

BOURNE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER March/April 2011

Comment

Well Spring is here and our town comes to life as the trees sprout their new green leaves, the white and pink blossom appears all around us, and the gardens burst into colour, brightening all our lives.

If you are in town, please have a look at our planters on West Street, they are looking very full and colourful at the moment, having survived the worst of the winter months. I would like to thank those that have tended the planters weekly, keeping them in such good condition, May Slater, who also set them out, Cynthia Graham, and Robert Kitchener, without your help, this could not be achieved.

Our monthly event on May 16th will be an evening walk as a joint event with Heritage Lincolnshire, this will include a visit to the Abbey Church, with information by their ecclesiastical buildings expert, and also possibly the cemetery chapel, followed by refreshments at Wake House.

You will by now have received your membership renewal packs, I hope you will continue to support us this year as we move ever closer to our goal, the cemetery chapel. We have also written to the Bourne Educational Foundation to express an interest in the Old Grammar School, but we have not yet received their response. SKDC have still not decided on the shape of the new conservation area, so we await that to see if our proposals have been included.

We have a wide variety of events this year, you will get your new events card with your membership card, so please continue to support these events they are put on for our members and friends to enjoy, and if you haven't been to one, come along and enjoy a friendly and interesting night out.

Jack Slater Chairman

April member's night

18th April - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & QUIZ

Third Annual General Meeting then a Quiz Held in the Baxter Room at Wake House, North Street, Bourne, at 7.30pm. Come along and support the AGM, maybe think about joining the committee, we always need new committee members.

Open Garden Event

Mill House, Stamford Road, Market Deeping Sunday 1st May, 2-5pm

Come along to the lovely gardens of Mr & Mrs. James Wherry's home in Market Deeping as he opens them for the benefit of the Lincoln Diocese under the Lincolnshire Churches Trust Open Gardens 2011 programme. Bourne Preservation Trust are providing the refreshments at the event and the proceeds of that will go to the Trust, so come along and you will be supporting both.

IT Grant Awarded

We have been successful with our application to the TASK Fund for funding for Society IT Equipment, having been awarded over £450 to purchase computer equipment for the Society. This will enable us to centralise all of our activities and administration onto one system specifically for the Society. We are very grateful to Lincolnshire CVS for assisting us with this application and to TASK for the award of funding.

New committee member?

Do you think you would like to be a little more involved with the Society? Would you be interested in joining our committee? You could make a difference to your town or village by bringing your ideas to us.

Trust NEWS



BPT BOURNE
PRESERVATION
TRUST

Charity Registration

We are now a Registered Charity (Regd. No. 1141043) Our thanks go to Anthony Jennings for seeing this application through with the Charities Commission. This completes all the tasks we set ourselves to set up a building preservation trust, now we just need the building!

The Trust

The Trust is operated by its six trustees, who are also directors of it., and although your membership card says 'Bourne Preservation Society', think of yourself as a member of both organisations, as, by being a member of the Society, you are also supporting the work of the Trust, we need you to be there. The Preservation Trust will only deal with historic building restoration, and if you would like to be involved and take an active part in the Trust, by becoming a Trustee, we will be pleased to discuss this with you.

Old Bourne Grammar School

We are still awaiting a response from the Bourne Education Foundation in response to our enquiry about the building (see below)

The Old Bourne Grammar School

Originally constructed in 1678, the building is listed at Grade II standard. The Bourne Education Foundation have carefully protected the building but funds do not exist for it's restoration.



The Chapel Lease

Our responses have been with Bourne Town Council's solicitor for some months, however they refuse to move it forward whilst the covenant is unresolved, this could be going ahead in parallel with these negotiations.

TESCO to Support Trust

Tesco will be supporting us at the Open Garden Event on 1st May, by providing the foodstuffs and drinks for the event. We are very grateful to Tesco for their support, which will enable us to maximise our fundraising potential on the day. Another fine example of Tesco supporting the community.

Chapel Covenant update

Bourne Town Council have responded to Lincoln Diocese with a further request to have the covenant lifted completely, as was their original request, we have provided written support for that position, which has been forwarded with the request. We just have to wait to see what position the Diocese will take, we hope that they will view this as a positive project and not want to deal it a fatal blow by their actions.

Council Trees Project at the Chapel - The Bad News.

