

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 at 7.30 pm.**

**MINUTES**

1. **Present** : Parish Councillors : E R Draper (ERD),  
J F Murray (JFM),  
J H Thompson (JHT),  
T W Long (TWL), Clerk  
Wiltshire Councillor : Jose Green (JG)  
Neighbourhood Police Team : PCSO Sam Spacey (SS)

There were approximately 70 members of the public present.

2. **Apologies for absence** : Apologies had been received from Councillors B Lampert (BL) and NT Barter (NTB).
3. **Declaration of Interests** : There were no amendments or additions to those previously registered.
4. **Public Questions** : Mr George Brutton made a statement regarding The Picnic Field. This meadow had been used as a place where village families had enjoyed leisure activities including paddling in the river, swimming, playing games and picnicking since time immemorial. A new owner had bought the meadow recently and had taken steps to stop people enjoying this freedom. There was a case for applying to have the piece of land registered as a village green. Over a year ago the Parish Council had looked into this by establishing the steps that would be needed but had decided not to take action. Now the situation had deteriorated and the people present at this meeting plus many who had been unable to attend represented a strength of feeling. Would the Parish Council now reconsider their earlier decision and take immediate steps to support the village by fronting an application for village green registration.
- The Chairman (ERD) responded that the council would indeed look at the situation again and answer this question. It was not possible to come to an immediate decision without studying all the background and facts again. A discussion continued for approximately 30 minutes during which many points were raised including ; there was a long history of residents being welcomed into this meadow whereas there was now a hostility towards people even using the footpath which was totally beyond the tolerant approach traditionally shown by village landowners ; the Parish Council seemed to be reluctant to step into this issue yet residents had not come to the meeting expecting instant solutions ; among village residents there must be specialised knowledge about a subject like this so could that expertise not be harnessed ; why had parishioners not known more about previous discussions so that they could have shown earlier their collective objection to what had happened. It was generally agreed that an urgent meeting between Mr Brutton and the Parish Clerk (TWL) should take place so as to better research the best way forward. The Parish Council could then make a decision and if that necessitated a further special meeting then that would be organised. It was also agreed that a meeting would be sought with the landowner. See Action Plan.
- At the conclusion of questions most members of the public left the meeting leaving 4 people present.

5. **Welcome Wiltshire Councillor Mrs Jose Green** ; ERD welcomed Councillor Green and members congratulated her upon her election. TWL briefed Mrs Green on the several issues that are priorities for the council. JG remarked that here tonight had been an example of local people wanting to be involved in local issues.
6. **Elect a Vice Chairman** : TWL proposed that Councillor Murray (JFM) be asked to continue for another year and JHT seconded it. JFM agreed reminding the council that he was not seeking the position but was fully prepared to continue in post. The chairman confirmed his agreement.
7. **Appoint members of the Recreation Ground Committee** : ERD proposed from the chair that JFM continue as Chairman with Stan Robinson (Bishopstone Cricket Club) and the Clerk (TWL) as members.
8. **Appoint a representative to the Village Hall Management Committee** : ERD proposed from the chair that NTB be asked to continue as the council's representative. TWL added that NTB had written that he would be prepared to do that.
9. **Delegated Responsibilities** :

#### 9.1. Reports from members about 2008/2009

- Planning – ERD had no specific item to report
- Rights of Way – TWL reported
  - Brilliant improvements had been completed by WCC on Byway 34 The Ox Drove last winter. The whole section from Faulstone Down Farm to the driveway of Crouchston Down Farm had been rebuilt.
  - Faulston Drove Bridleway 29 had also been cut back as far as Faulston Down.
  - A dispute over the correct route of footpath 19 had been resolved by the landowner restoring the western access gate to the Picnic Field back in its correct position.
  - A query from the owner of The Three Horseshoes about the correct route of footpath 11 from her house to Flamstone Street had not yet been dealt with.
  - A survey of the Rights of Way, signing, styles & gates and maintenance required had been started. It would take a year to complete.
  - The accesses to footpaths in Mill Lane had been cleared with the strimmer to test out feasibility. Other paths in the village would be tackled through the summer.
  - Regular attendance at the Wiltshire & Swindon Countryside Access Forum had been maintained. The new Parish Improvement Grant Scheme may appeal to us later on as we need to improve access styles.
- Public Transport – with BL not present members agreed that no major issues had arisen.
- Environment – JHT had no specific item to raise.
- Chalke Valley Sports Club – JFM reported
  - As your appointed representative I have regularly attended the CVSC committee meetings. May saw the election of a new chairman, Peter Tricket from Ebbesbourne. This signalled a move away from what was seen, unintentionally, as the dominance of Broadchalke: I think it is correct to say that many see the club as a Broadchalke facility. It is hoped that with the introduction of a chairman from outside of that village the Centre will be recognised as truly belonging to the Chalke Valley.  
Peter took over from Dave Gooden and it is only right that the effort and time given by Dave should be acknowledged by this council.

