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# Bourn Parish Council Newsletter

June 2018

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## May 3 Local Election Results

The district council elections on 3 May resulted in significant changes for South Cambridgeshire. Due to the boundary changes that saw Bourn, Longstowe and Little Gransden incorporated into a new Caldecote Ward, two District Councillors, both of whom oppose the development at Bourn Airfield (Des O'Brien and Tumi Hawkins) competed for one seat on the council. That meant that, irrespective of the result, the campaign to stop 3,500 houses being built on Bourn Airfield would have a spokesperson on the council.

In the event, Tumi Hawkins won the Caldecote seat by a comfortable margin and we have a very able councillor at the heart of a now Liberal Democrat-controlled District Council.

The Liberal Democrats - who voted against the Local Plan in 2014 - now have 30 seats while the Conservatives have been reduced to 11.



## Bourn War Memorial

On behalf of all Bourn residents, the Council would like to express its thanks and appreciation to Brian and Margaret Benstead who for many years have kept the War Memorial clean and tidy, and to Peter Johnson for planting the flowers. As Mr and Mrs Benstead step down we are delighted to acknowledge the commitment of Alan and Sally Ward who have kindly volunteered to take over.

## Parish Council Achievements this Quarter

Building work to reconfigure the interior space at the Pavilion has recently been completed. The

Pavilion will be officially re-opened by Bourn Sports Club at the Sports Day on Saturday 14th July.

Please note that records of all of the Council's activities and decisions are available at the website [www.bourn.org.uk](http://www.bourn.org.uk)

## Welcome to...

**Neil Stutchbury** who has recently joined as a new Parish Councillor and **Sarah Moore** who has just been appointed as our new Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer.

The Chairman and Councillors would like to extend a warm welcome to them both.

Finally the Council would like to record its thanks to Cllr Les Rolfe who has been Acting Parish Clerk over the previous few months. Cllr Rolfe has been kept extremely busy re-organising the Council's administration and preparing the role for handover to the new Clerk. He has been very generous with his time and commitment in covering this role so effectively during this period.

## Traffic and Speeding in the Village

The Parish Council is undertaking a review of speed limits in around the village and will submit several Local Highways Initiative grant applications in July. The grants provide the significant proportion of the costs to install various speed reduction measures, including road narrowing, speed bumps, speed limit changes, buffer zones and village gateways.

You can find out more about the options available at:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway/speeding/>

The Parish Council is keen to see:

- More effective control of the 40mph and 30mph sections on the Broadway and will consider the introduction of alternative speeding treatments such as gateways, road narrowing and



*Gates and narrowing can be effective*

additional vehicle-activated speeding signs.

- More effective control of the 30mph speed limit at the entrance to the village from the B1046 from Longstowe.
- A speed reduction to 50 mph for the stretch of the B1046 between Longstowe and Toft.
- More effective control of the 30 mph speed limit on Alms Hill and the High Street and a possible reduction to 20 mph.



*Alms Hill 30 mph repeater signs on the road are inadequate and are fading*

- More effective control of the speed limits on Caxton Road.

- A HGV weight restriction for the High Street.

Please contact Cllr O'Brien on [despobrien2@gmail.com](mailto:despobrien2@gmail.com) if you would like to discuss further.

## Bourn Airfield Development

While we await the Inspector's decision on the Local Plan (now expected to take place in the late summer), property developer, Countryside Properties, has continued to work on the submission of a planning application to build 3,500 new homes on the Airfield. In order to ensure that the PC's views are influential the council has determined to relax its non-engagement policy with Countryside Properties.

## Balsam Bashing

Earlier this month Cllr Stutchbury joined a small working party clearing out Himalayan Balsam from Bourn Brook.

Himalayan Balsam is an invasive



*Cllr Stutchbury with Himalayan Balsam*

species of flowering plant, related to the Busy Lizzie (*Impatiens Gladulifera*), which can grow very quickly to 2-3m and crowd out other species. It was introduced to the UK in 1839, largely because of its attractive pink-purple flowers. However it is exceptionally good at colonising areas such as river



banks and destroying the habitat for native species. If uncontrolled near rivers, it can even cause flooding. The Wildlife Trust organise regular visits of Bourn Brook to clear out Himalayan Balsam. The good news is that the regular patrols over the years have removed most of the plants, but the working party did find several just below the Sports Club pavilion.

