

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall, Bishopstone
Thursday 10th September 2015 at 7.30pm.**

MINUTES

Present : Parish Councillors : Major JHS Thompson (JHST) Chairman
G Brutton (GRB)
J Gibbon (JG)
Mrs A Smith (AS)

Parish Clerk: M R Ash (MRA)

Also present: Cllr Jose Green
PC P Jung
R Stockton
C Goodfellow
Mrs J Goodfellow
R Goodfellow
J Gulliver
Mrs M Gulliver
Mrs J Wise
Mrs C Ash

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Barter and Cllr Thorne.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting on 9th July 2015

No matters of accuracy were raised in relation to the minutes of the meeting on 9th July 2015. GRB proposed that they be approved; this was seconded by JG and agreed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes, including Action Plan.

MRA reported that Wiltshire Council had cut back the foliage obscuring the 30mph limit signs (Minutes para 6b) and that he had now received approval of the annual accounts for 2014/15 from the external auditors (Minutes section 10). Matters arising from the minutes were also covered by the agenda for this meeting, as were some of the Action Plan items. The following Action Plan items, not covered by the agenda, were considered:

(i) MRA said that he had received another unsatisfactory response from Wiltshire Council about the fence and car park at Whitlock Rise. He would continue to pursue the matter.

(ii) MRA said that he was continuing to liaise with Wiltshire Council about the drainage issues in Netton Street.

(iii) MRA said he had submitted a request for a junction warning sign on the C12 for the junction with Whitlock Rise. This had now been referred to the Highway Engineers for a report.

(iv) a notice about responsible dog walking in the village had been included in September's STaB, though it did not have much prominence, as had a note about the start of the Faulston Barns development. The latest information from the developers was that the main contract work at Faulston Barns was now unlikely to begin until early November.

All other Action Points remained for report at the next meeting.

5. Public Question Time.

The main matters raised were:

(i) the need for walkers to stick to designated footpaths and to keep dogs under control. This was a particular problem in the extensive areas of the village that were now commercial shoots. It was agreed to produce a notice on this matter for inclusion in STaB.

(ii) whether it would be possible to get Wiltshire Council to cut the grass on the verge opposite Manor View more regularly, the long grass made it difficult for children to walk along to and from the bus stop at Pitt's Lane. MRA said that a request would be submitted. However, Wiltshire Council had now ended the contract with Balfour Beatty which included grass cutting services and the regular programme of work on things like grass cutting was being replaced with a reactive service which was being prioritized by council officials. It was therefore uncertain how quickly any action would be taken.

(iii) the need for farmers, and, more particularly their contractors, to avoid moving large machinery and loads along the highway in convoy, making it impossible for other road users to pass. It was acknowledged that this was mainly a problem at harvest time but it was agreed to seek their co-operation in this matter.

6. Update from Cllr Jose Green and PC Pete Jung

Cllr Green also referred to the ending of the Balfour Beatty contract. They were being replaced by The Landscape Group under the direct control of Council officers. Lafarge Tarmac would take over highway maintenance. These were temporary arrangements, with the intention that contracts be re-tendered for April 2016.

She said that some re-consideration was being given to the hours of the Household Recycling Centres in the light of the problems that had arisen since these had been changed. Green waste bins held by households which had decided not to pay for them in future were to be collected on 15 September.

The SWWAB had agreed to fund a feasibility study into the proposal for a new railway station at the Park and Ride in Wilton.

Changes were being made to the way that the SWWAB and the Community Area Transport Group were administered. Stephen Harris was taking on a more “community facing” role linked to the campus at Tisbury, with the running of meetings taken over by Wiltshire Council central services. CATG was to play a stronger role in prioritizing highway schemes, and the number of meetings was likely to be reduced.

PC Pete Jung referred to his latest Area Crime Report. He said that the continuing cuts in public services were likely to lead to big changes over the next 12 months in the way the area was policed. However, there were, as yet, no details on this.

