

## **BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2003 AT BONSALL VILLAGE HALL.**

#### **103/2003/DECEMBER – PRESENT.**

Cllr Cruttenden (chair)  
Cllr Falconer  
Cllr Lynch  
Cllr Hind  
Cllr Frost  
Dist Cllr March  
County Cllr Read  
Mrs C Smith (clerk)

#### **104/2003/DECEMBER – APOLOGIES.**

Cllr Cartwright  
Cllr Rowlands  
Cllr Headon

#### **105/2003/DECEMBER – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> November was signed as a true record of the meeting, and ratified by the Chairman.

#### **106/2003/DECEMBER – FINANCE.**

##### **a. Current Financial Statement.**

Cllr Hind reported that the financial statement was unchanged from the previous month.

##### **b. Approval and Authorisation of work.**

###### **Churchyard.**

30 hours @ £5.00                      £150.00

###### **Lenghtsman.**

The handrails have been replaced on the path from the Park to the Church, had been treated with a wood preservative and a bill for three hours work will be presented in January. There will be no work carried out in December.

##### **c. Authorisation of cheques.**

Mr M Biggin	£150.00
Mrs J Cundy	£ 20.85
Audit Commission	£141.00
Mrs C Smith	£100.00

#### **107/2003/DECEMBER. REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS**

County Councillor Read reported on a meeting she had attended in South Derbyshire where it had become apparent that there were substantial funds available to finance youth projects. It was agreed that ideas from residents on projects, which might attract such funding, should be canvassed in Mutterings and those with ideas should be encouraged to attend the January meeting when this would be discussed in detail.

Cllr Cruttenden reported that the Peak Park Parish representative is Mr John Herbert, and not Mrs K Potter, as was previously reported to us.

Cllr Cruttenden reported that he had received no information from Peak Park on the outcome of the Tearsall Quarry planning application. He would however be talking direct to Slinter Mining, Tearsall's operators, on the best way of progressing a grant for further wall rebuilding between the Moor and the village.

Cllr Cruttenden also reported that Black Tor Road and Slaley had been swept, but that there were still some overhanging branches from private land, which need attention.

Dist Cllr March reported that the District Council have made a decision about Council Tax on properties which are empty for six months, holiday homes etc, that a further 10% reduction will be introduced next year.

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Cllr Lynch reported on the proposed allotments on Kirk Meadow. It appeared that up to possibly ten allotments could be sited there. There is also a spring on the site, which could prove a temporary limited water source. Although there is an amount of scrub to be cleared, the site appeared very suitable, but the whole project depended on the question of the lease. Cllr Lynch will keep in contact with Leigh Johnson on this.

Cllr Falconer reported on the Broadband situation for the area. When the original proposal was put to people, 24 people expressed an interest, and now 19 have actually signed up for Broadband. It is proposed that Bonsall will be live by January 2004.

Cllr Cruttenden had arranged a meeting with the Rural Community's Council about funding for the restoration of the War Memorials, and will report back.

#### **108/2003/DECEMBER – FRIENDS OF BONSCALL FRAMEWORK KNITTERS.**

A meeting of the Friends of Bonsall Framework Knitters, was held after the Parish Council meeting. There will be a progress report at the next meeting.

#### **109/2003/DECEMBER – WEBSITE.**

The website is still being visited, although it has not been as busy as in the first weeks. Cllrs Headon, Frost and Falconer are looking for new ideas to get people to visit the site more frequently. Community groups will be contacted to encourage them to take space. Other suggestions to create more interest would be a directory with useful links to web pages, competitions, special occasion messages, favourite places, births, deaths and marriages. The Cllrs will report back on their findings at the next meeting.

#### **110/2003/DECEMBER – ALLOTMENTS.**

County Cllr Deborah Read reported that she has done some research into the Allotments situation and has discovered that the District Council, at present, requires sites for new allotments to be leased by Parish Councils. She had been in contact with the Allotments Association and they have funding available once an allotments committee is up and running and has adopted a constitution. Such a committee needs at least three people.

The District Council Legal officers are currently reviewing the possible changes in their Councils degree of involvement and had promised to come back to Cllr Cruttenden in the New Year. In the meantime, it was agreed that Mutterings should be used to re-confirm how many residents were still interested in taking a plot, and then calling a meeting to set up a Committee.

The Allotments Association recommends that as well as settling the issues associated with the lease of the site, consideration needs to be given to:

- If the allotments are run by the Parish Council, that they have drawn up a set of tenancy agreements.
- The allotment holders know precisely what is available, such as if there is water on the site who pays for it.
- How the allotment holders are billed and who collects the money.
- Insurance costs must be considered.
- Allotments to run on a one year lease.
- A councillor appointed to represent the allotments, and to report regularly to the Parish Council.
- Who is eligible for an allotment, just local people, or for people outside the village?

