

St. Mary Bourne Parish Council

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 13 March 2018 in the Club Room, Village Hall at 7:30pm**

Present: The Chair, Cllr David Peart and Cllrs Bridget Culley, Tony Grunsell, Ray Randall, Tony Styles and Carole Whitlock, BDBC Cllr Graham Falconer (for part of the meeting), HCC Cllr Tom Thacker (for part of the meeting) and the clerk Jo Exelby.

Members of the Public in attendance: None

Time for Public Speaking: None

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Katie Dixon, Phil Jeffery and Hugo Wurzer

2. Declarations of interest: None

3. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 February 2018

3.1. Having been previously circulated, **Cllr Styles** proposed that they were a true record and should be signed. The proposal was seconded by **Cllr Randall** and unanimously agreed by the council.

3.2. Status of the actions agreed at the meeting

There was a discussion of the actions agreed and the following points were made:

- The clerk reported that she has received an email from Tim Davis at BDBC regarding Bells Meadow saying that the planning breach has been resolved and the hedge will be planted mid-March, Hyde Housing are retaining management of the site and not handing over to Sovereign Housing as expected and that he is trying to find out a contact name at Hyde Housing who is responsible for the ongoing management of the site.

4. County & Borough Councillor Reports

4.1. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Thacker joined the meeting after 7.5 and gave the following report:

- HCC have increased their precept by 6%, this is necessary because central government requires us to make a further £140 million savings in 2018/2019.
- The county council has written to support the building of a third runway at Heathrow. He noted that most of North Hampshire is included in the Heathrow Economic Impact Area.
- The county council has written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking that the idea of a Combined Authority be revived, but without the requirement to have an elected mayor for the Authority. The Combined Authority would encompass HCC and Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Unitary Authorities.
- Cllr Thacker has written to Hampshire Highways about the severity of the pothole problem in the area, but he acknowledged that it is an issue for central government as

Chairman's Initials

HCC does not have sufficient funds. He noted that the public should report all potholes on HCC's website as this increases the pressure on Hampshire Highways to fix them.

Cllr Thacker then left the meeting.

4.2. Borough Councillor's Report:

Cllr Falconer joined the meeting after 7.5 and gave the following report:

- He noted that Tim Davis has been working to resolve the parish council's issues with the maintenance of Bells Meadow as discussed in 3.2 above.
- He reported that he is currently assisting a SMB resident with the passage of their planning application through the planning department. **Cllr Culley** and **Cllr Styles** raised the issue of the apparent ease with which individuals can be granted retrospective planning permission and that this undermines the planning process and, in particular, the parish council's role in it. **Cllr Falconer** noted that the input of the parish council carries a lot of weight in the planning decision. He also noted that he can refer any planning application to the BDBC Development Committee if he feels that the decision should be made by elected officials rather than by officers under delegated powers.
- The Boundary Commission's consultation on ward boundaries for BDBC has reopened. It is likely that the result will be a reduction in the number of wards from 60 to 54, each with about 7,000 electors and three borough councillors. The new wards are likely to be introduced in time for the elections in May 2019.
- The SMB Neighbourhood Plan will be passed by BDBC on 22 March.

The chair noted that the meeting had already discussed S106 funds relating to Hurstbourne Station and that he thought that the parish council had secured an allocation of the funding as the residents would be using facilities in SMB. **Cllr Falconer** noted that the parish council had lodged an interest but that the allocation is not available in any public document. He will follow up with BDBC to find out if the council has received an allocation.

Cllr Falconer then left the meeting.

5. Governance

5.1. Annual Parish Assembly — update

The chair noted that we are expecting a representative from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to give a presentation on the Watercress & Winterbourne Project, either Ali Morse or a member of her team.

Cllr Styles noted that he will put up the banners on 24 March, post on BVS and put up some posters in the hamlets.

5.2. NALC response to DEFRA consultation on crime & poor performance in waste sector — deadline 9 march: Noted

5.3. HALC monthly e-update — March 2018: Noted

5.4. Local Government Boundary Commission — consultation on BDBC ward boundaries has reopened — deadline 7 May

Chairman's Initials

Noted. This was discussed further when **Cllr Falconer** arrived and reported under 4.2 above.

5.5. BDAPTC — next meeting 26 March

The chair will attend.

6. Planning

6.1. CIL Examiners Report published — BDBC plans to adopt CIL 22 March, effective 25 June

The new scheme was noted. **Cllr Culley** raised the fact that the parish council had made representations to BDBC for an allocation of S106 money from the development at Hurstbourne Station. **The chair** suggested that the meeting ask **Cllr Falconer** about it when he arrived. The subsequent discussion is noted in 4.2 above.

