

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
Held in Bishopstone Village Hall  
Thursday 8th March 2018 at 7.00 pm.**

**MINUTES**

**Present :**

Cllr J Gibbon  
Cllr A J Thorne  
Cllr G Brutton  
Cllr Mrs A Smith  
Cllr Mr P Edwards  
Mr R Barrett  
Mrs J Barrett  
Mr R Stockton  
Mr R Goodfellow  
Mrs J Goodfellow  
Mr C Goodfellow  
Mr M Bundy  
Mrs S Bundy  
Mrs S Steedman  
Mr J Steedman  
Mrs P Abbott  
Mr R Abbott  
Mrs K Pendlenton  
Mrs C Ash  
Mr M Ash

1. **Election of Chairman:** John Gibbon was elected unopposed to chair the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from Cllr Mrs M Foster and Cllr Barter.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Ali Thorne proposed that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th March 2017 be approved as an accurate record. This was seconded by Piers Edwards and agreed. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.
4. **Parish Council Report for 2017/18:** Cllr John Gibbon said that much had been achieved by the Parish Council in the last year. In particular:
  - a Public Access Defibrillator had been provided, together with training for villagers.
  - the footpath had been built alongside the High Road from Meadow View to Whitlock Rise.
  - a Speed Indicator Device had been acquired (supported by grant from SWWAB and with costs shared with Broad Chalke and Bowerchalke Parish Councils).
  - the mobile phone mast had, at last, been built in June, though it only became operational in December.

- the new bench, commemorating the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, had been put in place.
- "Single track" road warning signs are to be erected for Faulston and Mill Lanes.

In addition, the Parish Council had carried out on-going repairs and maintenance of the children's play area equipment, secured the re-painting of road white lines in the village, assisted the Parish Steward and provided the usual range of grants to support other village organisations, including, this year, the Mothers and Toddlers group.

There were a number of issues for the future – one was the future of the Crouchston Mill site. Nothing further on this had been heard from Mole Valley Farmers. Also speeding in the village. The rejection by Wiltshire Council of the request to extend the 30mph limit to the west was disappointing. However, further work was being done on the case for that and for dealing with speeding in the back roads. An unfortunate problem of vandalism in village had arisen and it was important for villagers to report any incidents to the police and to the Clerk of the Council.

He thanked Councillors (particularly Ali Thorne for all his work as Snow Warden during recent bad weather), the Clerk and all those who assisted the Parish Council, on Emergency Planning and as part of the Speed Watch Team. Parishes were being asked to do more and the Parish Council will increasingly rely on voluntary support from the community.

5. **The Rev Augustus Montgomery Coal Charity Fund Report:** Reg Barrett reported on behalf of the trustees of the Rev Augustus Montgomery Coal Charity. The accounts were approved by the Trustees on the 27th February 2018. A copy of his report is at Appendix A.
6. **Parochial Church Council Report:** George Brutton said that the year has been a very busy one for the Church. This time last year the church was closed whilst major work was undertaken to rewire throughout, install under-pew heating, and redecorate. We were very grateful to many members of the community who gave considerable time and energy, to help treat extensive woodworm in the pews, and also undertake a mammoth clean when all the workmen had left. We were able to open the church in time for the Easter services, even though some work was still needed, such as replacing rotten floorboards at the back. During the closure we held our services in the village hall, and at Broad Chalke church. It was lovely though, to get back into our own splendid building.

The Friends of Bishopstone Church continue to play a vital role in organising any work on the church fabric, and give much needed financial support, for which we are very grateful.

Many people visit our church, some to see the church itself, and others to find graves of relatives, buried long ago, and others to tend the graves of family and friends. They find peace and comfort in our church and churchyard. We are extremely grateful to the Parish Council for its continued financial assistance towards the upkeep of the graveyard.

