

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall, Bishopstone
Thursday 8th May 2014 at 7.30pm.

MINUTES

Present : Parish Councillors : Major JHS Thompson (JHST) Chairman
 N Barter (NTB)
 A Thorne (AJT)
 G Brutton (GRB)
 Mrs A Smith (AS)
 S Tatner (ST)

Parish Clerk: M R Ash (MRA)

Also present: PC Pete Jung

R Stockton
 Mrs P Stockton
 C Goodfellow
 M Bundy
 Mrs C Ash

1. Election of Chairman 2014/15

Major Thompson said that he was prepared to stand as Chairman of the Parish Council for another year. This was proposed by AJT, seconded by GRB and agreed unanimously.

2. Election of Vice Chairman 2014/15

Ali Thorne said that he was prepared to stand as Vice Chairman for another year. This was proposed by AS, seconded by GRB and agreed unanimously.

3. Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Both JHST and AJT signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office forms, witnessed by MRA.

4. Re-appointment of Community Response Group

At the meeting on 13 March 2014 the CRG had been constituted as a sub-committee of the Council. Under the Council's Standing Orders co-opted sub-committees have to be re-appointed each year at the Annual Meeting. This was proposed by AJT, seconded by GRB and agreed.

5. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Gibbon and Wiltshire Cllr Jose Green.

6. Declarations of interest

There were none.

7. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting on 13th March 2014.

No matters of accuracy were raised in relation to the minutes of the meeting on 13th March 2014. AJT proposed that they be approved, this was seconded by GRB and agreed.

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

MRA said that the previous minutes recorded thanks to the volunteers who had completed the village footpath audit. The results of this were now apparent in that several footpath marker signs in the village had been replaced by Wiltshire Council and arrangements had been made to replace the stile at the Church Lane end of Mac's Meadow with a kissing gate. This would provide easier access to the footpath across the meadow.

Other matters arising from the minutes were contained in the Action Plan. Up to date bus timetables were now available at the bus stops. The timetable for the provision of the salt spreading equipment would be raised at the Community Area Transport Group on Monday 12 May. An application had been submitted for a road salt bag. Actions completed are indicated in the list attached to these minutes.

9. Public Question Time.

Mr Bundy said that, unfortunately, the new surface of the car park in Whitlock Rise was now being washed away by the rain. The material removed was in danger of blocking the drains. This situation could have been predicted if only Wiltshire Council had listened to local advice. MRA said that he had informed Wiltshire Council on this matter and a surveyor was making an inspection. It was agreed that a further letter should be sent to Wiltshire Council on this matter. This should ask that the Parish Council be consulted in advance on the further action to be taken.

Mr Bundy also pointed out that the catch on the gate into the Recreation Field by the bus stop had not been repaired. There was a danger of small children getting on to the road and of dogs getting into the play area. AJT said that the catch had been replaced and then stolen within days. He would investigate a different design.

10. Report from PC Pete Jung

PC Pete Jung said that successful operations were now being conducted across the county boundary with the police forces from Dorset and Hampshire. The CPC Angus Macpherson had been out to see the effectiveness of the night time joint operations with farmers and gamekeepers to deter offenders. Following the closure

of the station in Salisbury, 999 emergency personnel would temporarily be based in Amesbury. It was expected that they would eventually move back to Salisbury. The future of the station in Wilton was secure for the present but further economies were likely. He was now spending much of his time based at the Community Hub in Broadchalke.

11. Chairman's Items

JHST said that whilst he was grateful that potholes on the C12 had been filled in preparation for the cycle race, some of the work was shoddy and the new surfacing would probably lift in bad weather. The situation should be monitored and raised with Wiltshire Council as necessary.

JHST said that he would be attending a meeting called by Wiltshire Council about WW1 commemorations in the county. He would report back in due course. A number of projects were taking place. He would continue to consider what might be done in Bishopstone.

In response to a request from JHST, Roger Stockton presented a short report on Emergency Planning and flooding. He had circulated a short note to Councillors (attached to these minutes). Much had been done to clear ditches etc, and the next step would be for the Parish Council to write to various riparian landowners in the village reminding them of the need to clear watercourses and banks of the river. Problems with road drainage at the western end of Netton St were being pursued with Wiltshire Council. He said that, as far as he knew, none of the villagers affected by flooding had attended the exhibition on flood prevention in Salisbury. This was a pity because useful information was made available. He would pass on leaflets he had picked up.

