

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
 Held in the Village Hall, Bishopstone
 Thursday 13th November 2014 at 7.30pm.

MINUTES

Present : Parish Councillors : Major JHS Thompson (JHST) Chairman
 A Thorne (AJT)
 N Barter (NTB)
 G Brutton (GRB)
 J Gibbon (JG)
 S Tatner (ST)

Parish Clerk: M R Ash (MRA)

Also present: Cllr Jose Green

R Stockton
 M Bundy
 C Goodfellow
 J Gulliver
 Mrs M Gulliver
 J Goodfellow
 Mrs M Goodfellow
 Ms J Wise
 Ms S Duff
 Ms N Crawford
 Ms R Spreadbury
 Mrs C Ash

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Smith and PC Jung.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting on 11th September 2014

No matters of accuracy were raised in relation to the minutes of the meeting on 11th September 2014. GRB proposed that they be approved, this was seconded by JG and agreed.

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

MRA said that he had written to the Wilton Estate concerning the speed of some of the super cars in the village during the parade for the Classic and Supercar Day. He had received a letter apologising for any problems and indicating that the format of the event was being changed. This means that there will be no parade in future so the problem will not recur.

AJT said that he had investigated the possibility of using CCTV to deter anti-social behavior in the play area. Aspects of this would now be taken forward.

Other Action Plan issues remain (see checklist at the end of these minutes).

5. Public Question Time.

Matters raised by members of the public were:

- Continuing problems with the car park at Whitlock Rise. The new surface continues to deteriorate and block the drains. There is also a problem of abandoned cars, one of which is about to be removed. The fence on the western side of the car park, and behind some houses was in a very poor state and needed to be replaced with something more appropriate than barbed wire. It was agreed to send a further letter to Wiltshire Council and to write to the adjoining landowner about the state of the fence.
- Attention was also drawn to Wiltshire Council's claim to regularly inspect gardens and get rubbish removed. This was clearly not happening with one property in Whitlock Rise and this matter would be referred to in the letter now to be sent.
- The number of young children in the village is increasing and there is a need for more play equipment in the play area. MRA said that this was planned as the next stage once the basketball practice area was in place (see later in this agenda). AJT undertook to arrange for the train to be cleaned.
- School children living in Meadow Rise have difficulty in getting to and from the bus stop safely to get them to school because this involves walking along the busy High Road. It would help if the grass on the verge could be cut shorter so this could be used as a footpath. It was agreed to take this matter up with the Highway Authority.
- There were now sufficient numbers concerned about the speed of vehicles along the High Road to establish a Community Speed Watch team in the village. Cllr Gibbon said that he would be prepared to organize this. MRA said that he would take the matter up with the SWWAB and report back on next steps.
- MRA also reported that Wiltshire Council was consulting on removing funding for the Speed Indicator Devices (one of which is regularly deployed on the High Road outside Whitlock Rise) used to deter speeding. There will be a discussion at a future CATG or SWWAB meeting about whether Parish Councils would be prepared to fill the funding gap.
- As part of any campaign to get changes made to speed limits in the village the Clerk had asked in STaB a year ago for any minor accidents (ie those not involving injury to persons) along the High Road to be reported to him. Nothing had been reported. If incidents have in fact occurred can they please be reported to the Clerk, with details of date, time, place etc. as soon as possible.

6. Report from Cllr Jose Green

Cllr Green said that she is a member of the 20mph Task Group of Wiltshire Council which is looking into the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits in towns and villages. The evidence was that they make little difference to traffic speeds.

A new Youth Officer – Nicola Sage – had been appointed for our area. She would be focusing on activities for 13-19 year olds in Wilton, Tisbury and Mere.

7. Chairman's Items

JHST reported that there had been an excellent turn out at the Remembrance Sunday service in the church. A total of £1270 had been raised in Bishopstone.

JHST said that he had attended the recent meeting of the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) and made strong representations about the need to get on with the repair of Mill Lane. He also drew attention to the new warning signs that have been erected on the C12 at the junction with Flamstone Street at the request of the Parish Council. In due course there would also be "SLOW" markings on the road. *[Note: now completed.]*

8. Report by Emergency Planning Co-ordinator

Roger Stockton gave a report mainly dealing with the widespread loss of telephone and internet connections in the village over an extended period. A copy of his report is attached to these minutes.

AJT reported that he had now received training in the use of the salt spreaders being made available by the SWWAB. Discussions were still taking place over matters such as the area he would cover and where the spreaders would be kept.

