

Date of next Meeting
10th February, 2025

UNCONFIRMED

**BOYTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING
held on Monday, 11th November, 2024**

PRESENT:

Cllr Wheatley-Hubbard	Chairman
Cllr Adams	Vice Chairman, Infrastructure
Cllr Treherne	Infrastructure
Cllr Mantle	Treasurer
Cllr Fellowes	Website
S Pallant	Clerk

PUBLIC: 11 parishioners

1. APOLOGIES: None

2. OPEN FORUM

24/78

The Chairman explained that if the PC doesn't take on responsibility for the Play Area the Council will leave it as a "green space" - all equipment would be removed.

The Council will give the PC a substantial amount of money towards the renovation of the Play Area via a government grant.

There will be liability but Councillors will probably not be individually liable.

Public liability will probably be substantial.

The Council need to know by 15.11.24

The contract will have to be signed by 31.3.25. If not, the grant money for refurbishment will have to be returned to central government.

The PC will need the services of solicitors/surveyors etc which will come out of the current PC funds.

There is the matter of the trees - the Council will survey and do any work they deem necessary before the transfer.

Selwood own the bund land with a right of access over the playground area. Suggestion of having some parking for the Fane Hall on the access and kept separate from the play area which can be any size.

Wayleaves – electricity, wessex internet and selwood sewage and pipes.

A local playground is inspected every year. The insurance is by Hiscox which includes the Village Hall at a cost of £650pa.

PC can sell the land but if the Council are asked why there isn't a playground they will reply that it is the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Liability – we need to have inspections and insurance that covers risks.

Who would actually run the play area.

If the PC were to sell the land the Council would receive 50% of any profit.

Is there a requirement on their behalf for them to approve our decisions.

Have other parishes taken up this offer? Yes, the majority over the years.

Could the Council refurbish the play area and then hand it over? No. They will give the PC £60k+ for refurbishment.

Public liability insurance is absolutely necessary.

A company called Playsafe in Trowbridge are recommended for inspection and renovation of the equipment.

The annual running costs need to be assessed/researched

Insurance/liability

Mowing

Inspections

Equipment maintenance

Tree maintenance

This could double the precept.

Parishioner - the play area would be an asset and they hoped the PC would take it on.

A "show of hands" indicated that there was a general feeling that the PC should go ahead with the project.

Parishioner – is there a chance that all the local playgrounds could have a joint policy?

24/79

The PCC wished to thank the PC for their contribution to the refurbishment of the Lychgate.

24/80

Parishioner – Emergency Plan. This is in hand with the assistance of Wilts Council.

24/81

Flooding – the Flood Warden is aware of this.

24/82

Parishioner - bins at a house in Corton are overflowing. Landlord to be contacted.

24/83

Parishioner – pothole on corner in Boyton urgently needs to be addressed. It is on the list.

24/84

Parishioner – the remedial work undertaken by Highways at Model Farm is not satisfactory.

24/85

Parishioner – the hedges by the pub are again overgrown and village maintenance should be organised. The Parish Steward will be asked to trim back the hedge on his next visit.

Open Forum closed 19.46

3. OPEN FORUM MATTERS

24/86 From the show of hands in item 24/78 it was agreed, unanimously, that the Parish Council should go ahead with preparations to take responsibility for the Play Area.

24/87 The Clerk will prepare the Minutes and then inform Craig Campbell of Streetscene, Wiltshire Council of the decision of the PC.

ACTION:SP

24/88 The PC needs to create a framework for making the playground a functional facility for the village.

A discussion with the Fane Hall is needed and a group set up which will report back to the Parish Council.

ACTION:JF

A tree survey is needed. Streetscene will inspect the trees and do any remedial work they deem necessary.

ACTION:CWH

24/89 Playsafe will be contacted to ask to inspect, report and quote on the equipment.

ACTION:JA

24/90 Other villages will be asked for information regarding their playground insurance.

ACTION:SP

24/91 A meeting with a legal advisor is to be arranged.

ACTION:CWH

24/92 An Extraordinary Meeting will be held on Monday, 6th January, 2025

ACTION:SP

4. DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

24/93 There were none.

5. APPROVAL of MINUTES

24/94 The Minutes of 5.8.24 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS ARISING

24/95 See Councillor's Reports

7. INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

24/96

Parish Steward Visits

August no visit.

18th September: no parishioner requests, PS checked sightlines were clear, cleared some drains and ditches.

17th October: PS not able to attend due to winter training.

22nd October: referencing parishioner's requests debris was cleared from a ditch and nearby drain in Corton, a drain on the C10 between Corton and the Upton Lovell turning cleared, a gully in Boyton cleared. Potholes at Combe View were also filled in.

Where possible the PS deals with issues identified by parishioners or reports them to Wiltshire Highways.

Boyton Bollards

Bollards have been installed but are too far into the carriage way so will be moved at some point. An invoice for the PC contribution of £343.75 to the work will be sent. WC has requested that the stones in front of the wall be removed.

Playing field

Separate agenda item

Footpath under the railway bridge

Parishioners have expressed concerns about the potential hazards to users of this footpath due to poor condition of the path running alongside standing water under the bridge. It has been reported to WC Rights of Way as a potential safety issues.

8. FINANCE REPORT

24/97

Opening Balance		£6438.14
Income – Interest	£	3.95
Expenditure		
Id Verde	£	107.25
ICO (Data Protection)	£	40.00
Lychgate		£1400.00
Total		£1547.25
Closing Balance		£4894.84

24/98 It was agreed, unanimously, to increase the Precept requirement to £1,600.00.

24/99 It was agreed, unanimously, to renew the PC Insurance – premium of £173.28 for one year.

24/100 Internet Banking is now almost set up. JM has to complete some further forms and it should up and running in about 10 days. It was agreed that each transaction should have 2 signatories.

9. PLANNING REPORT

24/101

Received

15.8.24

PL/2024/08630

Corton House

Fell Cherry

26.9.24

PL/2024/08764

Fir Tree Cottage, Corton

Reduce Horse Chestnut by 5m

Reduce London Plane by half
Utilities work left trees unbalanced

8.10.24
PL/2024/09111
Little Manor, Corton
Fell dead plum tree
Thin/reduce/crown the following
Medlar by 10%, Prunus 25%, Cherry 1m, Walnut crown to 3m, Beech trees crown to 3m, Cypress
and Beech crown to gain 2m access

29.10.24
PL/2024/09650
Boyton Manor
Reduce Field Maple by 3-4m

Decisions

12.8.24
PL/2024/05902
Cleeve Cottage Corton: 2 crab apples fell/pollard
No objections

23.10.24
PL/2024/08630
Corton House: cherry fell
No objections

11.11.24
PL/2024/08764
Fir Tree Cottage, Corton: remedial work post utilities work
No objections

10 WEBSITE

24/102 It was agreed to renew the agreement with HugoFox at an annual cost of £120.00
and change from .co.uk to .gov.uk.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

24/103 A query was received about a particular plot in the graveyard. This was forwarded to
Felix Spender who has responded.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

24/104 There was none.

DATE of next MEETING

Extraordinary Meeting Monday, 6th January 2025
Parish Council Meeting Monday 10th February 2025

Meeting closed at 20.30