

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall Bishopstone
Thursday 13th March 2025 at 8.20pm.**

MINUTES

Present : Parish Councillors : A Thorne (AJT) Chairman
P Edwards (PE) Vice Chairman
N Barter (NTB)
Mrs A Smith (AS)
Mrs M Tatner (MT)
Ms Nicky Rigg (NR)

Parish Clerk: M R Ash (MRA)

Also present: Wiltshire Councillor Nabil Najjar
Mr R Stockton
Mrs P Stockton
Mr J Thompson
Mrs M Colwill
Mr M Walker
Mr S Tatner
Mrs C Edwards
Mrs W Prior
Mr N Legh
Mrs C Ash

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Williams.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting on 14th January 2025.

AS proposed that the minutes of the meeting on 14th January 2025 be approved as a correct record, this was seconded by NTB and agreed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes, including Action Plan

MRA said that most matters arising from the minutes were covered by items on the agenda. He said that the grant from Wiltshire Council covering the cost of the Community Orchard had now been received.

5. Public Forum

No matters were raised

6. Cllr Nabil Najjar Report

Cllr Najjar said that there was little to report as Wiltshire Council was now in the election period. It had been necessary to increase Council Tax by 4.5% to offset the loss of Government funding. He said he had been pleased to represent the Chalke Valley for the last four years and was grateful for the help he had received from the Parish Council. AJT thanked Cllr Najjar for all that he had done for the parish.

7. Chairman's Items

There were none.

8. Parish Youth Project

A note on this project (BPC(25)1) had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting (copy attached). Bishopstone's involvement was agreed at the meeting in January. MRA said that the Parish Council's contribution of £500 towards the cost, together with match funding from Wiltshire Council's South West Board (SWWAB), means there will be a budget of £1,000 for events/activities in the village. He emphasized that the main responsibility for planning and organising any activities would have to rest with parents and carers. A number of them had already indicated a willingness to be involved. A meeting will be arranged in due course to set up an organising group and to discuss how to take this project forward.

The SWWAB programme, of which this project forms a part, is mainly intended for 13 – 18 year olds. It was agreed that in Bishopstone we should look to include all children of secondary school age. If it is clear that there is a significant demand for organised activities in the village for even younger age groups the Parish Council could consider setting up something separate for them.

MRA said that he had discussed with the SWWAB and the other villages a proposal that each village should have a major launch event to give publicity to the programme. All young people in the village will be invited to attend. This will be run by experienced youth workers and be used to engage those attending to find out what other activities might interest them. Broad Chalke and Fovant Parish Councils will both be running similar events which will be open to young people from Bishopstone.

In a related matter, MRA confirmed that Hotspire FC (Salisbury) do still wish to use Bishopstone's Recreation Field once a week for football training sessions for 12, 13 and 14 year olds. If the field is mown in the near future (see next item) they may hold some sessions in April.

9. Recreation Field Maintenance

MRA reported that quotes for a contract to mow the Recreation Field had now been received from two companies. It had been impossible to secure a third quotation. A note on these matters had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting BPC(25)2) – a copy is attached to these minutes. PE proposed that the contract should be awarded to idverde to both mow the main field and the Children's Play Area at an annual cost of £1,521.60. This proposal was seconded by MT and agreed.

10. Parish Clerk's Report

MRA said that it was still not clear what priority Wiltshire Council would be giving to the two road improvement projects in the village – the reduction of the speed limit on the C12 and the

improvement of signage at the Portfield Road junction. He considered it likely that the speed limit change would be given sufficient priority to ensure that it would go ahead in 2025/26 with Area Board (75%) and Parish Council (25%) funding. However, he was less certain as regards the Portfield Road signage. If that was not included in the programme for 2025/26 there would be an option for the Parish Council to fund it 100%. The likely balance of the accounts at the end of 2024/25, plus the Precept for 2025/26, meant that this would be possible even allowing for agreed expenditure on the Youth Project and Recreation Field maintenance. However, he would wait to see the SWWAB proposed programme before taking matters further.

MRA presented two items of expenditure for approval - £180.00 for the clearance of the drainage ditches in Flamstone Street and £52.00 being the annual Data Protection Fee. NR proposed that these items be approved, this was seconded by PE and agreed.

11. Planning Matters

MRA reported that it was now unlikely that the Whitlocks planning application will be submitted until the end of March or early April.

12. Questions or statements from Councillors.

There were none.

Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 15th May at 7.30pm. If the planning application for the proposed Whitlocks development is submitted such that the consultation period ends before that date a Special Meeting will be called so that it can be considered. Meeting arrangements would be set out in STaB and on the Village Network.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

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Chairman

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Date

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 13th March 2025****ACTION PLAN**

WHAT ACTION	BY WHOM	COMPLETED ✓
Minor works to be completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clapper bridge - Graffiti in Faulston Lane - Drainage ditches in Flamstone Street 	AJT NTB	
Letter to be sent re car parked in Butt Lane.	MRA	
Play Area Safety Inspection consideration of implementation	All	