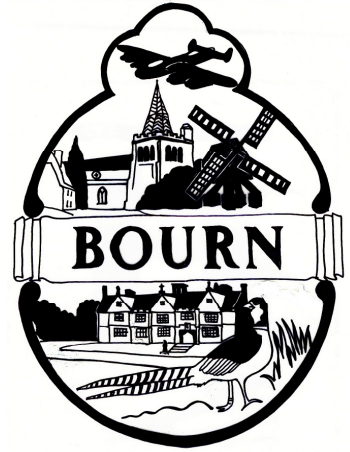


BOURN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013



Annual Parish Meeting

Every English Parish must have a Parish Meeting. This is not a Council meeting but a meeting of registered electors. The meeting will be held this year at 7.30pm on Thursday 16th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This meeting is open to all residents and electors of Bourn who may by Law discuss parish affairs, ask questions, put forward views and pass resolutions at the meeting. It is also your opportunity to hear reports from village groups and organisations and hear what's been happening, what is planned and how you can get involved. The agenda for the meeting will be published on the notice board seven clear days before the meeting. If you have an item for the agenda or something that you would like to raise at the meeting please contact the Clerk.

Bourn Parish Council is a Quality Council

Bourn Parish Council was delighted to be awarded its re-accreditation as a "Quality Parish Council" and at a recent meeting it was presented with its certificate. In order to achieve Quality Status, parish and town councils must demonstrate that they have reached the standard required by passing several tests.

Code of Conduct

Last year the Parish Council adopted the new Model Code of Conduct and details of all the members' Registers of Members Interests can be viewed on the village website <http://www.bourn.org.uk>

Parish Council Annual Audit

The external audit of the Parish Council's accounts will start on in early June 2013 and will be undertaken by Little John of London. Bourn residents have the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the Annual Return and supporting papers. For the year ending 31st March 2013 these documents will be available on reasonable notice, at mutually convenient times on application to the Clerk between 3rd to 31st May

Community Right to Bid

The Community Right to Bid allows communities and parish councils to nominate buildings or land for listing by the local authority as an asset of community value. An asset can be listed if its principal use furthers (or has recently furthered) their community's social well-being or social interests (which include cultural, sporting or recreational interests) and is likely to do so in the future. When a listed asset comes to be sold, a moratorium on the sale (of up to six months) may be invoked, providing local community groups with a better chance to raise finance, develop a business plan and to make a bid to buy the asset on the open market.

The parish council will be drawing up a list of assets over the next month and welcomes suggestions of suitable assets from parishioners.

Parish Plan Working Group

The Working Group are working on three 3 main areas at the moment. These are a local cinema, community car scheme and parking.

Play equipment, safety surfacing and inspections

Quotations are being sought for safety surfacing under the play equipment at the Hall Close play area.

The Parish Council is delighted to report the appointment of Mr Frank Haxton as its Operational Inspector. In brief his role is to be directed by and report to the Parish Council on matters relating to the play equipment in the village, assist in monitoring and keeping the equipment as safe as necessary and help develop the areas.

If anyone sees any problems with the play equipment or anything amiss on either the Jubilee playing field or the Hall Close play area please contact the Clerk.

The District Council has been urged to make some improvements to the open ditch at the Hall Close play area including fitting new grilles and the District Council should be undertaking this work shortly.

S137 requests received for financial support for inclusion In the FY2014 budget

Requests from the Parochial Church Council and also the Merribourn Club have been considered. It was agreed that the Parish Council could not fund a higher amount than this year and so the following amounts will be released after 1st April

Bourn Proms £50.00 (request expected)

Village Hall grass cutting £470.25

Churchyard grass cutting £330.00

Merribourn Club £240.00.

Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership

Bourn Parish Council is increasing its involvement with SPEP (Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership) who work with local communities to encourage low carbon and sustainable living. The Parish Council is organising a Sustainable Living Event in the Autumn, and has already booked the use of a thermal imaging camera for a week in November to gauge the efficiency of saving energy in homes in Bourn. Anyone interested in getting involved please contact Xanthe Rees-Howell how100@btinternet.com.

Newsletter distribution

The Parish Council is planning to start distribution a proportion of its quarterly newsletters by email in the near future, if you would like to be included, please email your details to how100@btinternet.com mentioning in the email BPC Newsletter.

Allotment News

Bourn Allotments are at the end of Hall Close, below Bourn Hall. Currently there are 10 half-size plots and one quarter-size plot. (A full-size plot would be 250 sq metres.) This provision is well below S Cambs recommended allotment area for the number of households in Bourn, so it is not surprising that we have a waiting list of several people wanting new allotments.