#### **111/2003/DECEMBER – MUTTERINGS.**

Peter Fellows reported to the meeting about the latest progress in Mutterings. Peter said that he was to become the central email contact for Mutterings, and that Mutterings was looking to recruit some helpers to lighten the load and sharing the following jobs.

- a) Collector of articles
- b) Compiler
- c) Collection/dispatch

Also each job would have a substitute person to cover holidays and illness.

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It was agreed that Planning Applications should be advertised in Mutterings. The Clerk will contact Cllr Falconer as applications and notification of decisions are received from the District Council or Peak Park. It was also agreed to include the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.

A copy of Mutterings is to be forwarded on to Caroline Smith, County Cllr Read and to John Herbert, Peak Park Parish Representative.

**112/2003/DECEMBER – ART & ARCHITECTURE TRAIL.**

A report from Cllr Cartwright was unavailable. Dist Cllr March reported that an exhibition titled “Art in the Old School House” had been well attended.

**113/2003/DECEMBER – SPEED LIMIT.**

There was no representative from the Highways department present at the meeting, but a letter outlining their proposals had been received and discussed by Cllr Cruttenden. A number of the signs around the village would be removed (with the exception of the “Warning Children” and the sign for the concealed junction at Black Tor Lane), but new signs with wording on the lines of “Please drive slowly through Bonsall”, would be erected close to re-located speed limit signs on all approaches to the village. Cllr Cruttenden had agreed that a joint inspection would be arranged in the New Year to agree the location of these signs and to discuss a prominent “Child Warning” sign on the approach to the Park from Clatterway.

Thereafter the Parish Council would wish to keep the position under review. It was agreed that the Chairman should send letters to all local Taxi firms, seeking their co-operation in reducing speed through the village, as discussed at the last meeting.

**114/2003/DECEMBER – PRECEPT.**

A letter expressing the Parish Council’s concern over the failure to increase the Minor Maintenance Grant, which was to meet costs of footpath upkeep, had been sent off with the Council’s Precept application. An acknowledgement had been received promising a fuller reply in due course. It was agreed that we should press for more time to consider the level of Precept in future years.

**115/2003/DECEMBER – CORRESPONDENCE.**

See separate sheet for correspondence.

A letter was received from DCC with regard to the County Sign Service, as two new no parking signs were required for Church Street; Cllr Cruttenden would seek a price.

A questionnaire from the Peak Park raised questions as to what projects the Parish Council had help in establishing and funding, and its plans for such projects in the future. It was agreed to include the following:

- a) Cinema
- b) History Society
- c) The Park
- d) Tow’d Man
- e) Bandstand
- f) Uppertown field
- g) Dunsley Meadows
- h) The Friends of Bonsall Framework Knitters
- i) War Memorial restoration.

Complaints had been received from residents about the state of the lorry park surface, especially near the recycling area. Material had been spread earlier in the year to fill potholes, but the surface was now as bad as ever. A letter to Keith Horncastle at DDDC is to be sent about this problem

It was also reported that the seat at the bus stop, at Nether Green is broken, and the waiting area is muddy and it was suggested some hard standing be put in place. Dist Cllr March advised us that this was the District Councils responsibility, and he would raise the issue with the relevant officer.

Details of Parish Clerk Training had been received, and Caroline Smith confirmed that she will undertake an AQA Certificate in Local Council Administration Training Course, at County Hall, Matlock, commencing on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2004. The cost of £155, was agreed by the Parish

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Council. This qualification is a requirement of Councils qualifying as "Quality Councils", with the prospect of receiving additional financial support.

**116/2003/DECEMBER – PLANNING.**

**a. Application No:03/10/0765 – Single storey rear extension – Crag Cottage, 54 Yeoman Street, Bonsall – Mr S Norman.**

Permission granted.

**b. Application No:03/11/0876 – Conservatory extension to side elevation – Loneacre, 88 High Street, Bonsall – Mr & Mrs Ward.**

No objections.

**c. Application No:03/10/0808 – Formation of vehicular access – Church Cottage, 49 Church Street, Bonsall – Mr/Mrs LC Cole & LC Terry.**

Permission granted.

**117/2003/DECEMBER – AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.**

1. Friends of Bonsall Framework Knitters
2. Website
3. Allotments
4. Football pitch
5. Art & Architecture Trail
6. Speed limit & road signs
7. Bonsall field barns
8. Youth projects

**NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2004.**

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.