We as a council continue to provide the Centre with financial support in the form of a grant of £400.00 during the financial year 08/09 and recently we have agreed to use R2 monies amounting to £380 for the construction of a storage cupboard.

I am trying to establish the number of members at the Centre who reside in Bishopstone. As soon as I have a figure I will let you know.

We also continue to offer the use of our field to CVSC and have had a limited success in that regard as their football section made use of it for training last winter. They are not using it at present although I am in discussion with CVSC over its availability.

Financially it is hard work for it to breakeven and heroic efforts have and are being made by the members to ensure its survival. A newly introduced Christmas raffle has helped financially.

CVSC is in need of members and we as a council should do all that we can to encourage our villagers to make use of its facilities.

- Neighbourhood Police Liaison – JFM reported

- I believe that I am reflecting the views of the majority of our parishioners if I state that the visible presence of PC Pete Jung and PCSO Sam Spacey in the village has been well received in the community and congratulations are due to them for the manner in which they have carried out their difficult duties.

A crime report covering the period February 2008 to February 2009 was tabled at an earlier meeting and is worth reading as it presents a complete picture of the recorded criminal activity that went on in the village. It is very pleasing to report nothing major was recorded.

Of concern is the very poor if not nonexistent clear- up- rate of reported thefts. If serious attempts are not taken to apprehend these criminals I fear that such activity will only proliferate.

As a result of PC Jung and PCSO Spacey's efforts the neighbourhood watch system appears to be working well as evidenced from the number of suspicious vehicle reports I see on e mail. What is not clear is if such reports are having an effect. PC Jung should let us know what results, if any have been achieved as a result of these reported sightings.

Finally it is of considerable concern that the beat area covered by our local policing team has been expanded. From my recollection of the meetings that I attended at the run up to the introduction of the neighbourhood policing teams we were given assurances that despite the reduction of the number of police constables in attendance in our area we would not see a reduction of the policing levels and representation. The change that has been introduced, which to the best of my knowledge was done without prior consultation, needs to be questioned and if need be challenged. To this end a senior police officer may be attending our next council meeting which will give us the opportunity to question this and other matters.

- Flood Warden – NTB had written that there had been some high water experienced early in 2009 (Feb 10<sup>th</sup>) which had abated within 24 hours. He added that the riparian landowner to the north of the river (Croucheston Farm) had been asked to clear the river stretch behind the sewage works and this has been efficiently completed.
- Parish Steward Contact – TWL reported
  - 81 jobs were reported to the Parish Steward in 2008 and all were successfully completed apart from a few major items requiring specialist equipment. Notable is that I want a second rail on several of the bridge protection fences, especially in Church Lane.
  - The most difficult job that has now been started is to clear weeds from those roads in the village that have pavements.
- AONB Parish Partner – NTB had written that there was nothing to report.

9.2. Delegated responsibilities for 2009/2010. It was unanimously agreed that they should be

- Planning – ERD
- Rights of Way – TWL
- Public Transport – BL
- Environment – JHT
- Chalke Valley Sports Centre – JFM
- Neighbourhood Police Liaison – JHT – See Action Plan
- Flood Warden – NTB
- Parish Steward Contact – TWL
- AONB Parish Partner - NTB

9.3. Community Area Board representative 2009/2010. Members agreed that an individual representative was not wished because it was necessary that at least one member be available to attend each meeting. See Action Plan.

**10. Minutes of the last meeting** : ERD proposed that the minutes be offered for approval at the next meeting since attendees at the May meeting were not present at this meeting. TWL confirmed that all items on the Action Plan were being progressed.

**11. Neighbourhood Police Report** : PCSO Sam Spacey (SS) reported that the team had been noticeably absent from the village just lately whilst incidents at Dinton had demanded special attention. However patrols were being done and would shortly return to a more normal pattern. He proposed that the Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin be posted on the village website and all agreed. TWL reminded councillors that the NPT Inspector had offered to come to a meeting to discuss the changes in areas and numbers of police deployed. The majority of members said that he should be invited to the September meeting. See Action Plan.

**12. Finance Officer's Report** : JFM requested that six cheques be approved for payment and be signed which ERD agreed from the chair

12.1. Cheque for £98.75 to T Long reimbursing the cost of refreshments for the reception held for Mrs M Clarke in April.

12.2. Cheque for £23.92 to T Long for stationery expenses.

12.3. Cheque for £794.00 to T Long reimbursing the cost of the strimmer and lawnmower purchased for the Recreation Ground. This sum would be recovered from R2 monies from Wiltshire Council with the VAT being refunded.