Unfortunately it seems that the expected work on the trees around the chapel has not been carried out, despite the fact that the other planned tree work around the perimeter has been completed. In written correspondence with the Council, it seems that work due to be carried out by the cemetery staff has not been completed and this is given as the reason for this, however the decision to carry out the work was taken by majority at the Amenities Committee meeting of 14th September 2010 and no mention there was made of this requirement for cemetery staff to carry out work in advance of the tree surgeons, and it is difficult to understand why this would be the case.

It seems that this is just another example of the general unwillingness of Bourne Town Council to meet their legal obligations on the chapel to the full, in fact their failings in the past to monitor and maintain the status of the chapel continue unabated today as we see example after example of bluster and delay, and statements being made that are simply untrue and unsupported. The chapel will not be safe until it is out of the hands of Bourne Town Council, they simply are not capable of doing the job of maintaining it.



Architects Report - Latest

In late November we received the condition report which our architect, Carl Andrews, produced following his visit to the chapel in mid September. His report confirmed the status reported to us by Mr. Ed Morton of the Morton Partnership, who visited the site for us in 2009.

It confirms that the work required to restore this building to its former condition is significantly less than that which Bourne Town Council stated when it went to the residents of Bourne with its much criticised survey in 2008. Structurally the building is sound, however the roof does need to be removed and restored, a situation that we have been aware of from the beginning of the project. Much work is necessary to the windows also, but the remainder is pretty much cosmetic and decorative.

Of course there are challenges, some decorative stonework that we have identified, has been missing for many years, and some elements may be troublesome to obtain, but the project would be a straightforward one.

Carl Andrews is now in the process of arranging to have his report costed, which will provide us with the most accurate costing available to date. Thanks are due to Soul Architects, and to ProHelp (Business in the Community), for their continuing help and support of our project.

Tombola

We need prizes for the tombola on May 1st, if you can provide anything, yes anything, tins, bottles, small items, whatever you think would be suitable for a tombola stall. Please deliver to any committee member or bring along to the AGM on Monday 18th. This is necessary fundraising for your Society, to help us achieve all of the Society's aims, please help.

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Next Members Night

Annual General Meeting and Quiz night

Monday, 18th April, at 7.30pm

Wake House, North Street, Bourne

Please support your AGM, come along and hear what we have been up to all year.

Entry to the AGM is free for members and non-members

Future Newsletters,

These will be sent to the email address that we hold on record for you, if we have one, if you think that this might be out of date, please send a valid email address to

info@bournepreservationsociety.co.uk

To ensure that you continue to receive it.

You can also download the newsletter from the website.

Rex Needle

Rex has been very supportive of the Society, and keenly watches our progress, but do you know of Rex and his magnificent website?

Rex is number one historian of our town and its satellite villages, have a look at his website you will find it amazing.

<http://homepages.which.net/~rex/bourne/>

Town Walk

May 16th. We are currently working with Heritage Lincolnshire to organise another local short walk. We have arranged access to the Abbey Church, where we hope to have an expert on ecclesiastical buildings from Heritage Lincolnshire to tell you all about the building. We may then go on to the cemetery chapel, and will finish with a cup of tea/coffee at Wake House.

Video of your village?

If you would like to highlight your village, and see it featured on our website, please contact us through the usual numbers, or by emailing the contacts on the website.

The History of the Chapel?

We are trying to build a picture of the chapel's history, in words and picture, and ask for your help in finding old photographs, documents, or information on any event, especially any showing any aspect of a service inside the chapel, or within the cemetery, or anything capturing the style and character of the period. Have you an interesting story relating to a relative or friend buried there, that you would like to submit

Members Required - No Experience Necessary!

Have you friends who may be interested in joining the Society? Show them our website www.bournepreservationsociety.co.ukand bring them along to one of our meetings.

Local Elections - 5th May 2011

On May 5th you are being asked to vote for your local councillors, please think carefully before ticking the usual boxes, should you get the chance to talk to your councillor, ask them what project, they, specifically, have owned during the past year that will benefit the town. Question them on their standpoint over the chapel, ask them what they are doing to support our failing market, ask them why an expanding town such as Bourne has no Development Plan, in fact ask them why they wish to be a councillor, and why you should vote for them. Let's move on the oldies, or make them earn their place as a Bourne Town Councillor.

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by Bourne Preservation Society. If you have an article that you would like us to include, please contact us using the information on the website, or call 07825 515394

www.bournepreservationsociety.co.uk