

Boughton Parish Council. Meeting 18.11.2011. Councillors are summoned to a meeting for the purposes of transacting the following business.

1. Apologies
2. Introduction – Months Guest Speaker – Unable to attend
 - i. Fen Report M. Pogmore
3. Minutes meeting 19th August 2011
4. Matters Arising
 - a. Replacing the Village Sign
 - b. Abridged minutes for G4
 - c. Bell Corner Development Actions
5. Chairman’s Report – F. Reid
6. Report from Councillors.
 - i. Highways D.Cooper
 - ii. Drainage G. Proctor
 - iii. Signs & Street Furniture P. Agate
 - iv. Planning T. Madgwick
7. Financial Report D Horkan
8. Correspondence – Details and Procedures

Meeting Closes

Open Questions

Date of Next Meeting 20th Jan, 2012 – 19:00

The Public are welcome to this meeting

Boughton Parish Council Meeting 18th November 2011 – All Saints Church, Boughton

Date held: 18th November 2011 **Venue:** All Saints, Boughton

Present:

Dave Horkan (DHO)	Clerk	Apologies:	Geoff Proctor (GPR)
Frank Reid (FRE)	Councillor/Chairman		Mark Pogmore (part)
Mark Pogmore (MPO)	Councillor	Chair:	Frank Reid
Tim Madjwick (TMA)	Councillor		
Peter Agate (PAG)	Councillor	Distribution:	BCC
David Cooper (DCO)	Councillor		
Public Members	5 number		

No	Item	Action by	Action date
1.	<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Geoff Proctor and Mark Pogmore post Fen report</p> <p>a. Fen Report – Mark Pogmore</p> <p>With our summer visitors having left for warmer climes, we are at last able to access the fen for our winter tasks.</p> <p>The work has certainly started well this year (we normally get into gear after Christmas), with work on reed cutting, scrub clearance and the Boughton Fen Wildlife Walk.</p> <p>Reed cutting has been done on both Lower and Highland Fens, with the raking up being completed by Community Payback who have visited us three times so far this season.</p> <p>Scrub clearance is an ongoing process through the winter, with our contractor Lee Roberts carrying out the work.</p> <p>The route of the Fen Walk has now been cleared by various groups including the contractor, Community Payback and our own efforts with volunteers.</p> <p>We have recently re-negotiated our Higher Level Stewardship agreement with DEFRA and Natural England. This has been revised to reflect the best way forward for the fen and will keep funding in place through to the end of our agreement in 2018.</p> <p>We will be holding an open morning in the Boughton Community Hall (Church) on Saturday 3rd December from 10.30am until midday. Please come along and see what we have done to enhance the fen and our plans for the future. See where the Boughton Fen Wildlife Walk will be going, to take you on an impressive 2.5 kilometre stroll.</p> <p>I would like to thank all of the committee, and other volunteers who have helped with work on the fen, along with the National Lottery, Natural England, Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Community Payback who have contributed with funding, advice and manpower.</p>		

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	<p>If you would like to help (we shall shortly be needing people with carpentry skills!), or just hear about what is happening, then ring Mark on 01366 500461.</p> <p>I hope to see as many of you as possible on December 3rd.</p> <p>Qs – Do we have a time limit with regard to spend on the lottery grant? Ans – MPO confirmed we do as the 31st March 2012, council aims to complete by end Feb although the period can be extended on request should inclement weather disrupt activities.</p> <p>3. Minutes meeting 20th May</p> <p>Minutes of meeting from the 19th August presented and agreed, signed and initialled FRE, DHO to file</p> <p>4. Matters Arising</p> <p>a. Replacing the Village Sign</p> <p>Following inspection of the village sign, minor damage was reported including convex deformation and partial delamination although nothing major was found and therefore no immediate plans were offered for replacement – suggestions for future funding and design would however be welcomed?</p> <p>b. Abridged Minutes for G4</p> <p>Whilst this matter was explored, the council decided that abridgement of ten pages of text would probably cause contextual errors and would not therefore be beneficial, minutes are to be posted in waterproof cover on notice board for two week post agreement.</p> <p>c. Bell Corner Development Actions</p> <p>Following entering onto correspondence with Derek Hales reference his intention for the site and it's poor state of disrepair, it is evident that the site has been tidied of weed growth, should the problem persist in future, the next port of call would be to the enforcement officer to discuss possible way forward.</p> <p>5. Chairman's Report – F. Reid</p> <p><u>Grit Box.</u></p> <p>A grit box has been acquired for Church lane. We are in the process of obtaining a license and registering it with County highways so that it will be filled by them on a regular basis.</p> <p>TM requested to consult residents close to Church regarding positioning</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>DHO</p> <p>Note</p> <p>TM</p>	<p>Post meeting</p>