If you see any in your garden, just pull it up by its shallow roots, preferably before it sets seed and lay it out in the sun to die.

The other 'nasty' encountered was Giant Hogweed, which looks like giant cow parsley, but has chemicals in its sap which can cause photosensitivity in the skin, leading to blistering, pigmentation and scarring. This invasive species can grow up to 5m high. It is best eradicated by spraying with weedkiller, such as RoundUp, but please do not do so if the plant is within 10m of a water source.. Ask the Wildlife Trust to deal with it.

**Always wear protective clothing when handling Giant Hogweed.**

Otter prints were also found in the mud; a wonderful sign that these native mammals have now colonised the brook. Kingfishers and water voles



Otter prints

have also been seen along the banks of the brook.

If you would like to join in with a balsam bashing session, please look at the Wildlife Trust website which shows the dates when you can join in. Waders are provided.

<http://www.wildlifebcn.org/wildlife/wilder-countryside/bourn-brook>

You never know, you may even see an otter!

## Graffiti

Earlier this month a small group of teenage boys were seen spraying graffiti on the skate ramp at the Jubilee Playing Field. This has been reported to the local police. The Council will take appropriate steps to address vandalism in the village. Please do report any incidents you see to the Police on 111.

## Bourn Sports Club - Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 14th July - Fun Sports Evening** [See page 6 for details]

**Sunday 16th September - Chariots of Fire**

**Sunday 23rd September - Bourn to Run**

For further details about membership and membership benefits email Lottie Phillips at:

[bournsportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:bournsportsclub@gmail.com)

## Updates from Support Cambridgeshire

Support Cambridgeshire is a three-year project, funded by Cambridgeshire County Council bringing together three partner organisations who will work together



to support community groups and organisations across Cambridgeshire.

### Cambridgeshire Local Lottery: Have Your Say

The County Council like to hear your views on a Cambridgeshire Local Lottery

In March, Cambridgeshire County Council councillors approved the proposal for an online local lottery to benefit good causes across Cambridgeshire. These good causes will have an opportunity to encourage people to play the lottery and directly support their organisation, taking 50p for every £1 spent.

The success of this lottery is dependent on this working for local charities - and therefore your opinion matters. Go to

<https://www.supportcambridgeshire.org.uk/cambridgeshire-local-lottery/> for more information.

### Data Protection Self Assessment

Still in a state of confusion and panic about what GDPR means for your organisation? GDPR became law on 25 May 2018 and sets tougher rules on organisations on how they store and use people's data.

The Information Commissioner's Office, which is responsible for

enforcing GDPR in the UK, has produced a Self Assessment Checklist with small organisations in mind.

Go to <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/resources-and-support/data-protection-self-assessment/> to keep abreast of the latest developments from the ICO.

### New Guidelines for Child Protection Records Retention and Storage

If an organisation needs to hold records about a child or adult for any reason, it must have policies and procedures in place regarding the retention and storage of that information.

As well as this, as part of its safeguarding policy and procedures, every organisation must have clear guidelines for the retention, storage and destruction of child protection records. These are records which relate to concerns about a child's welfare and safety, and/or concerns about possible risks posed by people working or volunteering with children.

The NSPCC has updated its guidance, with information on storage, timescales and destruction of data. Go to <https://bit.ly/2tQYiWx> to read the NSPCC's guidance.

## Looking after our Trees

In our March newsletter we included an item about the trees in our village and the need to preserve and appreciate them. Since that time we



have had reports of mature, protected trees being unlawfully felled. The Parish Council, along with South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, are investigating this matter and will take the appropriate steps to remedy the situation to the extent possible. In the meantime we would like to remind villagers that our trees are valued assets and many are protected.

A large number of trees in Bourn are protected in law with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). These are intended to "protect specific trees or a particular woodland from deliberate damage and destruction. This could include felling, lopping, topping, uprooting or otherwise wilful damage."

