

Parish Council of Bournmoor

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

Wednesday 19th January 2022

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

Guests – Cllr Bell (DCC), Cllr Heaviside (DCC)

2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Brady.
3. **Chairmans Introduction** – Cllr Robinson welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year and hoped that 2022 would be a good year for everyone and the Parish.

Cllr Robinson advised that he had just received a resignation letter from Cllr Brady, and recognised both her work within the Parish and reasons for stepping down. Cllr Robinson advised he would contact Cllr Brady.

Cllr Robinson also advised he would try again to contact Cllr McKitten to find out if he is ok and establish his position in advance of the next meeting as he hasn't attended any meetings since May 2021 and hasn't responded to any recent messages.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – The November 2021 minutes were approved and signed off by Cllr Robinson per pro the Council.
5. **Matters Arising** – Cllr Holland advised he had liaised with Dave Wilson and Paul Carr in relation to the tennis club, who have around 50 members of which over 20 were active members. There are spare racquets for people to use although out of 6 tennis courts – 3 are unable to be used again leaving 3 grassed areas and 1 tarmac court available for use. If the Council wanted to invite a rep from the tennis club to attend a future meeting, it was advised to either use the Chair Ann Sowerby as the contact or the secretary Yvonne Foster.

The cricket club are refurbishing their net area, and adding additional security fencing and new benches within the club. The pavilion is used as a very successful tuck shop with money going back into junior cricket teams.

The DCC councillors advised they still needed to engage with James Young from DCC, for the Park Area at Bournmoor to look at fencing or additional facilities. Bournmoor PC advised they could offer some support, such as financial help with equipment to improve the area.

In terms of the potential Youth Club being explored by the church, extensive publicity was put out seeking volunteers for a facility to be trialled at the Church Hall, but not enough volunteers came forward so it was decided to put off until the Spring. Cllr Robinson advised he is talking to Youth organisations about what availability they may have to support youth activities at the Church.

Cllr Bell advised Great Lumley funding for youth activity originally came from the community association, with support from the Parish for a 12 month period and advised Rachel Roberts would be a good contact from Durham Area Youth to discuss youth activities and options. Cllr Robinson confirmed he already had Rachel's contact details and was planning to contact them to see what they might be able to offer.

Action: Cllr Robinson to discuss with Cllr Willoughby outside of the meeting, looking at facilities and potential evenings/week-ends for youth activities to take place.

Action: Cllr Robinson to make contact with Rachel Roberts – Durham Area Youth.

Cllr Willoughby still needed to send a photo for the BPC website

Action: Cllr Willoughby to provide a photo for BPC website

All Christmas Trees had been purchased, put up and decorated around the village – thanks were given to Leamside Nursery and Bournmoor Conservation Group for supporting the Parish Council here.

Cllr Nelsey advised she had been looking at how we run meetings and reviewing other agendas across Parish Councils within the county and across the country, and would like to produce a first new draft agenda, which would include additional items such as planning applications, and any topics councillors or residents could

submit prior to the meeting. Councillors advised they would be open to these changes.

Action: Cllr Nelsey to complete a new draft agenda template for meetings, which can be trialled at the February meeting.

Action: Cllr Tait to ask DCC to add the Parish Clerk to the notification of Planning Applications list.

6. **Police matters** – Cllr Holland had liaised with PCSO Janelle Taylor and was advised that there had been a reduction in reports of ASB with some behavioural contracts being issued out. With ASB plans in operation, officers intend to patrol areas regularly. Currently with covid restrictions, PCSOs are unable to attend meetings.
7. **Village Priorities** – G Oliver brought along the leaflets for the councillors to see, detailing how residents can report crimes, ASB etc, now they were completed.

Action: G Oliver to contact leaflet distribution companies to arrange for them to deliver to households across BPC.

Cllr Robinson advised it would be good to agree a list of village priorities that we can collectively focus on in 2022. Cllr Bell advised at Great Lumley, they have a councillor aligned to specific areas, and ask each councillor to report back at each meeting on what they have done. Cllr Robinson commented that Bournmoor Parish Council do this less formally but we should be more focussed on delivering against action points aligned with agreed priorities.

It was discussed that priority areas should include:-

- Provision of Youth Activities
- Tackling of ASB
- Lack of Police Presence in the area

It was agreed that we continue to align action points within the 'village plan' areas the council had previously agreed, which would also be aligned with budget headings. These being:

- Clean & Green
- Safe & Secure
- Healthy & Well
- Involved & Connected

8. **Standards matters** – The social media sites continue to grow with 369 followers now on facebook. The website has been updated with photos of the Christmas

trees. Councillors were encouraged to send in any photos from around BPC that could be used on our social media channels.

9. **Financial matters** – The following accounts were agreed & paid since the last meeting:-

- Clerk (Dec) - £441.33
- Clerk (Jan) - £551.66
- Xmas Trees – Leamside - £390
- Church Hall hire £40
- Leaflet Printing - £130
- Council Expenses - £264.03

Bank balance at end of December was £44,684.38

Cllr Robinson pointed out that it is important that this amount is understood in the context of planned spending and expected income and that he expected income and expenditure reporting against an agreed budget.

Action: G Oliver to produce a monthly income & expenditure report against the agreed annual budget

The Precept for BPC for 22/23 was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Holland that the Precept request remain the same as last year, which was seconded by Cllr Armstrong and unanimously agreed by all.

This means that a Precept of £12, 345 will be requested, with an additional LCTRS grant provided to BPC of £1200. This will mean households will pay an annual charge in 22/23 of £20.14 for the running of BPC.

10. **Correspondence** – The Clerk advised there had been an interest from a resident in becoming a councillor and had advised the resident on the process.

11. **Village Matters**

Other areas discussed in meeting included:-

- Reports of dangerous dogs in the area, which had killed a young fawn.
- Quad Bikes are still being seen and reported – the leaflets are hoped to encourage more residents to observe and report such instances when seen

- Being thankful and appreciative to all the volunteers, who for example litter pick or have helped remove debris after the storm damage, across our community
- Looking to arrange a village walk for the council now restrictions are being lifted
- Progress on the Lambton roundabout and the impact of traffic through the village
- Obtaining the dog dispensers before Spring, which were out of stock
- Reviewing in March, the School Admission outcomes for September 2022 intakes.
- The survey issued from the owner of the Smiths Arms

Action: Cllr Armstrong to provide an article on the dangerous dogs which can be included on our social media channels.

Action: Cllr Armstrong to draft a thank you paragraph for our social media to recognise the great work of our volunteers.

Action: Cllr Tait to compile a list of known volunteers in our area

Next Meeting: The next meeting would be held on 16th February 2022.