of Bournmoor Parish Council, via Zoom,

Wednesday 17th March 2021 at 7.00pm

1. **Present** – Cllr Tait (Chair), Cllr Robinson, Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Holland, G Oliver (Clerk, minuting), Cllr Nelsey, Cllr Hall, Cllr Willoughby, Cllr Brady
Guests – Cllr Bell (DCC)
2. **Apologies for absence** – None
3. **Chairmans Introduction** – Cllr Tait welcomed everyone to the meeting.
4. **Police Session** – Liaison continues with PCSO Christine Taylor. Concerns remain over the use of horses and bikes in our community and use of drugs.
5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – February minutes were approved and signed off by Cllr Tait per pro the Council.
6. **Matters Arising** – Progress was discussed on the research around dog dispensers. The council asked whether the bags for dispensers would be biodegradable as they would want to support the environment and promote a green approach. G Oliver agreed to look into this and report back by next meeting.

Cllr Bell will continue to chase up the removal of the community centre sign.

7. **Standards matters** – Facebook continues to grow with regular postings being placed, Cllr Nelsey has been added as an additional admin.

Cllr Bell updated the council on the success of a local parish council from live streaming and asked for Bournmoor to consider for future meetings. The Parish Council held an initial discussion, seeking views and agreed to bring this back onto the agenda for a more detailed discussion after the elections in May, when we should also know whether meetings will continue remotely or be back face to face.

8. **Financial matters** – The following accounts were agreed & paid:-

- Clerk - £441.33
- Defib Pads - £93.54
- Bank Account - £8, 883.41

Funding of around £3000 has also been applied for with DCC, with thanks to support from Cllr Bell, which would be used for capital new spend/equipment for the Bournmoor community. DCC asked for further information on expected use to support the application. The council discussed using funding on the basis of using for equipment/activities for children/youths and/or seating/planters for community spaces. The council agreed a type of friendly bench facility may be useful. G Oliver will feed these concepts back into DCC which we hope will support the application being approved.

9. **Correspondence** – G Oliver updated the council on the nomination process for May elections. Family members can act as proposers or seconders providing they are on the electoral role. G Oliver advised that if anyone needs the forms printing, or could get all forms back to her, she will progress and check them and arrange for their collective submission to DCC, before the nominations deadline.

10. **Village Matters**

Cllr Robinson discussed the Questionnaire being developed with Karbon, and requested additional feedback from councillors to enable the form to be issued to residents quickly. This will help determine, what our local community would like to see and identify if they have concerns over the yearly bonfire. G Oliver agreed to put a facebook post on to advise residents the questionnaire was coming.

Other areas discussed in meeting included:-

- Concerns over flytipping – though they continue to be reported in
- State of footpath from bridge by Floaters Mill to Callington, can repairs be looked into
- Bus shelter is in process of being replaced but dog bin has disappeared, this has been reported in.
- Whether a new Village Plan/Survey should be considered or a new Community Centre – agreed to bring back the concept of a village survey before the end of the year
- The gates by Lambton school being locked by residents – DCC has legal duty to keep open, compromises being looked into in terms of a chicane type fence.
- Speeding remains an issue – will keep monitoring
- Salt bins have been procured
- Path by cricket ground has been put forward for funding for repairs

- Play Area in Bournmoor requires review, with lack of facilities mentioned – can be considered as part of funding/improvement. Cllr Bell agreed to support, if elected as County Councillor.
- Potholes are being repaired – report to Cllr Bell if any further ones noticed
- Covid Vaccinations are going well in the community – residents are being using Pelton Fell, Houghton Primary Care Centre, the Nightingale in Washington or the new unit at the Arnison Centre.
- The new schools admission policy from Sept 2022, with potential impact on our local schools. Cllr Willoughby agreed to discuss with G Oliver and a mail would be prepared to send to the Head at Bournmoor Primary School, with an offer of support.
- The Smiths Arms request to change into a residential dwelling. G Oliver will arrange a response from Bournmoor Parish Council, working with Cllr Robinson to submit a suitable return to Durham Planning, following consultation across councillor views.

Meeting ended at 21:18

Next Meeting: The next meeting would be held on 21st April 2021 at 7pm.