Trees protected in this way may be on, or alongside, your property and if you are thinking about felling or lopping one you need permission to do so. You can check whether a tree or a group of trees has a TPO by checking on South Cambs District Council's TPO page:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/tree-preservation-orders>

If a protected tree is felled you must replace it with another of similar size and species as soon as reasonably possible. This applies even if the tree was dead or damaged. See the Woodland Trust's guidance on their website <https://bit.ly/2uEEOZ1>.

For further information please contact our Tree Warden, Hilary Gretton, on 01954 719329.

## Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council meets on the **third Wednesday of 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 email the Parish Clerk.

Items for the Parish Council's consideration must be sent to the Parish Clerk seven clear days before the meeting. Minutes and agendas can be found on the Council's website <http://www.bourn.org.uk> and on the village noticeboards.

## Newsletter Distribution

The Parish Council delivers a copy of the June newsletter to each household in the village. At all other times a limited number of printed copies will be available at the village notice boards, Hall Close Community Centre, the local shop, the Doctors' Surgery and Knibbs the butchers, for collection.

We are encouraging residents to sign up to receive our quarterly newsletters by email. Please contact Cllr Jagers at [sarah.jagers2@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.jagers2@gmail.com) to be added to the email distribution list or if you would a large print copy delivered.

Alternatively they can be downloaded



from the Parish Council's website - <http://www.bourn.org.uk>

## Website

The PC's website is currently being redesigned and we hope to have it launched in the autumn. In the meantime, do visit

<http://www.bourn.org.uk> for information on the village and local events.

## Update from Cambridgeshire Constabulary - Sharing the Road with Cyclists

### The laws of sharing the road

Cyclists can use the entire lane. Expect them to move out in the road to avoid hazards, to be seen better or make turns. Even if there is a cycle path or lane, it won't be appropriate for all cyclists to use all the time.

The maximum penalty of careless driving is nine points and 175 percent of weekly income for the most serious cases.

### Advice for drivers

When driving, you are expected to:

#### C - Concentrate

Even the smallest lapse in concentration means you could fail to see an unprotected person. At best this is scary; at worst a collision will injure or kill them.

#### O - Observe

Pay close attention to what is going on around you; use your mirrors

regularly and drive to the conditions. Look particularly for cyclists and motorcyclist near junctions.

#### A - Anticipate

We can't always be sure what other people are going to do but just giving it some thought can reduce the chance of a collision. Expect cyclists to move out to avoid hazards.

#### S - Give space

More room between you and other road users gives you more time to react. Remember just a nudge on an unprotected person can have serious or tragic consequences.

#### T - Give time

Allow slower road users to travel safely, don't pressure or harass them. Allow more time to brake and stop in wet weather, more still in snow or ice.

### Highway Code for drivers

Rule 163 - give cyclists as much space as you would when overtaking a car.

Rule 212 - when passing a cyclist, give plenty of room. In practice this means at least 1.5m at 30mph, more at higher speeds or in bad weather.

### Advice for cyclists

*Be aware of what is happening around you.*

Look well ahead for obstructions or hazards and behind before you change road position or direction. Only move if there is suitable space available.

*Look for others to react to you*

If you don't see any reaction, assume they haven't seen you and be ready to brake or steer, if necessary.

If there is anyone who needs to know what you are about to do, signal before you move.

### Abide by the law

In the dark or bad visibility you must have lights on the front and rear of your bike. Bright or reflective materials may also increase visibility in some circumstances.

### Blind spots

Large vehicles have big blind spots. If you can't see their mirrors, the driver can't see you.

Avoid riding or waiting in blind spots, overtake on the right-hand side if oncoming traffic allows. Move ahead of the vehicle and ensure you are visible to the driver.

### Overtaking

Only overtake in a stationary queue when it is clear a vehicle won't suddenly begin to move.

### Training

Road safety cycling training can improve your confidence when cycling. It helps you to position yourself correctly on the road and around other vehicles.

### Highway Code for cyclists

- Stay out of the gutter. Ride on the left edge of the traffic flow, at least 0.75m away from the kerb.
- If there's not enough room for a car to overtake you, you should ride in the middle of your traffic lane, known as the primary position. This makes you more visible, gives you more space and discourages unsafe passing.





