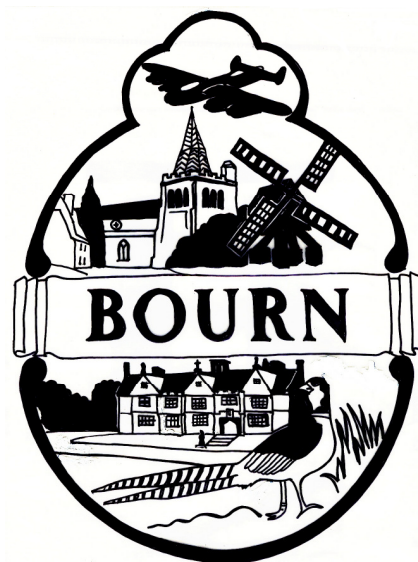


BOURN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2013



Highways Working Group

The Parish Council's (PC) Highways Working Group is pleased to announce that the application we made to the County Council for a Small Highways Improvement Grant has been successful.

This grant will help fund the cost of reducing the speed limit on the Broadway from 40mph to 30mph, which is something the village has been requesting for a very long time. It will mean that we will have a continuous 30mph limit from Rockery Farm right through the village to Fox Road.

Don't worry. You will not wake up tomorrow morning to find speed bumps outside your house!! The grant will be used to pay for the cost of moving existing signs, providing new ones (including an interactive "flashing" sign on the Broadway), and renewing/replacing road markings. The PC is also hoping to have other work done at the same time, such as, renewing the "give way" lines at the war memorial and other areas of the village. The poor state of the pavement on Alms Hill has also been brought to the County Councils attention.

The County Council will now begin the official consultation process with the Police, Emergency Services and Bus Companies, as well as the village. This will give everyone the chance to review what is being proposed, comment, ask questions and raise objections if they have any. This will take approximately two months. Depending on the outcome of the consultation we hope the work will be completed by the end of the year. The PC would like to thank everyone who signed the petition supporting our grant application. It certainly added weight to our already strong case for a reducing the speed limit in that part of the village. We presented it at the grant application meeting to demonstrate the strength of feeling within the village.

Cambridgeshire Future Transport Working Group

Good news!! At the meeting in September the County Council announced that despite the loss of subsidy Stagecoach intend to continue running the no 18 bus as a commercial operation between Cambridge and Cambourne. This means that Bourn will still have its scheduled bus service.

Bourn Airfield Development

The Parish Council's response to the South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan proposed submission, with specific reference to the new settlements at Cambourne West and Bourn Airfield is available on the South Cambs website www.scambs.gov.uk The Council reiterated its objections to both sites.

Parish Council Annual Audit

The external audit of the Parish Council's accounts was concluded by Littlejohn of London, who found everything to be in order.

Land north of The Broadway

Arrangements are in hand for the transfer of a plot of land north of The Broadway to the Parish Council for use as a public open space.

Parish Plan Working Group

Arrangements are in hand for the installation of an aerial socket for the new television set the PC has provided for the Community Centre.

Play equipment, safety surfacing and inspections

New safety surfacing has been installed under the swings at the Hall Close play area. South Cambs District Council contributed £1,000 towards the costs.

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.

South Cambridgeshire District Council has been asked to provide a dog bin and a sign asking for dogs to be kept on a lead.

New Benches

The Parish Council was delighted to accept the kind offer of two benches from The Ramblers. One is situated in a field bordering Bourn Wood/Hall Close/Riddy Lane on Footpath 28. It has a view (including Cambourne!), is halfway on a circular route from the village, is protected from a southerly wind, in the shade and has bluebells adjacent in spring. The other is under a mature oak tree on the rise about 400 yards beyond the sewerage works on Bridleway 15 (Bourn to Caldecote). It has a view, including the church steeple, is in shade and is in the flight path for Bourn airfield. The Parish Council is very grateful to the landowners for their permission to locate these benches on their land.

Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership

The PC is planning to hold a village energy saving awareness evening in February 2014, this will include information on the Green Deal, use of a terminal imaging camera and other interesting money and energy saving things for the home, plus village shared ideas of generating a greener environment. More detailed information will be available in the New Year. Anyone interested in getting involved please contact Xanthe Rees-Howell how100@btinternet.com.

At the June meeting the Parish Council received a presentation from a representative of the Environment Agency who explained the requirement for all watercourses to be classified as "good" by 2015. Bourn Brook is currently "moderate" and a reduction in the level of phosphates is necessary to improve the quality. Details of an initiative to encourage the use of low phosphate detergents will be included in the forthcoming event.

A litter pick is to be organized in the village in March.

Bourn Sports Club

Regrettably there have been a number of incidents over the summer when the tennis nets were damaged, and the use of the tennis courts has therefore been restricted to Sports Club members only, in order to prevent damage to equipment.

Website

A new website is in the course of construction, and information is in the process of being transferred over. For further details please contact Cllr Rolfe.

Highways flooding

The County Council has reported that there is a break in the pipe near Caxton Road which has caused problems with flooding near the Great Bridge. It is hoped that the County Council will rectify this problem shortly.

A14 Transport Strategy

A response supporting the proposals but not the tolling has been submitted.

Bourn Youth Project

The Parish Council has agreed that the Youth Project can become a working group of the Council.

Bus stops

Do you know where all the bus stops are in the village? The Parish Council has applied to the County Council for a grant to enable all the stops to be clearly marked by bus stop posts and also road markings.

“You Choose” – Cambridgeshire County Council budget survey

A county-wide survey asking residents to put themselves in the seat of councillors in making decisions where to invest and save money. Your views are vital as the County Council is expected to make savings in the region of £39 million next year. These savings have to be made whilst supporting and investing in services such as adult social care, protecting children, boosting the economy and looking after roads and transport.

<https://youchoose.yougov.com/Cambridgeshire>

The County Council's full press release can be read on the website:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/CMSWebsite/Apps/News/Details.aspx?ref=1113>

South Cambridgeshire District Council review of polling districts and places

As part of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, the District Council is required to carry out a fresh review of its parliamentary polling districts and places. The last review of this type took place in 2011.

A dedicated page on the South Cambs District Council website can be found here:

<http://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/polling-district-review>

This page explains the background to the review, and also provides further information on the District Council's existing polling districts and places. In Bourn Parish the polling station is at Bourn Village Hall. The District Council is not proposing to make any changes but would welcome comments or suggestions for any possible improvements no later than 13th November. Questions or comments should be directed to the elections inbox at elections@scambs.gov.uk.

The Parish Council has responded that it is satisfied with the current arrangements and with the village hall being used as the polling station as this is central to the village.

Parish Council Contacts

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

Parish Clerk

Mrs Gail Stoehr

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

Tel: 01954 210241

Email: ournpc@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 want to raise a matter with the Council please write or email the Clerk.

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