

Bonsall Parish Council
Minutes of the Bonsall Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th February 2022 at 7.30pm at
Bonsall Village Hall

Chair of the Council: Cllr Mark Harris

Clerk: Tony Payne 27 High St Bonsall DE4 2AS; telephone: 07306 311451; email: bonsallclerk@gmail.com

Minute No	Item	Action
15/2/1	Present: Cllrs Addis Barry Grover Harris J. Smith S. Smith and Taylor. Mr T Payne (Clerk/RFO). Two members of the public.	
15/2/2	Apologies for Absence: Cllr; K. Potter Peak Park Forum and District Cllr Purdy.	
15/2/3	Variation to the Order of Business: it was agreed to move the Planning item 15/2/10 to the first item of business before Village Matters.	Clerk
15/2/4	Declaration of Interests: none.	
15/2/5	Casual Vacancy: noted that no applications had been received to date.	
15/2/6	Public Speaking: (See planning item 15/2/10 ref: 21/01391/FUL below).	
15/2/7	Minutes of the last meeting: The Chair signed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 th January 2022.	
15/2/8	Chair's Announcements: none.	
15/2/9	<p>VILLAGE MATTERS.</p> <p>a) Public toilets: (1) Security: it was agreed in principle to place a CCTV unit on the front of the village hall to cover the public toilets. Cllr J. Smith offered to raise this with the Village Hall Committee, and Cllr S Smith offered to research an appropriate TV camera and the permissions or signage needed for this; noted with thanks.(2) Doors: noted that J.D Properties were to recess the locks further to allow closure.</p> <p>b) Peak District National Park Off-roading consultation: it was agreed to promote via Mutterings and Facebook the request from the Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement for public participation in government consultation on off-roading on green lanes (https://consult.defra.gov.uk/futurelandscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/).</p> <p>c) Local Government Boundary Commission Ward Boundary Review: the Clerk reported the responses received to the Parish Council's objections to the Review outcome. DDDC had noted our response; the Boundary Commission had commented that the views of the Parish Council had been taken into account when the interim ward arrangement of Bonsall/Cromford/Middleton-by-Wirksworth had been proposed. Sarah Dines MP's response had outlined the summary of the Commission's findings from the District Council website. A resident had received the same response from Sarah Dines MP, and subsequently been sent by the MP some contact information for the Assistant Boundary Commissioner who represented the East Midlands. He was to follow up that link. After discussion it was agreed to contact the resident and ask what further support on this the Parish Council might offer, and to report back to the next meeting.</p> <p>d) Park and Vehicle Park: Cllr J Smith reported that the wall to the Clatterway was partly down again into the road; the Clerk said that he would ask the Lengthsman to make another temporary repair pending the full walling work due in the spring. There was discussion about the vehicle park charging; Cllr Grover said that the charge box was ready for installation and Cllr S Smith agreed to speak again to Carl Taylor about installation (the final order for the works to be made by the Clerk). It was also agreed to convene a meeting of the Vehicle Park working group with a view to finalising the commissioning of the parking signage.</p>	<p>Cllrs J Smith and S Smith</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