7. **Village Hall:** Mike Ash read a report on behalf of Norman Barter. This said: "Things are going well. This last year has been busy with lettings and the preparation for a new surface on the car park. This will be a very big outlay but a resurfaced car park will serve future generations. The hall has had good use for parties and charity events. The well equipped kitchen is well used and praised. The Community Lunch and Cafe, Magic Lantern Club, Televised Rugby, Rural Arts

Shows and Skittles evening, continue to be well supported and enjoyed. Unfortunately the Moviola evenings are not so well supported as they were but we are continuing with them. Overall the outlook is positive but the continued financial support of the Parish Council Is very welcome. The Village Hall committee would like to express their thanks to the Parish Council.”

- 8. **Bish-Bash Committee Report:** Ali Thorne reported for BishBash. He said that the Summer Fayre would take place again this year, on 23 June. It would be similar to the event two years ago, but would finish at 6.00pm. The event costs about £2,500 to run and there was just enough in the reserves for that. There would be a need for more volunteers to help, both at the Fayre and for the clear up afterwards.
- 9. **Mothers and Toddlers Group Report:** Kate Pendlenton said: On behalf of the children and parents of the playgroup I would like to thank the Parish Council for their kind donation to our funds last year. We have gone from £0 in our coffers to currently just over £400. This is due to the successful wine-tasting event that we organised last Summer, as well as the PC grant, and more recently the Waitrose Green Tokens scheme, from which we raised £220. This injection of funds has allowed us to purchase new toy storage boxes, more art supplies, get posters professionally printed and, crucially for sleep-deprived parents, a large bag of filter coffee. The money also provides us with a ‘cushion’ to ensure that we are always able to pay our hall-hire fees, even when attendance is low.

Having said that, after a concerted publicity effort (posters, article in Stab, promotion on Facebook) we have managed to increase our numbers since Christmas. During the term prior to Christmas we were taking an average of £13.50 per week, but since Christmas this has risen to an average of £18.50 per week. We like to keep our prices reasonable (£2 for one child, £2.50 for more than one child) in order to be comparable to other similar local groups.

We have many families attend the group from within the Chalke Valley who very much appreciate having such a local group, but also have some from Wilton and Salisbury. We are keen to keep our profile high within the village, and are running a children’s toys and books stall at the upcoming Village Hall Spring Fair.

- 10. **Open Forum:** No matters were raised.

There being no other issues, the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

**Date of Next Meeting :**

The next Parish Meeting would be on 14th March 2019 at 7.00pm.

Signed as an accurate record.

.....Chairman

.....Date

**Appendix A****The Reverend. Augustus Montgomery Coal Charity for Bishopstone.**  
**Reg No 201494.**

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on the 27<sup>st</sup> February 2018. The charities income is derived from 1087 Income Shares of the COIF Investment Fund. The trust fund is managed by the Charity Commissioners through CCLA Investment Management Ltd of Senator House, 85, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4ET. The value of the shares on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 was £15971.62 equivalent to 1469.33 pence per share.

The shares had risen in value at the above date by 110.26 pence per share compared with the corresponding value at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

The charity was originally established and funded by a bequest of The Rev George Augustus Montgomery, Rector of Bishopstone from 1821 to 1842. He also built the village school, which is now a private house. With the passage of time, the method of relief has changed but we still make small grants for education and training as well as fuel. Our current authorised purposes restrict us to making grants to persons who are residents in the Parish of Bishopstone. We are required to satisfy ourselves that the persons we assist are in hardship or distress. We are willing to consider any request on behalf of a child or family or pensioner suffering hardship. A referral can be made by a statutory or non-statutory body affecting a resident of Bishopstone. It is perfectly in order for any resident to apply on her/his own behalf. All applicants can be assured that their request will be dealt with swiftly, sympathetically and most importantly in confidence.

The Trustees at any time are the Team Vicar, one trustee appointed by him/her and one trustee appointed by the Parish Council.

In 2017 we made one grant of £500.00 and received income of £530.46. We are restricted by our trust deed to distributing income only by way of grants, the resulting closing balance of the fund at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 was £1528.96.

The Trustees at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 were Mrs K.M. Pendleton - Mr R Barrett and the Chairman – Revd. Jenny Taylor .

As I am the appointed representative trustee of the Parish Council the Trustees require your confirmation to the Chairman that you wish me to continue in this capacity for the ensuing year.

R. Barrett. Trustee  
For and on behalf of the Charity Trustees