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6.	<p><u>Christmas Trees.</u></p> <p>We will again be providing Christmas trees for the Village green and the Church. They will be in place and decorated ready for the Carol singing and party in the church on the 16th. December.</p> <p><u>Boughton Challenge</u> 2012.</p> <p>The Challenge next year will be the Longest Carrot, total length of 3 carrots. The intrigue will be, you won't know how long they are until you dig them up.</p> <p><u>Wishing Bucket.</u></p> <p>Our thanks to David Howard for donating his Wishing Bucket from the 2011 challenge. We have collected almost £20 from it so far. It is planned to attach a small post box onto it for seasonal letters to Father Christmas from our young children.</p> <p><u>Horse Chestnut Tree</u> Hall Farm House.</p> <p>We have observed some low canopy pruning of this protected tree, giving us cause for concern regarding the intentions of the property owner. The Borough tree officer has been contacted and the matter has been investigated. Permission was not applied for, as it should have been. The property owner is claiming the branches pruned represented a danger to the public and his property. The tree officer states that he is not in a position to retrospectively refute this. However the enforcement officer has written to the owner to remind him of his legal obligations with regard to the tree. Having done that, any further unauthorised pruning should result in proper follow up action.</p> <p><u>Pantomime.</u> 2012</p> <p>The Pantomime next year will be "Robin Hood - Norfolk Style" Performances last weekend of January, and first two weekends of February. Barton Bendish, Wereham and Beachamwell are the venues. Please watch out for posters and notice in G4 Magazine. Tickets will be on sale from mid-December.</p> <p>The Cast list is now almost complete, but if anyone knows of someone that would like to take part, particularly youngsters, which may be reluctant to ask, please let me know.</p> <p>Boughton Revenue to go to All Saints. PCC.</p> <p>Councillors Reports</p> <p>i. Highways – D. Cooper</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Junction of Wretton Rd and Mill Hill Rd repairs to road surface and verges needed. 2. Wretton Rd repairs to road surface and verges needed. <p>A Thank you to Andy Wallace for carrying out gully maintenance throughout the village.</p>	Note	

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	<p>ii. Drainage – G. Proctor</p> <p>Written report submitted by GPR stated that all areas appear to be ok at the moment with less than average rainfall experienced. Rainfall now less than 70mm of annual average. Evident that the pond still appears to have trouble recharging and levels remain low due to drought conditions, suggestion that the EA are contacted again to discuss assistance, action agreed.</p> <p>iii. Signs & Street Furniture – P. Agate</p> <p>PAG explained that now some hedge trimming had been completed, this had resulted in increased visual clearance of some 30mph signs. The circular bench in the village has had treatment delayed prior to the addition of Pauline Lee-Evans to names. QS- has council investigated the offer of reduced funding for community involvement in verge cutting, sign clearance etc. as offered by KLWN Borough Council? Ans – Not to date as most of these actions are currently dealt with but agreed to point this out and discuss rebate possibility, DCO to contact Andy Wallace.</p> <p>iv. Planning – T. Madgwick</p> <p>Prior to the discussion on the Grasmere planning matter, FRE declared prejudicial interest and confirmed they would not participate in this section of the meeting; Clerk noted that in his absence, GPR also wished to express his interest as prejudicial also at the last meeting so should be assumed also here.</p> <p>There has been one planning application affecting Boughton, and this is for a dwelling and garage on land adjacent to Grasmere, The Green. It is the second application for development on this site, the first being withdrawn by the applicant.</p> <p>The Parish Council considers this new application to be unacceptable in its proposed detail:</p> <p>1 The proposed dwelling is uncomfortably located on the site, at an angle to the boundaries, and faces directly onto the adjacent property known as Grasmere. This would be an invasion of privacy, even though Grasmere itself has no windows facing the proposed site, but its frontage and side driveway would be compromised.</p> <p>2 In the applicants Design and Access Statement, under Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing, it refers to the site being in close proximity to existing services and facilities in Long Sutton and Wisbech. As the site is nowhere near these two towns, this statement has no relevance.</p> <p>3 The visual appearance of the proposed building does not reflect the characteristics of adjacent buildings around The Green, and would seem to be more appropriate in a suburb development rather than in a rural environment. It is not sympathetic to the village vernacular.</p> <p>4 There is concern that the proposed access which passes the children's playground will create potential risk to young children who may exit the playground directly onto the driveway. The proposed bollards may not be sufficient to protect children, and there may not be space for these,</p>	<p>FRE</p> <p>DCO</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>	<p>Dec 11</p> <p>Dec 11</p>