7. Chairman’s Items

JHST said that the response he had received to his letter to Cllr Jane Scott, the leader of Wiltshire Council, about the failure of the Council to deal adequately with the asbestos that had been dumped in Mill Lane, had not adequately addressed the issue. Wiltshire Council did not appear to be taking the issue of fly tipping seriously. Cllr Sturgis, the cabinet member for waste, was reported in the local press as saying that the incidence of fly tipping had not increased. That was not the experience in Bishopstone, where there had once been relatively few, but there had been 10 in the last six months. This must be a consequence of the decision to charge for green bins and the reduced access to the recycling centres. Apart from the asbestos incident, most of the fly tipped rubbish was cleared relatively quickly, but this must be a cost to Wiltshire Council.

During August the play train in the Children’s Play Area was again subject to vandalism. A large section at the front of the “engine” was broken off. There was more minor damage elsewhere. Some parts of the train have therefore been removed for the time being for safe keeping. Hay bales from the adjoining field had been rolled on to the Recreation Field. Because of their size and weight these were a danger to young children. It was a great pity that the actions of a few are destroying a facility that is valued by many. Villagers should be asked for any information they have as to who might be responsible for the damage.

(This matter is considered further under Item 11.)

8. Community Speed Watch and Speed Indicator Device

Cllr Jose Green said that warning signs had been erected on the 30mph limit signs in Bishopstone. JG said that the CSW was now operational - he had held one session with support for the Coombe Bissett team. Training for the Bishopstone team had been delayed but was now arranged. However, more volunteers were still required. This point should continue to be made in STaB and on the village website.

MRA said that he had now received the full instructions for use of the SWWAB Speed Indicator Device. It would be necessary to erect a galvanized steel pole, like a scaffold pole, on land that was not a part of the highway. It was agreed to approach the farmer and

landowner of the field adjacent to the normal SID location. The pole could be erected in the hedgerow.

9. Bus Service

MRA said that Wiltshire Council is considering how to reduce expenditure on passenger transport services. This could well impact on the local bus service (No 29 between Salisbury and Shaftesbury), which only exists because it is subsidised by Wiltshire Council. Consultation on options, which could include closure, or restriction on days or hours of operation, is promised for early 2016. It had already been suggested that the Parish Council's should take over the cost of subsidizing bus services from Wiltshire Council, though whether they had powers to do this was uncertain and this might not be affordable. In the meantime he proposed that the Parish Council should collect as much information as possible on the use made of the bus by residents of the village. It was agreed to include a questionnaire on this subject in October's STaB and on the village website. Cllr Green suggested that contact should be made with other parishes along the route to see whether joint representations could be made.

MRA said that he had been asked by residents in Crouchston for the Council to consider putting forward a proposal for the bus to run, at certain times, via Flamstone Street and Butt Lane. This would be more convenient for disabled residents. MRA pointed out that Flamstone Street had a 7.5 tonne weight restriction and that it was doubtful if a bus could negotiate the lower end of the street. It was agreed not to pursue this proposal.

10. Proposed Bus Shelter

MRA said that the Council had been considering a proposal to build a bus shelter on the south side of the C12 opposite Meadow View. At the previous meeting it had been suggested by members of the public that this would be a waste of money because it would be little used. He recommended that further consideration of this matter be deferred until there was greater certainty about the continuation of the bus service (see Item 9). This was agreed.

11. Children's Play Area

MRA made a short presentation of photographs illustrating the damage to the Play Train. He had circulated a note to Councillors covering this and the proposed additional play equipment for toddlers. A copy of this is attached to these minutes. He recommended that Outdoor Play South West be appointed to refurbish the Play Train, at a cost of £2,500 + vat and to install the new toddlers play tower at a cost of £7,000 + vat. He said that he had received confirmation that an application for a grant for 50% of the cost of the new play tower could be made to Wiltshire Council's South West Area Board, with the Parish Council's share coming from R2 funds. The costs of the project overall would therefore be met from a combination of the R2 money to be received from the developers of Faulston Barns and from grant. The R2 money was now not expected to be available until November (see Item 13.)

GRB said that he was not happy to see further money expended on the train and on a play tower until steps had been taken to deal with the vandalism. It was agreed to investigate the installation of a security camera in the Play Area, including the legal/regulatory and technical aspects of this. This should include the relevant guidance on data protection and access to recorded information (eg. need for relevant persons to be CRB checked etc). MRA said that suitable cameras are available at a cost of about £200. These are battery operated and activated by a motion sensor. They record both photographs and video, day and night. Any camera would need to be mounted in a secure location.