The Parish Council and Bourn Allotments Association have approached various landowners but, so far, have not found any land for more allotments. If anyone knows

of any land available for rent, lease or sale, we would be interested to hear. In the meantime, if you are interested in having an allotment in Bourn, you can join the waiting list, ready for the time when we do have more plots.

Having an allotment is not all hard work and digging – we do have regular get-togethers for BBQs and stir-fries, featuring our produce, and an annual gathering known as “Midwinter Madness” when we are warmed by mulled wine, mince pies and hot soup.

A recent development has been the start of a collaboration with Bourn School. 3 volunteers from the allotments met with some of the schoolchildren to help them plan some raised beds at school, where each class can grow some produce. These volunteers will offer practical help and advice throughout the growing season.

If you have any news about land which may be available for more allotments, please contact Gill Pountain, Secretary, Bourn Allotments Association pountain.holes@talk21.com

Bourn Sports Club

There is lots going on this year at Bourn Sports Club. Membership subscriptions (unchanged, again!) are now due – please request a subs form from Lottie Phillips lottiephillips@googlemail.com . We can also potentially offer concessions for those on low incomes.

Activities

Tennis: Members can book our tennis courts which are free to use, using the booking sheets outside the Pavilion. We anticipate entering a men’s and a mixed team in local leagues this summer. We will run a mixed doubles tournament on Sunday 21st July. We also hope to start mix-in evenings, probably on a Tuesday, starting after Easter. Mini-tennis lessons continue on Sunday mornings. Contact Gill Pountain pountain.holes@talk21.com

Junior Cricket (May - July): Coaching sessions take place on Sunday mornings on our all-weather practice pitch, for boys and girls aged 6-14. All equipment is provided.

Dance and Fitness: A Chasamba fitness class and a Latin & Ballroom Dancing class for children aged 6-11 is starting in April 2013. Contact Gill Pountain for information pountain.holes@talk21.com

5-a-side football: On Thursday evenings, under lights in the darker seasons, you can find keen adult footballers taking in some exercise and having lots of fun.

Summer Sports evening - Saturday 22nd June: Open to all, this is an opportunity for young and old alike to compete enthusiastically or embarrassingly in a programme of races and other sporting activities, including the ‘round the village’ race and now infamous ‘great egg event’, prior to picnicking late into the evening.

Chariots of Fire—Sunday 22nd September 2013: The Club enters teams of runners, from veterans to teenagers into this celebrated relay race in Cambridge in September.

Bourn to Run—Sunday 29th September 2013: The Sports Club will welcome your help either as a volunteer/marshal or an entrant to this wonderful fundraising event.

Boxing Day: Another ‘open to all’ invitation to play some ‘all-comers’ football and/or ultimate Frisbee to burn off Christmas excesses.

Comberton Community Swimming Pool

Heated open air pool 29C Open from 11th May until 8th September 2013

Family membership £55, New Members £45, Single members £35

For more details or to join contact eve@thorogoodr.freeserve.co.uk or Tel:01223 263250

Carry on Cooking

I have taken over completing a body of work which involves updating and maintaining our database of clubs and activities available to older people in Cambridgeshire. This enables us to send out information, such as our newsletter, which may be relevant to your members, but also allows us to pass on the details of clubs/societies that older people in your locality can access if they ask us for information.

If any clubs would like to be, or would benefit from being included on our database please contact me and I will make contact with you to discuss this with you. If you have any questions please contact me

Lisa Bulbeck, Carry on Cooking Project Officer Mon - Fri: 9.00-12.30 1.00-3.30 Mobile: 07759 699748, Tel: 01354 696650 Email: lisa.bulbeck@ageukcambridgeshire.org.uk

Parish Council Contacts

Nigel Ball (Chairman)	38 Caxton End	718960
Vivien Bruce (Vice-Chairman)	16 Kingfisher Close	718221
Robert Ansell	61 Hall Close	718934
Gill Pountain	13 Church Street	719266
Xanthe Rees-Howell	Maple Lodge, The Drift	710042
Steve Jones	Rosemary and Lavender Cottage, Caxton Road	719329
Neil Blair	19 Church Street	719794
Heather McClean	44 Gills Hill	717895
Les Rolfe	57 Hall Close	718150

Parish Clerk

Mrs Gail Stoehr

30 West Drive, Highfields Caldecote, Cambridge, CB23 7NY

Tel: 01954 210241

Email: bournpc@lgs-services.co.uk

The Parish Council meets on the third Thursday each month (except August and December) **at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**. All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so are open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on Bourn matters or on items on the agenda. If the matter is on the agenda or has already been under discussion a response may be given at the meeting otherwise the matter may be tabled for fuller discussion at the next or a future meeting.

If you require this newsletter in large print please contact the Clerk on 01954 210241