



Parish Council of Bournmoor

Meeting of Bournmoor Parish Council, Bournmoor Church Hall, 7.00 pm

Wednesday 16th February 2022

1. **Present** – Cllr Robinson (Chair), Cllr Nelsey (Vice Chair), Cllr Armstrong, G Oliver (Clerk, minuting), Cllr Holland, Cllr Tait.

Guests – Cllr Heaviside (DCC)

Apologies for absence – No Bournmoor Parish Councillor reported apologies. It was noted that Cllr Alan Bell (DCC) had advised he was unable to attend.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – None were reported.
3. **Chairs Announcements** – Cllr Robinson advised he had spoken to Clare Brady, who had confirmed her resignation. Cllr Robinson would like to thank Clare on behalf of Bournmoor Parish Councillors past and present for her commitment and all she has done over many years. He said that they had agreed to keep in touch on any community issues. Cllr Robinson advised he had been unable to make contact with Callum McKitten, who had also not made any contact with the council or passed on apologies for absence for several meetings. The council agreed Callum therefore could no longer be classed as an active councillor and Cllr Robinson would again try and make contact to advise.

Gillian Oliver had made contact with the elections office, and 2 formal vacancy notices will go on both BPC and DCC websites on Friday. It was also agreed we would advertise on social media channels and any other avenues available, such as Church Hall noticeboard.

Cllr Robinson advised the trial of the new agenda format tonight, requesting the council try to stay focussed and discuss the items of interest within the relevant agenda item.

Cllr Robinson also advised that the leaflets on reporting crime had been distributed out to households in the Parish and copies placed on our media channels.

4. **Public Participation** No members of the public were present.
5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – The January 2022 minutes were approved, following amendment to the meeting time and a councillor name assigned an action and were then signed off by Cllr Robinson per pro the Council.
6. **Any business remaining from previous meetings** – All actions from previous meeting, are to be covered throughout the remaining agenda items.
7. **'Clean and Green'** – a) Litter and fouling – Cllr Armstrong provided an update that the litter around the shops appears to have improved, although noted the pizza windows were shuttered up after being broken. Cllr Armstrong had additionally undertaken a walk around the village today and felt litter generally was an issue and would encourage a village walk in the near future.

Action: Village Walk to be arranged for a suitable date in April

G Oliver advised there were a number of dog poo bags purchased by BPC available to issue, the ones we already have will not fit in the dog dispensers, as they need to be a different style. It was agreed that we will distribute some out to dog walkers and advise they are from BPC

Action: G Oliver to look to distribute bags between councillors, dog walkers and look at options for sharing with Bournmoor shop and/or local school.

Dog stencilling on paths was also discussed to promote clean up after your pets.

Action: Cllr Armstrong to provide Cllr Heaviside suitable locations for the dog stencils.

8. **Secure & Safe** – a) Police Report - Cllr Tait advised on a number of incidents with windows broken in both the Church Hall and Bournmoor Cricket Club. Cllr Tait advised it was catapults that caused the church hall broken windows, whereas bricks had been thrown at the cricket club. Further meetings/conversations have taken place with the police and a crime number is awaited for the church hall. It was encouraged that any witnesses step forward, or report any crimes in via the appropriate channels.

Action: G Oliver to continue to promote how to report crime, referencing the leaflets and options on social media channels.

There is a greater police presence in the village being seen, which is reassuring. It was noted this could also be the reason for less litter being seen around the pizza shop, as police are currently being seen around this area regularly.

Cllr Holland advised he had met with Inspector Morris this morning, who had noted they were attempting to send more resources to the area, after recent incidents. Street wardens/neighbourhood officers will look to regularly patrol the area.

Cllr Tait updated on the fallen tree in the Church Yard following the storms, DCC are to be contacted and asked to take out. There were concerns whether the power cable brought down was live – at time police, fire, electric, emergency numbers were contacted but no-one took ownership or answered the emergency call. Cllr Tait advised he was going to write to MP.

b) Important Contacts Leaflet – leaflets have been issued.

c) Anti-social behaviour - No quad bikes had been seen recently.

d) Traffic in the Village - No further updates on the roundabout works had been received.

Action: G Oliver to contact Theakstons and ask for an update on roundabout progress in advance of next meeting

Speeding in the area was discussed and remains a concern in some areas.

Action: Cllr Armstrong to talk to DCC around the purchase/placing of permanent speeding signs, Cllr Robinson happy to work together on this.

Action: Cllr Heaviside will arrange for Primrose Hill/New Lambton area to be checked for consideration, whether its feasible to reduce to a 20mph zone.

9. **Healthy & Well** – a) Facilities for Young People - Cllr Robinson had made contact with Durham Area Youth however the person in charge was currently on sick leave and this would be followed up. Cllr Heaviside advised there was a new contact for the group in Great Lumley and would pass this on.

Action: Cllr Robinson/Cllr Willoughby to arrange the meeting with Bournmoor Cricket Club and pursue opportunities to work together

b) Wood/Grass Area behind Lambton Turning Circle - No update has been received from Land Registry, Cllr Holland advised he would see if he could visit Land Registry.

10. **Involved and Connected** – a) Website A photo is still awaited from Cllr Willoughby. Councillors were encouraged to submit photos around the village to place on the website.

Action: Cllr Willoughby to provide photo for councillor page

Action: BPC to submit photos of the area that can be used on website - Cllr Robinson advised a prize would be available for the best picture at the next meeting.

b) Facebook - The social media sites continue to grow with 386 followers now on facebook.

c) Volunteers in Parish - Cllr Tait had sent in details of organisations in the Parish which can be published. BPC are still keen to do an article on volunteers.

Action: G Oliver will arrange for an article thanking volunteers to be placed on social media, in line with Cllr Armstrongs input.

11. **Financial matters** – a) Finance Report - The following accounts were agreed & paid since the last meeting:-

- Clerk (Dec) - £441.33
- Church Hall hire £40
- Leaflet Distribution - £270

b) Budget – A review was taken on income/expenditure this financial year.

The support to Bournmoor Conservation Group was discussed in lieu of a further donation.

Action: Cllr Holland to ask Ken Clerk for a report on BCG activities and what they would need new funding for.

12. **Planning Applications** - – There were no comments made on recent planning applications. Cllr Tait has arranged for G Oliver to be on the distribution list.
13. **Correspondence** – G Oliver updated on ICO discussions with DCC and asked for support that BPC submit their application to join annually by direct debit, at a current cost of £35 year, which was agreed.

Action: G Oliver to arrange annual renewals to ICO by DD

14. **County Councillors Report** – the path opposite Floaters mill has been requested to be done and fences broken through the storms, continue to be repaired.
15. **Items for future meetings** – nothing further was discussed, except a reminder to arrange the Village Walk
16. **Next Meeting** - The next meeting would be held on 16th March 2022, 7pm at the Church Hall.