

BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Bonsall Parish Council Meeting** held on Tuesday 21st March 2012 at 7.30pm.

3/12/1 **Present:** Cllr Lane(Chair), Cllr G Henderson, Cllr Claire Taylor, Mrs C Rawas (Clerk) Mr D Robertson (Finance Officer) 2 members of the public

Apologies for absence: DDDC Cllr Cartwright Cllr V Addis, Cllr Pountain, DCC Cllr Purdy (received following meeting)

3/12/2 A Declaration of Interests None declared

Public Speaking

Kath Potter from Peak Park Members Forum reminded councillors to vote in the upcoming election following the resignation of Chris Furniss. She also spoke about the problems being encountered during the creation of the new Peak Cycle Route and commended Cllr Cartwright's support.

DDDC Cllr Cartwright had tabled a report in advance of the meeting as he was absent: In the last few weeks he had received several complaints about the state of the road in Church Street which in parts is very bad with a mixture of cracks and potholes. I have reported potholes previously to the County Council and, to their credit, these have been filled a couple of days later. However, currently the road needs rather more than cosmetic treatment. I have contacted the Road Maintenance team and they will carry out an inspection, though they add that it is unlikely they will be able to carry out any major resurfacing in the near future. But I will keep on to them.

3/12/3 March is budget time on the District Council and I was approaching my first budget discussion with some trepidation. For the last few months we have been warned that Central Government funding would be drastically reduced, meaning another year of efficiency savings. Before last year's Council elections I had promised myself (and a lot of the electorate) that I would not vote for cuts to basic services or for any compulsory redundancies of Council staff. By the same token I didn't necessarily want to sustain those objectives at the cost of a hike in the Council Tax which also hits peoples' pockets, often those whose pockets are already most threadbare. So, obviously, I was a bit worried as to whether I would find those commitments challenged. Fortunately, we scraped through for another year without causing too much pain. At the last minute, the Government found more money (£142,000) which we could have if we didn't increase the Council Tax. That is equivalent to what we would have obtained by increasing the Council Tax by 2.5 per cent. So, it is pretty evident what the Council decided to do. It would be nice, though, if the Government just stopped taking money away from Council with one hand, then, with a suggestion of great generosity, giving a bit back with the other.

One specific element of the budget which did give me some pleasure was the fact that the Council is maintaining its efforts to provide social housing. Towards the end of last year we were looking at the prospect of a significant reduction due to a mix of land shortages and financial restrictions. That has been turned round over the last month or so with approvals for a couple of new housing developments.

3/12/4 Approval and ratification of the minutes of the minutes of the meeting held 21st February 2012. All in favour
Parish matters

3/12/5 **Fountain, Wells and Cross Project** . the project is now completed Council expressed their satisfaction with the work done and resolved to send a letter thanking Stuart Poplar for his work.
Public Conveniences. A tender to be written and advertised to undertake the work cleaning the toilets starting responsibility is handed over. Resolved to delegate responsibility for issuing the tender to Cllr Lane and The Clerk.

Street Lighting – Nothing more to report.

Dog Fouling – Councillors expressed their concern about the increase in the problem around the village and resolved to write to the Police requesting a written response and advice on how to manage the problem which is to be submitted for publication in Mutterings.

Information Cascade within the village. Council explored ideas around the need to cascade information round the village ensuring key matters (like the recent BOAT applications) are brought to the attention of all residents. Anyone interested in being part of a group to investigate ways this could be done to contact the Clerk.

Churchyard Project. Cllr Taylor to set up a group of interested parties to take the project forward.

Planning

- 3/12/6 a) Planning application 12/00022/FUL Installation of 2 no. Vending machines Mr Chris Bastin. 3 Via Gellia Mill, Bonsall Decision notice - granted

Correspondence

- 3/12/7 a) Illegal tree works to protected trees – letter from Peak Park
b) Maternity Services – Update
c) DALC circulars 8-13
d) Review of Statement of Community Involvement – Peak Park
e) Sustainable Homes Event – Bonsall Energy Grant
f) artsMATTERS - Spring Edition
g) DDDC register of Electors
h) Derbyshire Broadband Champions 27 March 2012 5.30pm
i) DDDC Area Community Forums
j) 'Park Life' Peak park publication
k) DDDC Band Concert Programme
l) Village Marquee – Carnival Committee
m) DCC Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme

Finance

- a) Current financial statement (to 29/2/12) issued to Councillors
b) Approval & authorisation of work, etc:
Lengthsman - 10 hours @ £6.56 = £65.60 less PAYE £32.80 = £32.80 + fuel £15.00 = £47.80
Parish Clerk - 20 hours @ £8.919 = £178.38 less PAYE £35.80 = £142.58
Churchyard - 30 hours @ £6.56 = £196.80 less PAYE £39.40 = £157.40
RFO - 11 hours @ £8.919 = £98.11 less PAYE £19.60 = £78.51 + exps £19.31 = £97.82
Peak Park Parishes Forum annual subs £8.00
DALC annual subs £229.45

- c) Authorisation and payment of cheques:

Cheque No	Payee	For	Amount
1338	P Spencer	Salary & exps	£47.80
1339	C Rawas	Salary	£142.58
1340	M Biggin	Salary	£157.40
1341	D S Robertson	Salary & exps	£97.82
1342	PPPForum	Annual Subs	£8.00
1343	DALC	Annual Subs	<u>£229.45</u>
		Total	£683.05

- d) Other matters:

It has now been confirmed that the grant payable by the Regional Development Agency for part of the cost of repairing The Cross and Village Wells (£3412.35) was received in the bank account on 15th March.

A letter has been received from the Village Carnival Committee accepting ownership and responsibility of the marquee.

3/12/9 **Next meeting 17th April 7.30pm. Annual Parish Meeting 18th May 7pm**