12.4. Cheque for £6.00 to Bishopstone Village Hall for hire of the hall for the Parish Plan launch meeting.

12.5. Cheque for £63.25 to Atkinsons (Bishopstone) Ltd for the internal audit fee.

12.6. Cheque for £500.00 to Bishopstone Village Hall representing a donation for 2009.

JFM confirmed that the toddlers train that would be installed beside the swings on the Recreation Ground was due to be fitted on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

**13. Parish Clerk's Report** : It was agreed by all that letters should be written to Rob Thorne and John Draper to thank them for the work that they had so kindly done to maintain the Recreation Ground.

**14. Parish Plan progress :** Having discussed the merits of a Parish Plan for a long time it had now been launched with a public meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup> when 19 people had attended. TWL reported that a group of four people would now meet to agree the right way forward so that more residents were aware of what the Plan meant and to then recruit some more committed people to form a steering group.

**15. Risk Assessment :** The draft 2009 Risk Assessment was circulated for members to study and improve. See Action Plan.

**16. Planning Matters :**

Decisions given by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting :

Reference	Place	Development	Decision	Date of Decision
S/2009/535	Land south of The Alley	Reduce leylandii to 2.3 metres	Granted	28.05.09
S/2009/613	15 The Styles	Full planning two storey side extension and new entrance porch, single storey rear extension & associated works	Granted	23.06.09
S/2009/644	Village Hall	Replacement single storey side extension to southern elevation of hall.	Granted	01.07.09

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009 at 7.30pm at Bishopstone Village Hall.

-----

Signed as an accurate record :

.....

CHAIRMAN

.....

DATE





Attachment 3

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009**

**Bank account balances as per statements**

Current account as at 31/05/2009	£ 946.83
Business access account as at 31/05/2009	£ 6,412.02
Outstanding deposits	£ 4,000.00
Outstanding cheques & transfers	£ 1,369.30
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£ 9,989.55</u></b>

**Cash book balances**

Current account	£ 277.53
Business access account	£ 9,712.02
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£ 9,989.55</u></b>

Yet to be accounted for £10.00 in the name of Sports Club

## Attachment 4

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL****Expenditure v Budget for the financial year 2009/2010  
As at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009**

Details	Expenditure	Annual Budget	Variance to Budget	Est outcome for the year
Churchyard Cutting		£600.00	£600.00	
Village Hall		£500.00	£500.00	
Clerks Salary/Expense		£1,600.00	£1,600.00	
Hire of Village Hall		£60.00	£60.00	
WALC Subscription	£156.62	£150.00	-£6.62	
Chalke Valley Sports Club		£400.00	£400.00	
Insurance	£489.19	£470.00	-£19.19	
Audit Commission		£150.00	£150.00	
Recreation Ground		£250.00	£250.00	
Internal Audit		£55.00	£55.00	
Repairs & Maintenance		£1,250.00	£1,250.00	
Bus Shelter Cleaning		£200.00	£200.00	
Donations			£0.00	
Contingency		£200.00	£200.00	
Local Elections			£0.00	
Web Site		£150.00	£150.00	
	<b>£645.81</b>	<b>£6,035.00</b>	<b>£5,389.19</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

Notes

Variance to budget : Numbers in black are positive : numbers in red are negative  
Expenditure is shown net of VAT which is refundable

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 at 7.30 pm.**

**ACTION PLAN**

<b>WHAT ACTION</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b> ✓
Investigate feasibility of renovating the disused toilets on the Recreation Ground	TWL	
Survey the existing street signs and approach Salisbury District Council about updating them	TWL	
Upload the Model Publication Scheme on the village website	TWL	
Search for a wire strainer so that JFM can organise erection of the chain link fence on the Recreation Ground	ERD	
Investigate the flushing through of the land drains under Crouchston housing development.	TWL	
Install a two post bench seat at the White Hart east bus stop.	TWL	
Remove tree prunings from opposite the White Hart.	TWL	
Ask Jo Thompson if she is interested in becoming Tree Warden.	TWL	
Hold meeting with George Brutton regarding The Picnic Field and report recommendations to members	TWL	
Contact Mr Stewart to arrange a meeting informing him of the parishioners' concerns.	TWL	
Inform PC Pete Jung that JHT is now NPT Liaison	TWL	
Inform the CAB Manager that all councillors are nominated to attend the Area Board as and when possible.	TWL	
Invite the NPT Inspector to our September meeting	TWL	
Write thankyou letters to Rob Thorne and John Draper	TWL	
Study the draft 2009 Risk Assessment Form and offer suggestions for improvement	All Councillors	