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	<p>e) Motocross site former White Low mine: the Clerk reported a complaint received of noise from the track on Sunday 23rd January (heard in the churchyard), and two further complaints re Sunday 30th January (from Masson hill and Uppertown). The Chair Cllr Harris reported on the first day of the public hearing at Peak District Park Aldern House offices Bakewell into the track owner's appeal against the planning enforcement notice. He said that it had been attended by 15-20 Bonsall residents. As a result of a legal issue raised by the appellant's barrister, the hearing had been adjourned to allow the appellant to submit an additional ground of appeal against the notice. The adjournment was likely to be two to three months. Cllr Harris said that Bonsall Moor Action Group had requested that the motocross activity be halted in the meantime, but that the Inspector had said that she did not have power to do that. The position was noted, with disappointment that resolution of the planning issue had been deferred further.</p> <p>f) Quarrying update: Cllr Grover reported that he had received a number of recent complaints about quarry noise. The Clerk reported on a comment from resident that he had been asked to pass on to the Council in relation to the Council's response to quarrying issues. They said that quarrying provides important employment for village people, that the quarries which surround the village have been here for many decades, and that the associated noise is an integral part of the village and its working history. The stone produced is essential for housing and roads. They live opposite Slinter, and are not troubled by quarrying noise. Consequently the Parish Council should not be opposing applications for extension or similar. The comments were noted, also noting that the Council were not opposed to quarrying itself, but were responding to public complaints about noise.</p> <p>g) Highway weed clearing: Cllr Harris reported that the issues raised by a resident at the last meeting had been referred to the District Council's Green and Clean team. Noted.</p> <p>h) Website: the new version of the website, which was still under development, was viewed by the Council and welcomed. It was agreed to pass on thanks to Brett Biedscheid for his continuing work on this, and to arrange a further meeting of the website group to plan extending the availability of the site to other community users. It was also agreed to pay the final invoice from Pigeontech for their work on the transfer (see 15/2/10 Finance).</p> <p>i) Highway verge planting: Cllr Grover reported that there was a local group meeting to discuss verge planting and that he would attend that and report back; he also agreed to try to arrange attendance at the DDDC online event 23rd February 2022. Noted with thanks.</p> <p>j) Royal British Legion Industries tree planting: after discussion it was agreed not to pursue this on the basis that any local tree planting initiative could be done independently.</p> <p>k) Parish Council Corporate Style: the Council considered a proposal by Cllr Taylor to develop a uniform style for signage and publications such as the website and the Village Welcome pack. Cllr J Smith commented that there was a patented version of T'Owd Man of Bonsall which could be used in this context; Cllr Addis said that the signs for the vehicle park had been developed by the same designer as for the Village Walks and History boards with this in mind. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Taylor would draw up some terms of reference as to what was envisaged and report back to a future meeting.</p> <p>l) Recruitment of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer: the Chair reported on the meetings of the Recruitment Working groups of 27th January, 2nd and 9th February, and on the review of the post by the Derbyshire Association for Local Councils (DALC). The following items were discussed and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pay Scale: after discussion it was agreed to accept the recommendation of DALC that the post should be re-evaluated at National Association for Local Councils grade LC2 (£14.90 to £16.75 per hour; £9,298- £10,452 per year based on the hours below). The scale point for appointment would be based on the qualifications and	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Grover</p> <p>Cllr Taylor</p>
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	<p>experience of the successful candidate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget: the Clerk showed costs for the increased pay grade against the current post holder. Based on the recommended hours, these varied from a cost of approximately £1600 at the lowest grade point to a cost of £2800 at the top of the grade. It was noted that the progression through the five annual points of the grade would, as at present, be subject to annual satisfactory performance attainment. The Clerk said that the first year costs could be accommodated within the existing budget and reserves, but that from 2023-24 it would involve either reduced expenditure elsewhere or potentially an increase in the precept. Cllr S Smith expressed concern that this was a significant increase in costs which could fall on residents. The Chair expressed the view that this was what the Working group believed, as a result of their meeting with the DALC Chief Officer and her report, was necessary to be able to successfully recruit and to appoint to the post. It was agreed to note the potential financial implications. • Working hours: the Working group had recommended fixing the hours at 52 per month (40 for the Clerk role; 12 for the Finance). This was on the basis that the Council would not meet in August; after discussion it was agreed to accept that recommendation. • August meeting: the Chair said that many other Parish Councils did not meet as a matter of course in August, and it was agreed in principle that in order to reduce the work and costs of the Clerk post that the Council should aim to adopt the same policy. It was noted that in the event of urgent items needing to be dealt with the Council could still meet, and that the Planning Sub-Committee was in place for urgent planning items. A formal decision on this would be taken at the next meeting but the hours for the post would be set on this basis (and if necessary changed in future if that was not adopted); • Job Description and Person Specification: the draft recruitment documents being recommended by the Working group were considered. Cllr S Smith commented that the Job Description was too detailed and the duties as written too demanding, which would deter applicants and be difficult to implement and manage. The Chair said that they were based on DALC recommended templates. After further discussion it was agreed to adopt them. • Treatment of holiday pay: currently holiday pay was separately identified on pay slips, and calculated and paid monthly by reference to hours worked. DALC had advised that in future holiday should be claimed on timesheets as hours taken. It was noted that the monthly hours for the new post incorporated this recommendation; it was agreed to refer consideration of this for existing employees to a Personnel Sub-Committee; • Personnel Sub-Committee: on the recommendation of DALC and the working group it was agreed in principle to look to establish a formal sub-committee to manage staffing issues. It was agreed to ask the Recruitment Working group to draw up terms of reference for this and to report back to the next meeting. <p>m) Parish Council Plan: it was agreed to defer this to the next meeting, and that in the meantime Councillors would consider items that could be included in a plan.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All Cllrs</p>
15/2/10	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monthly Payments received: none. b) Statement/ Annual Accounts: the statement for period 10 detailing income and expenditure to 31 January 2022 was approved. c) Internal audit: Cllr Taylor reported that she had conducted a random audit of three items of income and expenditure from the bank account; she confirmed that they 	

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	<p>were properly authorised, documented, and accounted for. Noted.</p> <p>d) Bank Charges: it was noted that charges were now being applied to the Business Account by Yorkshire/Virgin Money Bank, and it was agreed to request waiver. It was noted that if interest rates increased again the Council should consider establishment of a separate reserve account.</p> <p>e) Grant application: it was agreed to make a grant of £300 to Mutterings towards printing costs.</p>	Clerk Clerk																																																								
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15/2/11	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21/01391/FUL: land north east Of Brumlea Farm Moor Lane Bonsall (grid reference: 427344/358755): conversion of barn to a holiday let and associated widening of gateway and driveway. Samantha Taylor spoke to this item and explained that following the refusal of the first application the design had changed slightly. Also the application was no longer being made under the 'prior approval' / change of use within Use Class 3 process. It was now a full planning application as required by the District Council in order to incorporate the driveway. She stated that any fencing to the footpath would be done to meet the requirements of Derbyshire County Council. After viewing the plans and discussion, it was agreed to make no objection to the application. 22/00084/FUL: The Old Chapel Yeoman Street: single storey extension and modifications to garage; after viewing the plans and discussion it was agreed to make no objection to this application. 	Clerk Clerk																																																								
15/2/12	Items for Information: DALC Circular 01-2022																																																									
15/2/13	Next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 7.30pm.																																																									

Signed