

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall Bishopstone
Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7.30pm.**

MINUTES

<u>Present</u> :	Parish Councillors :	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)
<u>Also present:</u>	Mr N Legh Mr R Stockton Mrs Caroline Ash	

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs A Thorne and S Williams.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting on 11th May 2024.

NTB proposed that the minutes of the meeting on 11th May 2024 be approved as a correct record, this was seconded by AS and agreed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes, including Action Plan

MRA said that PCSO Charlotte King was unable to attend the meeting, but had sent a written report which he had circulated. Thankfully the police had received no recent reports of anti-social behaviour in the village.

On the speed limit assessment on the C12 MRA said that he had already reported to Councillors an exchange of correspondence with Wiltshire Cllr Nick Holder, the Cabinet Member for Highways. Following the meeting on 11th May he had sent a letter to Cllr Holder setting out concerns about the Speed Limit Assessment that had been undertaken by consultants for Wiltshire Council and urging him to reject their recommendations and use the discretion allowed to councils to reduce the limit. Broad Chalke Council similarly wrote to Cllr Holder. In response we received a response which says:

"Over the last 18 months we have received 38 speed limit assessment requests from across the county, all of which have come up through the LHFIG process and some have Parish Councils funding all or part of the assessments. Over 2/3rds of the requests have been accepted and

changes, which do not require what is called an engineering solution have either been implemented or are scheduled to be. There is, however, a level of frustration within those councils where the requests have not been accepted, as in your case.

As part of a review of the process, we have set up an internal Task Group to scrutinise how the assessments are made and make recommendations on how it can be improved. Whilst this review is taking place, I am not intending to make any changes to the current recommendations. Once the process has concluded, I will be better placed to decide if I will intervene and make a different decision".

"The intention is for the task group to produce the report and recommendations by the end of July. In the meantime I have asked the senior officers in the Highways Team to brief me on the issues in your two parish areas".

However, since then, Wiltshire officers have written to Broad Chalke saying that in their case, where the consultants had proposed a different change in the speed limits to that proposed by the Parish, they would institute formal Traffic Regulation Order proceedings to implement the consultant's recommendation and then consider any objection to that from the Parish.

MRA said that he had written in response asking how this arrangement related to Bishopstone's proposals and how that matter was to be resolved. At the time of the meeting he had received no answer. He undertook to report further in due course.

MRA reported that the External Auditors had confirmed Bishopstone's exemption from audit for the year 2023/24.

The Village Hall Management Committee had confirmed the use of the Village Hall as an Emergency Contact Hub.

5. Public Forum

Despite the largely positive report from the Police, it was suggested that it would be important for them to maintain their increased presence, particularly during the school holidays. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to PCSO King seeking reassurance that this would be the case.

It was agreed to make arrangements to remove tree branches that were obstructing the flow of the river under Faulston Bridge.

6. Chairman's Items

There were none.

7. Parish Clerk's Report.

MRA sought approval to the grant of £500 to the Chalke Valley Fete that had been agreed informally in writing. This expenditure was formally proposed by NR, seconded by MT and agreed.

8. Planning Matters

Consideration was given to proposed work to trees in the Conservation Area at Sudbury House, Chapel Lane. No objections were raised.

9. Questions or statements from Councillors.

There were none.

Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 12th September 2024 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

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Chairman

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Date

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING****Monday 11th May 2024****ACTION PLAN**

WHAT ACTION	BY WHOM	COMPLETED ✓
Repairs to gate to footbridge in Mill Lane to be investigated.	AJT	
Drainage ditches in Flamstone Street to be cleared.	MRA	
Letter to be written to Wiltshire Cabinet Member for Highways re 30mph speed limit.	MRA/AJT	✓