# Bourn Sports Club

Fun Sports Evening  
*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July*

Open to  
Non-members



**5pm Under 12's Football Match; Mixed Doubles Tennis Final match**

**5.30pm Family fun races**

**6.30pm 'Round the Village' race**

**7pm Egg Throwing**

**Other games include: Rowing Machine races; Table tennis competition; Welly Throwing. BBQ & Refreshments available throughout.**

**Held at Jubilee Recreation Ground, Bourn.**

**Bring all the family!**

# The Parish Council's Working Groups and Interest Areas

The Parish Council has a limited area of focus and responsibility within the village and liaises on others with South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. These lines of responsibility aren't always straightforward so if you have a query regarding them please contact our Parish Clerk who will advise - e: [bournpccclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bournpccclerk@gmail.com)

In the meantime the Council's working groups for 2018 are as follows:

Interest Area	Councillors/People Responsible
Affordable Housing	Cllrs Rolfe (convenor) and Blair
Allotments liaison	Cllr Rolfe
Bourn Youth Project	Suzanne Armitage and Jan Burrell
Cambourne Parish Council liaison	Cllr Bruce
Coalition of Parish Councils	Cllrs Blair, Jones and O'Brien
Code of Conduct	Parish Clerk and SCDC Monitoring Officer
Bourn Flood Group liaison	Cllrs Bruce and O'Brien
Bourn Brook maintenance	Nigel Ball
Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership	Cllr Blair
Tree Warden/Officer	Cllr Jones and Hilary Gretton
Finance overseeing	Cllrs Blair (convenor) and Jones
Highways, including Cambourne bus link	Cllrs Bourne, Bruce and O'Brien
Traffic Monitoring and Speedwatch liaison	Cllrs Bruce, Jones and O'Brien
Human Resources	Cllrs Blair, Jaggars and Jones
Neighbourhood Planning	Cllrs Blair, Bourne, Bruce, Jaggars and Stutchbury
Neighbourhood Watch liaison	Cllr Bruce
Newsletter and Annual Report	Cllr Jaggars (with input from all councillors)
Newsletter distribution (electronic and printed copies)	Cllr Jaggars
Newsletter distribution (website)	Cllr Rolfe
Noticeboards	Cllr Rolfe
Planning	Cllrs Blair, Bruce, Jones and Rolfe
Bridleways	Cllr Bruce
Footpaths	Graham Bruce and Angela Marcham
Recreation Grounds (Jubilee Playing Field, Hall Close/Riddy Lane play area and Broadway play area, including all play equipment)	Frank Haxton (operational inspector) with regular assistance from volunteers
Solar Farm (S106) payment project	Cllr Jaggars
Schools liaison: - Bourn Academy primary - Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges	Cllr Blair Cllr O'Brien
Sports Club liaison	Cllrs Jaggars and O'Brien
StopBAD liaison	Cllr Jones
Village Hall	Cllrs Bruce and Rolfe
Website	Cllr Rolfe

The Chairman is an ex-officio member of all groups

## Parish Councillors

Neil Blair (Chairman)	19 Church Street	t: 719794	e: neil@blairfamily.me.uk
Alison Bourne	21 Caxton End	t: 719021	e: alisonrbourne@gmail.com
Vivien Bruce (Vice-chair)	16 Kingfisher Close	t: 718221	e: viv.bruce@btinternet.com
Sarah Jagers	32 Caxton End	t: 718037	e: sarah.jagers2@gmail.com
Steve Jones	Rosemary & Lavender Cottage, Caxton Rd	t: 719329	e: stevejonessja@aol.com
Des O'Brien	Vine Cottage, Fox Road	t: 718115	e: despobrien2@gmail.com
Les Rolfe	57 Hall Close	t: 718150	e: les.rolfe@hotmail.co.uk
Neil Stutchbury	37 High Street	T: 718554	e: neil.stutchbury@btinternet.com

## Parish Clerk

While we await the start date of our newly appointed Parish Clerk, you can contact our temporary clerk, Cllr Les Rolfe, by email at [bournpccclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bournpccclerk@gmail.com)