JG proposed that the proposals put forward by MRA with regard to the refurbishment of the Play Train and the provision of a new toddlers play tower be agreed, subject to the addition of the provision of a security camera covering the Play Area. As funding will not be available until November MRA should report on the camera proposal at the November meeting of the Council for final approval. In the meantime the grant application to the SWWAB should be made. These proposals were seconded by AS and agreed.

12. Parish Clerk's Report

MRA said that in addition to the organizational changes to SWWAB and CATG already referred to, it had been made clear that Parish Council's would, in future, be expected to contribute more when applying for Community Grants or for highway improvement schemes. Parish Council's are now required to contribute 50% of the cost of projects for which Area Board Grants are sought. They will also be expected to provide, from next April, 25% of the cost of highway schemes, which are often very costly. Parishes had been encouraged to think about raising their precepts next year to meet these requirements.

MRA said that he had received a letter from Wiltshire Council about the management of HGV routes in the county. The C12 was currently on a list of routes that should be considered for weight limits or other restrictions on freight movements. Given the lack of resources to evaluate all the proposals submitted across the county, the PC was asked to confirm whether it supported consideration of the C12. Following a short discussion it was agreed to support this consideration. However, MRA indicated that any such consideration would be in competition for selection of only two schemes to be taken forward in the county this year.

MRA said that he would shortly make arrangements for the distribution of the grants to village organisations agreed as part of the budget for 2015/16.

13. Planning Matters

MRA said that he was in discussion with the developers of Faulston Barns about the instructions they were to give to contractors and suppliers about access routes and speed limits through the village to the site. The start of construction had been delayed until November, though preparatory survey and other works were already taking place.

14. Questions or statements from Councillors and any further questions from members of the public.

JG suggested that the Parish Council should plant a tree to commemorate the fact that the

Queen had become the longest serving English monarch. Following a short discussion about possible locations for such a tree, it was decided to seek ideas from residents through STaB.

15. Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of Bishopstone Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Thursday 12th November 2015 beginning at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

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Chairman

Date

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 10th September 2015
ACTION PLAN**

| WHAT ACTION | BY WHOM | COMPLETED ✓ |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|
| Survey of toilets to be undertaken and estimate of likely costs to be obtained (deferred). | MRA | |
| Seek views on whether and how to commemorate WW1 locally through an article in a future STaB. | MRA | |
| Trustees of Faulston Estate to be asked again to confirm responsibility for drain clearance. | MRA | |
| WC to be reminded of work required at Whitlock Rise car park. Correspondence on-going. | MRA | |
| Catch fence to be erected behind the new basketball court. | AJT | |
| Gully emptying in Netton Street – WC to be chased. | MRA | ✓ |
| Case to be put to SWWAB for a junction warning sign for Whitlock Rise. | MRA | ✓ |
| Landowner to be asked to trim back trees overhanging bus shelter at Pitts Lane. | | |
| Problem of lack of lights on farm vehicles using the C12 to be taken up with farmers concerned. Also they should be asked to avoid moving large vehicles and loads slowly in convoy. | AJT | |
| Notice about responsible dog ownership in the village to be included in September's STaB. | MRA | ✓ |
| Check what is happening about salt spreading "spinners". | MRA | |
| Note on Faulston Barns development commencement to be put in September's STaB. | MRA | ✓ |
| Notice on need for dog walkers to stick to footpaths to be included in October's STaB. | MRA | |
| Request to be included in STaB for any information on who was responsible for vandalism of the Play Train. | MRA | |
| Farmer and landowner to be contacted re potential siting of a SID. | MRA | |

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| Questionnaire to be included in STaB and on the website re use of the No 29 bus. | MRA | |
| Consideration to be given to provision of security camera in the children's Play Area and grant application for new play tower to be submitted to SWWAB. | MRA | |
| Support consideration of HGV management on the C12. | MRA | |
| Residents to be asked for suggested location of a tree to be planted in commemoration of the reign of QEII. | MRA | |