6.2. Planning Applications for consultation at the meeting

18/00587/RET **The White House, Stoke, SP11 0LU** — Retrospective change of use to residential land and retention of garden sheds.

Decision: **No objection**

17/04227/LBC **Flowerpot Cottage, Church Street, SMB, SP11 6BL** — Replacement of French doors to rear elevation.

Decision: **No objection**

17/04228/LBC **Flowerpot Cottage, Church Street, SMB, SP11 6BL** — Internal alterations to kitchen wall/door opening.

Decision: **No objection**

6.3. Trees — Notice of Intent: None

6.4. Advice of Planning Applications considered by BDBC

17/01807/RET **Disused watercress bed adjacent to the Bourne Valley Inn, Upper Link, SMB** — Change of use of land from agricultural to use as garden ancillary to public house. Erection of hard standing and greenhouse.

Granted on 6/3/18

6.5. Planning applications withdrawn to be noted: None

6.6. Planning appeals: None

6.7. Compliance issues

The resolution of the planning breach with regard to the replanting of the hedge at Bells Meadow was discussed under 3.2.

6.8. Other parish councils' planning matters: None

Chairman's Initials

7. Finance**7.1. Fixed Term 1 year deposit — maturity 20 March**

It was agreed that the deposit should be reinvested into a new Fixed Term deposit for one year.

7.2. Audit — date set 31 May: Noted**7.3. HALC — grant funding advice at HBT**

It was agreed that the clerk would reply asking for 3 places for SMB parish council, subject to the final date.

7.4. Clerk's salary 2018/19

It was agreed that the clerk's salary would increase to SCP21 from 1 April 2018.

Chairman's Initials

7.5. Monthly accounts — February 2018

Date	Received from/paid to	Total	Treasurers account	Business Bank Instant a/c	Fixed term deposit	Petty cash	Ringfenced funds included in Business Bank Instant account	
							Lengthsman scheme Note 1	Flood prevention Note 2
Opening balance at 31/1/18		£70,904.46	£906.99	£49,987.69	£20,000.00	£9.78	£6,560.00	£15,800.00
	Transfer to make final payment for Bourne Regrading		£34,404.00	-£34,404.00				
	Transfer agreed at Full Council 13/2/18		£3,100.00	-£3,100.00				
Receipts								
9/2/18	Invoice 15/17 — Whitchurch lengthsman overspend			£110.00			£110.00	
9/2/18	Lloyds — bank interest			£1.39				
Payments								
1/2/18	Keith Pegden – Bourne Regrading		-£34,404.00					£15,800.00
14/2/18	Agreed at Full Council 13/2/18 (previously reported in minutes)		-£2,986.20				-£830.00	
28/2/18	Agreed at Planning Committee 27/2/18		-£324.99					
Available funds at 28/2/18		£33,300.66	£695.80	£12,595.08	£20,000.00	£9.78	£5,840.00	£0.00
	Add: unrepresented cheques		£100.00					
	Closing bank at bank & in hand at 28/2/18	£33,400.66	£795.80	£12,595.08	£20,000.00	£9.78		

Note 1: Lengthsman grants from HCC held on behalf of 13 associate parish and town councils.

Note 2: Grant money from HCC (in 2017), Southern Water, Vitacress (2016 and 2017) and Southern Electricity that has been supplied for flood prevention work on The Bourne.

Chairman's Initials

Payments agreed at the Planning Committee meeting 27/2/18:

Payee	Description	Amount
Tony Styles	Expenses relating to Referendum publicity	£31.35
Parish Online	Mapping	£120.00
VSafety	High vis jackets, gloves & first aid kit	£63.96
Viking Direct	Litter pickers	£109.68
Total		£324.99

Payments made prior to the meeting:

Payee	Description	Amount
BT	Monthly direct debit	£40.49
Total		£40.49

Payments agreed at the meeting:

Payee	Description	Amount
Jo Exelby	Salary	£774.79
Premier Grounds and Garden Maintenance (PGGM)	SMB Grounds Maintenance – February 2018	£627.00
PGGM	Lengthsman — SMB	£216.00
PGGM	Lengthsman — Burghclere	£384.00
PGGM	Lengthsman — Hurstbourne Tarrant	£312.00
PGGM	Lengthsman — East Woodhay	£420.00
Martin Clay	SMBCC — grounds maintenance	£385.00
Martin Clay	SMBCC — grounds maintenance	£156.00
Derek's Garden Machinery	SMBCC — grounds maintenance	£319.17
Derek's Garden Machinery	SMBCC — grounds maintenance	£262.87
SMB Village Centre	Hire of Parish Office	£2,100.00
Total		£5,956.83

Provision of £1,000 is to be made for unforeseen expenses this month. It had been agreed to transfer **£6,100** from the Business Bank Instant account to the Treasurers account.