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	<p>as the playground gates open out and there is need for mechanical grass cutters to enter the site via the same gates.</p> <p>In conclusion, the Parish Council considers the development would be detrimental to the visual calm of the village at its centre.</p> <p>Future Development: Members of the Parish Council attended a meeting to discuss the Borough Councils Development Plan affecting Boughton, as there was some confusion over what land was possible development area, and what was not. It transpires that Boughton no longer has village status, and is now simply countryside. It is deemed to be unsustainable for any development, and any future building would be refused unless there were exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>Building Site at Bells Corner: Council wrote to the owner of the site to try and get a positive declaration of when building would resume, and to at least get the site tidy. No reply has been received, but the site has been strimmed to keep undergrowth and weeds under control, which Council assumes has been done by the owner of the site.</p>																																						
7.	<p>Financial Report – D. Horkan</p> <p>Accounts appended in Appendix B</p> <p>Income to date following 20th May meeting</p> <table data-bbox="363 1137 933 1473"> <tr><td>Boughton Church Council</td><td>£900.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Boughton PCC Marquee donation</td><td>£35.00</td></tr> <tr><td>F. Reid training payment</td><td>£12.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Solicitors excess payment</td><td>£30.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Bucket Challenge</td><td>£265.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Cricket club marquee donation</td><td>£35.00</td></tr> <tr><td>K Fisher marquee donation</td><td>£30.00</td></tr> <tr><td>BCC Marquee Donation</td><td>£35.00</td></tr> <tr><td>PCC Donation</td><td>£300.00</td></tr> </table> <p>Outgoings to date following 20th May meeting</p> <table data-bbox="363 1518 933 1854"> <tr><td>Insurance</td><td>£297.44</td></tr> <tr><td>Marquee repairs</td><td>£50.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Mower Fuel</td><td>£157.48</td></tr> <tr><td>NALC subscription</td><td>£85.60</td></tr> <tr><td>NALC Training</td><td>£37.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Auditor Fees</td><td>£15.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Church grass cutting</td><td>£261.00</td></tr> <tr><td>New Marquee</td><td>£537.91</td></tr> <tr><td>Audit commission fees</td><td>£144.00</td></tr> </table> <p>Council account audit completed in July with independent auditor John Cross, Clerk of Terrington St Clement Parish Council, audit forms completed and sent to LA auditor, confirmation of acceptance received late October and posted inspection invitation on notice board for 14 days as legal requirement.</p>	Boughton Church Council	£900.00	Boughton PCC Marquee donation	£35.00	F. Reid training payment	£12.50	Solicitors excess payment	£30.00	Bucket Challenge	£265.00	Cricket club marquee donation	£35.00	K Fisher marquee donation	£30.00	BCC Marquee Donation	£35.00	PCC Donation	£300.00	Insurance	£297.44	Marquee repairs	£50.00	Mower Fuel	£157.48	NALC subscription	£85.60	NALC Training	£37.50	Auditor Fees	£15.00	Church grass cutting	£261.00	New Marquee	£537.91	Audit commission fees	£144.00		
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8.	<p>Advise received on the recompense has been researched and whilst HMRC was difficult to filter, advice provided by Sue Lake, NALC proved valuable and Clerk to enter into correspondence with relevant customs address to reclaim future VAT, monitoring exercise ongoing 11/12 to establish viability of benefit against time.</p> <p>Three number cheques to countersign tonight, churchyard cutting, mower fuel and audit fees.</p> <p>Action completed, FRE to deliver Hylton Gott and J Adcock Cheques DHO to post Mazars cheque</p> <p>Correspondence</p> <p>Correspondence details discussed in that a form will be established and posted bi-weekly on the notice board of all received and councillor dealing DHO explained that his role would involve screening of incoming email correspondence and trade circulars to relevance agreed as necessary action following Colin Sampson's agreement in the surge of email traffic.</p> <p>FRE tabled a letter addressed to himself reference BPC assistance in the church purchase of white goods, this was to be delayed due to two members declaring a prejudicial interest and therefore only two members remained to vote which does not constitute a quorum. FRE requested detailed summary of Accs to date from P Coultan to enable a structured decision and would reply in due course with BPC agreement.</p> <p>Meeting closed</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p>Qs – The possibility of permissive walk to weir from lower Fen, MPO to contact land owner and discuss.</p> <p>Qs – Had BPC received assistance for the Development Control Board in their planning process, if not, Colin Sampson offered his assistance, TMA to discuss with Helen Morris</p> <p>Note – mention of the good work involved in the church refurbishment has been specifically noted by the Bishop of Ely, well done to all concerned.</p> <p>Qs – Is there any intention to refurbish the BT box in the village Ans – agreed that this is now reaching a dilapidated state and remedial works may be addressed in the spring, the failed lighting could not be affected by BPC due to the bulb arrangement and BT had little or no interest</p>	<p>FRE DHO</p> <p>DHO</p> <p>FRE/PCO</p> <p>MPO</p> <p>TMA</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>	<p>Post Meeting</p> <p>Dec 11</p> <p>Dec 11</p> <p>Dec 11</p> <p>Dec 11</p>

Date and Venue of Next Meetings: January 20th - 19:00 Precept All saints Church Boughton