



Minutes from the Bournmoor Parish Council meeting
held on Wednesday 16th March at 7pm in the Church Hall.

Present: Cllr Robinson (Chair), Cllr Tait, Cllr Willoughby, Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Holland, G Oliver (Clerk)

Guests: Cllr Bell, Cllr Heaviside - DCC

1. **Apologies for absence:**
Apologies were received from Cllr Nelsey.
2. **Declarations of interest:**
No declarations of interest from councillors were received.
3. **Chair's announcements**
Cllr Robinson welcomed everyone to the meeting.
4. **Public participation:**
No members of the public attended the meeting.
5. **Approve & sign the minutes of the last meeting** (Wed 16th February 2022)
The Feb minutes were moved and proposed as accurate by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr Tait, and agreed unanimously. Cllr Robinson signed off the minutes on behalf of the council.
6. **Any business remaining from previous meetings**
Cllr Armstrong updated on speeding sign discussions with Sarah, the traffic advisor but was trying to source a more senior traffic engineer to discuss options for traffic safety. Cllr Heaviside advised on a study done on traffic speed where signage had been put up, which showed only a reduction of 1.4 mph had been achieved and would share the report. It was suggested the maintenance cost for 1 post for 5 years, would be around £11, 650. Cllr Robinson advised it would be still good to consider and have 2/3 problem locations where speeding signs could be rotated. Cllr Bell advised that community speeding team continue to do regular speedwatches.
Action : Cllr Heaviside to share study, which Clerk will then forward to BPC
Action: Cllr Armstrong to invite David Lewin to a future meeting to discuss traffic control.
7. **'Clean & Green'**

- a. Litter & fouling stencils -Cllr Geoff Armstrong provided a map with recommendations on where the dog stencils could go. Cllr Heaviside will forward to DCC.
- b. Dog fouling -Gillian Oliver provided an updated that the dog bags previously purchased had been handed out in community, between councillors for issue and had been provided to the local shop in Bournmoor to give out to dog owners.

8. **'Secure & Safe'**

- a. Police Report - Cllr Peter Holland updated on recent concerns in community. Following the bus shelter glass being put out, which was discovered had been unreported by DCC (it can only be classed as a criminal offence if DCC who own property report), Cllr Holland had sent a note to Joy Allen, mentioning incidents in recent weeks from ASB, cricket club and church hall damage. In addition Cllr Holland had written to Insp Lee Morris and had held a good meeting with him on crime in the area. There is a new sergeant Andy Davison, and they have visited the crime scenes and will collectively look at what other actions/support they can give. Residents are concerned and have advised they would like bus shelter moving.

Cllr Bell advised the trouble has been caused by a small handful of young people but its has been relentless lately in the area. Karbon are on board and for anyone found causing harm, who live in any of their properties, their tenancy will be at risk.

- b. Update on reporting crime -Gillian Oliver advised the leaflets are also available on website as a reminder, and that social media has been and will continue to be used to publise ways of reporting crime.
- c. Anti-social behaviour e.g. quad bikes -Cllr Geoff Armstrong advised that Off road bikes remain a concern, and an attempted motorbike theft also took place in Marigold Crescent.
- d. Traffic in the village - Gillian Oliver shared with BPC an updated received from Theakstons, work is on track and due to complete by Sept 22.

9. **'Healthy & Well'**

- a. Facilities for Young People -Cllr David Robinson advised he would be speaking with North East Youth soon and together with Cllr Mark Willoughby they would be looking at opportunities to work with Bournmoor Cricket Club who are open to a partnership idea.
- b. Wood / grass area behind Lambton turning circle - No further updates had been received from Land Registry and it was agreed to no longer pursue. Cllr Bell advised he still had £30k for wildflower available, but if the Parish wanted to retain the open space in this area they could and money would be redirected out of the Division. Cllr Robinson appreciated Cllr Bell's

intention to keep money within Division and re-iterated that as discussed on previous occasions, the council remains open to receiving more information on any potential developments and would welcome a presentation if someone could provide more details on what this would mean for our area rather than potentially lose the open spaces available to the community.

10. 'Involved & Connected'

- a. Website -Gillian Oliver advised Cllr Willoughby had now provided a photo and Cllr Nelsey would place on the website
- b. Facebook -Gillian Oliver provided an updated that BPC had now reached 398 followers and were striving towards the 400 mark.
- c. Volunteers in the Parish -Gillian Oliver had placed an update on social media to thank all the volunteers around our community.
- d. Update on School Admissions -Cllr Mark Willoughby updated on the secondary School Admission process, with results proving better than expected. From Woodlea from 30 pupils, 21 got into Park View, 3 had requested Hermitage and had been successful, as were 5 into Houghton Keping, only 1 remained unknown at that time of the meeting. Cllr Willoughby had also made contact with Laura Snowdon, Head of Bournmoor Primary but she was unable to advise at this stage, where her pupils were heading. Cllr Heaviside advised that he was now a school governor at Bournmoor Primary. Cllr Bell advised that Park View was over subscribed by 70 applications, and Hermitage under subscribed by 30. Laura Snowdon also advised she would be keen to invite BPC into school, perhaps at the June Governors meeting for a short slot, as a way of regularly opening dialogue and building relationships.
- e. Update on Councillor Vacancies - Gillian Oliver provide an update on the co-option process, following regular contact with DCC and will prepare a job description and appropriate paperwork for applicants, following council agreement there should be a CV and covering letter as part of the process.

11. Financial Matters:

- a. Finance Report including payments (Gillian Oliver) - the following accounts were agreed and signed off by BPC:-
Church Hall Room Hire - £40
Clerk Wage - £441.33
- b. Budget - an updated position on budget was advised.
- c. Update on Bournmoor Conservation Group in lieu of donation - Cllr Peter Holland was asked to return to BCG asking for more information on what is in their plans for next year, and what they need some additional money for.
- d. Clerk Salary - A Performance Review will take place between Cllr David Robinson and Cllr Nelsey

12. Planning Applications: None

13. **Correspondence:**
Nothing to add to earlier meeting discussions.

14. **County Councillors Report:**
Cllr Alan Bell & Cllr Phil Heaviside discussed the feasibility of a pelican crossing by Rose Crescent. Cllr Armstrong also advised that residents with houses by A183 have difficulty crossing the road and could that be considered. Cllr Heaviside will add to list.

15. **Items for future meetings / agenda items**
 - a. Cllr Armsrong discussed a village walk with Parish, Police, Litter Pickers, DCC, Karbon etc all present and suggested Saturday dates in May. It was felt it would be difficult to get such a large group available on any given day especially at a weekend. **Cllr Armstrong to draft a suitable invitation with suggestions on dates.**
 - b. Cllr Tait requested an agenda item on Storm damage for the next meeting.

16. **Next Meeting**
To confirm the date, time & venue for the next meeting - Wed 20th April @ 7pm in the Church Hall