The acceptance of the reconciled accounts for the month of February, the payments made and payments to be made was proposed by **Cllr Styles** and seconded by **Cllr Whitlock** and unanimously agreed by the Full Council.

Chairman's Initials

8. Flood & Emergency Group

8.1. Groundwater level statistics

Groundwater level statistics and commentary are provided by Sarah Cooney and Clem Jones.

Rolling 6-monthly figures

	Level at the start of					
	Mar 18	Feb 18	Jan 18	Dec 17	Nov 17	Oct 17
Vernham Dean Bore ¹	106m	102m	94m	92.5m	94m	95m
Valley Farm Well, Stoke ¹	146cm	238cm	440cm	525cm	502cm	443cm
Holdway Cottages Gauge, SMB	22cm	12cm	0cm	0cm	0cm	0cm
Holdway Cottages Spring, SMB	Running	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
Summerhaugh Well, SMB ¹	91cm	113cm	176.5cm	196cm	186cm	173cm

Note 1 The measurements are from the surface down to the water level

Since Bourne Rivulet was regraded in Stoke, the level at which the springs break through in Valley Farm's field is ~160cm below where we used to see it.

The rate of rise is slowing and the river is flowing through most of Stoke. Gangbridge pond had a foot of water in. At Summerhaugh the Spring in the garden is active, however the river is still not running through.

Year on year comparison as at the start of March

	2018	2017 [†]	2016 [*]	2015 [^]
Vernham Dean Bore	106m	100m	114m	112m
Valley Farm Well, Stoke	146cm	275cm	114cm	122cm
Summerhaugh Well, SMB	91cm	123cm	71cm	74cm

[^] 2015 - the level was falling and the river was flowing.

^{*} 2016 - the level was rising and the river was flowing.

[†] 2017 - the level was rising and the river was down.

Chairman's Initials

9. Footpaths

The chair expressed the thanks of the parish council to the litter pickers who turned out in SMB on 10 March and to those planning to turn out in Stoke on 17 March and to Fiona Foote and Lisa Wood for organising the picks. **The chair** reported that he has received a request that 'No Littering' signs be put up along the road, especially from Jamaica Farm to Hogdigging Cottages. He noted that Hampshire Highways would have to be consulted on any signs. **Cllrs Randall** and **Whitlock** noted that they thought such signs would not help and may be counterproductive. It was agreed that more thought be given to the efficacy of such signage and advice will be sought from Hampshire Highways.

10. Highways & Transport

10.1. Community Funded Initiative — update

The clerk reported that the application had been submitted and the next stage was to have a scoping meeting with HCC.

10.2. Lengthsman — redesign of the process

The clerk reported that she had proposed a new system of advance bookings for each parish. The majority of feedback received had been positive.

10.3. Bridge at Derrydown (not on agenda)

Cllr Styles reported that there was damage to the bridge at Derrydown. It was noted that this is a private road and agreed that the clerk will take advice from Hampshire Highways as to who is responsible for maintenance of a bridge on an unadopted road.

11. Recreation Ground and Lake

11.1. Weekly Play Areas inspections report

The chair noted that he has taped off the flat swings in the Stoke play area which have been identified as high risk in the inspection report. It was agreed that the clerk will talk to the Hampshire Playing Fields Association about the availability of grants for replacing them.

11.2. SMB School — request to use recreation ground & pavilion 29 March

Agreed

11.3. Stowe Sports — request to use recreation ground & MUGA 4-6 April

Agreed

11.4. Football — request to use recreation ground one Sunday in April for SMB vs Whitchurch match

The clerk reported that SMB Cricket Club have home matches scheduled on 15 & 29 April and a pitch preparation day on 7 April. It was agreed that only 1 April could be offered, which is Easter Sunday. **Cllr Randall** noted that the ground is still very wet and it was agreed that the offer was weather dependent with the chair make the final decision as to whether the match could go ahead.

Chairman's Initials

11.5. Memorial service for Camilla Clutterbuck 16 March

The chair reported that he had received a request and agreed to the use of the MUGA for parking.

12. Item of Correspondence to be circulated

12.1. Hampshire Constabulary — Monthly update for February 2018: Noted

12.2. Rural Services Network — Rural Opportunities Bulletin 7 March 2018: Noted

12.3. Warm Hubs Hampshire — Information Event 20 March 2018

Noted. It was agreed that the clerk will forward this to Gib Hancock.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

Chair, St. Mary Bourne Parish Council

Date