9. Parish Clerk's report

MRA raised the question as to whether, following the success of the volunteer groups who had recently replaced stiles in the village, there would be merit in a campaign to promote "self help". He said that there was a need for all of us to take more responsibility for the public realm. Wiltshire Council could no longer be relied upon to do things they had done in the past, so, for example, if drains seemed to be clogged with leaves we should all take more responsibility and remove them, roadside hedges should be cut back etc. This idea was strongly supported and it was agreed that a poster on this should be included in STaB and posted on notice boards.

MRA presented cheques for signature covering the invoices for the play ground safety inspection and hire of the village hall.

10. Authorisation of expenditure on basketball practice court

MRA said that he had circulated a note on this (attached to these minutes). He recommended the acceptance, subject to detailed discussion at a site meeting, of a quote of £3720 for the construction of the play surface, and approval of expenditure of up to £5000 for the project as a whole. He also recommended, subject to agreement by officers at Wiltshire Council, that all the currently available R2 (Section

106) funds of £3952 be devoted to this project.

After a short discussion AJT proposed that these recommendations be approved. This was seconded by JG and agreed.

The next step would be for Cllr Brutton and the Clerk to meet the contractors on site to discuss. However, it was unlikely that construction could begin until the worst of the winter weather was over.

11. Budget update 2014/15 and Precept 2015/16

MRA said that he had circulated a note on this (attached to these minutes). This reported that expenditure in the current year was in line with the agreed budget. The Precept for next year would be set at the meeting in January but he sought preliminary views on the level of precept Councillors would be likely to support. He presented three illustrative options:

(a) **keep the Precept at the same level as for 2014/15** i.e. the PC would get the same level of income as last year (£5470). However, because the tax base has increased (extra houses in the village occupied) the net result for the Council Tax on a Band D property would be a reduction of 15p a year (-0.75%).

(b) **keep the charge for a Band D property in 2015/16 the same as in 2014/15**. Because of the increase in the tax base this would result in a slight increase in PC income to £5511.

(c) **increase the charge on a Band D property in line with inflation (1.2%)**. The Band D charge would increase by 24p a year and income to the PC to £5575.

After a short discussion it was agreed to prepare a budget and precept return consistent with option (b).

12. Planning Applications

MRA said that approval had been granted for application 14/08239/FUL – Proposed demolition of existing bungalow and erection of detached 3 bed dwelling at Crouchston Down Farm Stables, Blandford Road. Application 14/08480/FUL – Conversion of existing integral garage to residential use at The House, Harvest Lane had, likewise, been approved. Following consultation with Councillors he had submitted a “no comments” return for a similar application for Bryher in Harvest Lane.

MRA reported that discussions were still continuing between the developers and Wiltshire Council regarding the application for the conversion of Faulston Barns for residential use.

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

GB raised the issue of unsolicited visits being made to elderly people living alone by people representing themselves as from official bodies. It was agreed to include a warning about this in STaB.

Mr Bundy raised the matter of the failure of Wiltshire Council/Balfour Beatty to collect warning signs and cones after roadworks are completed. MRA undertook to raise this with Wiltshire Council.

A query was raised from the public about persons being barred from the White Hart pub. It was made clear that this is not a matter for the Parish Council. It is a matter for the landlord and the persons concerned.

14. Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of Bishopstone Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Thursday 8th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

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Chairman

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Date

DRAFT

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 13th November 2014**

ACTION PLAN

WHAT ACTION	BY WHOM	COMPLETED ✓
Survey of toilets to be undertaken and estimate of likely costs to be obtained.	MRA	
Seek views on whether and how to commemorate WW1 locally through an article in a future STaB.	MRA	
Trustees of Faulstone Estate to be asked again to confirm responsibility for drain clearance.	MRA	
Letter to be written to organisers of the Wilton Super Car event regarding the need to observe speed limits.	MRA	✓
Representations to be made to Wiltshire Council about traffic management and speed limits in the village.	MRA	
Consideration to be given as to whether CCTV might be installed at the play area.	AJT	✓
Train in play area to be cleaned.	AJT	
Letter to be sent to Wiltshire Council about on-going problems at Whitlock Rise (car park and rubbish in gardens)	MRA	
Letter to be written to adjacent landowners re fence to Whitlock Rise car park.	MRA	
Cutting of grass on verge on south side of High Road between Meadow View and the bus stop to be discussed with WC.	MRA	
Establishment of CSW in Bishopstone to be discussed with SWWAB.	MRA/JG	
Poster campaign on "self help" in the village to be prepared.	MRA	
Warning about bogus house callers to be included in STaB.	GB/MRA	
WC to be contacted about removal of cones and warning signs after roadworks.	MRA	