

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall, Bishopstone
Thursday 12th November 2015 at 7.30pm.**

MINUTES

Present : Parish Councillors : Major JHS Thompson (JHST) Chairman
A J Thorne (AJT)
N Barter (NTB)
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
Mr J Steedman
Mr G Dimmer
Mrs C Ash

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting on 10th September 2015

One small correction to the minutes was agreed, including reference to the assistance of the Broad Chalke CSW team under Item 8. Subject to those changes JG proposed that the minutes be approved; this was seconded by GRB and agreed.

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

MRA reported that Wiltshire Council had investigated the drainage problems in Netton Street with a camera and an obstruction had been located. This was in a section of the drain

pipe under private property, rather than under the road, so the matter had been referred to a separate team for a full survey. He had asked Wiltshire Council to clear the ditches in Faulston Lane, in the section in which there had been heavy flooding in 2014, but had been told that this was the responsibility of the adjacent landowners. He had discussed the matter with the developers of Faulston Barns and they had undertaken to clear the ditches this year.

The following Action Plan items were considered:

- (i) MRA said he had corresponded further with Wiltshire Council about the fence and car park at Whitlock Rise. Their officers were now considering how an access might be provided from the car park to the adjacent privately owned path down to the High Road.
- (ii) The traffic engineers at Wiltshire Council had initially rejected the proposal for junction warning signs in the High Road for Whitlock Rise. However, following a further visit to the site they now supported one for traffic approaching the junction from the east. This had been considered at the Community Area Transport Group and agreed, subject to a 50% (£125) contribution from the Parish Council. No work will begin until new contractors are in place in April 2016.
- (iii) the village "Snow Plan" (part of the Bishopstone Emergency Response Plan) had been approved by Wiltshire Council and Bishopstone had been allocated mechanised equipment for salt and grit spreading. This will be used to ensure the main side road junctions are kept clear (Wiltshire Council remain responsible for gritting the High Road). AJT asked whether the provision of salt/grit in smaller bags could be requested. These were easier to load into the "spinner". MRA undertook to raise the matter.
- (iv) MRA said that he had confirmed the Parish Council's support for traffic management measures (signing) to restrict the use of the C12 to those HGVs needing local access. The Area Board would select two schemes from its area to put forward for consideration at county level. Only two schemes from the county as a whole would be selected for implementation.
- (v) MRA said he had received one suggestion for a commemorative tree to mark the Queen's reign. It was agreed to keep the question open for further ideas to be submitted.

Other Action Plan items were either completed, were covered by later agenda items or had yet to be implemented.

5. Public Question Time.

The main matter raised was the differing messages that had been received from BT about the provision of super fast broad band to the eastern end of the village. Some residents of Whitlock Rise have been informed that they will not receive the uprated service, though others have been told that they will. It was agreed to investigate the position with Wiltshire On-line and BT.

6. Update from Cllr Jose Green and PC Pete Jung

Cllr Green referred to the Local Housing Panel liaison meetings recently held in Bishopstone. These were for tenants of Wiltshire Council, but had been poorly attended. These meetings could be used to raise issues such as those in Whitlock Rise. She has joined a task group aimed at encouraging attendance at these meetings.

The Balfour Beatty contract had been ended by mutual agreement, without cost to the Council. 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. It was likely that the Parish Steward arrangement would be re-instated as part of the new contract.

Cllr Green drew attention to the SSE Community Resilience Fund and a new CPRE scheme to provide sign posts and waymarks on footpaths.

PC Pete Jung reported on the recent incidence of criminal damage to parked vehicles in the Chalke Valley, including three in Bishopstone. He said that a meeting was being arranged to find out more about the future structure of policing in the county. Significant economies had to be made and these would impact on front line services, including those in our area.

7. Chairman's Items

JHST congratulated the Bishopstone Plan Steering Group for having got a draft plan out for consultation.

He reported that Remembrance Sunday had been well supported in the village. So far just under £1000 had been collected.

8. Bus Survey Outcome

MRA reported that a total of 21 people had responded to the survey in STaB and on the website. This provided a preliminary picture of the pattern of bus usage by villagers. The return showed a total of 31 bus trips a week from the village, with additional trips on a less frequent basis. The main purposes of the trips was for shopping and medical (including trips to the hospital). Consultation by Wiltshire Council on steps to reduce expenditure on bus services is expected soon and would be on the agenda for consideration by the Parish Council at the meeting in January.

9. Children's Play Area

MRA said that it had been agreed at the last meeting to proceed with the refurbishment of the Play Train, subject to the installation of CCTV security measures. However, it had since been agreed in correspondence that, because of the rate of deterioration in the condition of the train, not to delay that work whilst the provision of CCTV was investigated (see Item 15). Work was now scheduled to begin on 18th November. This would replace all rotten woodwork and components damaged by vandals. The whole structure would be re-painted.

He asked that the decision to proceed be formally ratified. This was proposed by JG, seconded by NTB and agreed.

MRA said that a grant application for 50% of the cost of the new play tower had been submitted to the SWWAB. It would be considered at the meeting in December.

10. Budget and Precept for 2016/17

MRA said that he had circulated a background note to Councillors giving an update on the Council's finances and discussing options for the Precept for 2016/17. A copy of this paper is attached to these minutes. It was likely that the Council would have reasonably healthy reserves at the end of the financial year. However, Wiltshire Council had made it clear that there will be substantial cut backs in local services because of the reductions in Government funding. The parishes will be expected to fill the gap because, at present, they can increase their precepts without penalty. After several years in which the Bishopstone precept had remained level it might be prudent to make an increase next year to build up reserves. It was difficult to know what sort of increase was needed without a clearer picture of what costs the Council might be required to meet. MRA set out examples of the level of charges to a Band D property in the village, with precept increases of 5%, 10% and 15%. It was agreed that an increase in the precept was desirable and to consider the precise level of any increase at the meeting in January.

11. Parish Clerk's Report

MRA said that following the approval of a planning application for a new mobile phone mast at Ebbesbourne Wake (which will not benefit Bishopstone) it had been confirmed that the Government programme to promote new mast provision in rural areas has been ended. Therefore no new mast will be provided near us. A letter had been sent to John Glen MP asking him to take the matter up with the Minister concerned.

12. Planning Matters

There were none.

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

No further matters were raised.

14. Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of Bishopstone Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Thursday 14th January 2016 beginning at 7.30pm.

15. Private session on play ground security

Consideration was given to measures that might be taken to deter further incidence of vandalism in the Children's Play Area, including the installation of CCTV.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

.....

.....

Chairman

Date

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

WHAT ACTION	BY WHOM	COMPLETED ✓
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	
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	
Check what is happening about salt spreading "spinners".	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	
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	✓
Request to be submitted for provision of smaller bags of salt for spinner.	MRA	
BT to be asked to confirm that super fast broadband will be available to all in Whitlock Rise.	JG	