12. Annual Accounts

MRA said that he had circulated a paper on the annual accounts for 2013/14 (attached to these minutes). He had received the report from the internal auditor and no issues had been raised. The paper contained a draft of the Annual Report to the external auditors. The Council was required to explain significant variances in expenditure and receipts between 2013/14 and the previous year. These were due to extra expenditure in 2012/13 on the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the refurbishment of the bus shelters. There were also additional receipts in 2012/13 comprising extra Wiltshire Council grants in respect of the Jubilee and Soccer Training.

MRA recommended that the Annual Report be approved for submission to the external auditors and that Atkinson's be re-appointed as the Council's internal auditors for 2014/15. This was proposed by NTB, seconded by AJT and approved.

13. Parish Clerk's Report

MRA said that it had been intended that officers from Wiltshire Council would attend this meeting to answer questions on the outcome of the Housing Needs Survey. Unfortunately, due to staff re-organisation, nobody was available to attend. However, it had been indicated that a special meeting could be arranged. It had been requested that this should be in the day time. MRA asked who would wish to

attend such a meeting. All Councillors expressed an interest. MRA said that he would investigate possible dates, though it might not be possible to find one that suited everyone.

MRA said that Wiltshire officers had sent comments on the note he had previously circulated on housing needs and he would send Councillors an updated version. It was clear that much more work had yet to be undertaken before it was possible to finalise how many homes were required and what the balance should be between rent and shared ownership. It was unlikely that as many shared ownership properties would be required as implied by the survey. He also said that the housing association most likely to pursue a development in the village had indicated that it did not provide shared ownership homes for which owners could eventually achieve 100% ownership, thus retaining control of occupation based on local needs.

MRA said that he had signed the lease on the Garden Plots in The Styles, but he had yet to receive the stamped version from Wiltshire Council. Once that was received he would call a meeting of tenants and issue licences. In the meantime the site had been cleared.

MRA said that work was continuing on the provision of a basketball practice court. He and Cllr Brutton had identified a potential location close to the children's play area. AJT said that he thought this was a poor location both in relation to grass mowing and maintenance and in relation to any use made of the cricket pitch. After discussion it was agreed that a site in the north west corner of the field was more appropriate. Once this had been marked out GRB would secure competitive quotes for the provision of the hard surfacing.

MRA presented three cheques for signature: a payment of £219.38 for the annual subscription to Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, £609.98 for the Council's annual insurance renewal premium and £284 for Clerk's expenses. The Clerk's expenses included securing additional folders for the village Welcome Pack, the cutting of keys for the tenants of the Garden Plots, the cost of clearance of the trees, bushes and undergrowth on the Garden Plots and the cost of a houseplant presented as a thank you gift to Elizabeth Gallop following her donation of two large albums of historic photographs to the village archive. NTB proposed that these payments be approved. This was seconded by GRB and agreed.

MRA said that last year the Council had made a donation of £100 to the Chris Brown Day Centre, which provides entertainments and socializing for older residents of the valley. A recent letter from the Treasurer thanked the Council for that and expressed the hope that a donation would also be made this year. The 2014/15 budget provides for a total of £200 for donations. MRA recommend that a donation of £100 be made. AJT proposed that this donation be made. This was seconded by GRB and agreed.

14. Planning Matters

MRA said that there were no planning applications to consider. Instead he provided an update on the progress of Wiltshire's Core Strategy. Following the Public Examination the Inspector had written to the council seeking changes to the strategy. These mainly concerned the overall level of housing provision and the

proportion of new housing developments that should be affordable housing. Wiltshire Council had now published proposed modifications to the strategy for comment. Whilst a small additional number of houses were now proposed in the Wilton Community Area, it is unlikely that any of these would be allocated to Bishopstone. There was therefore no need for the Parish Council to comment.

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

Responsibility for cutting the grass in Stanley Close was raised. MRA confirmed that this was not covered by the Balfour Beatty contract. AJT agreed to find out whether the tenants had any responsibility for this and which housing association owned the houses so that a letter could be sent regarding this matter.

11. Date, location and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of Bishopstone Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Thursday 10th July 2014 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed as an accurate record:

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Chairman

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Date

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 8th May 2014**

ACTION PLAN

WHAT ACTION	BY WHOM	COMPLETED ✓
Possible data protection issue to be considered before an "e-mail alert system" is proposed in STaB.	MRA	
Survey of toilets to be undertaken and estimate of likely costs to be obtained.	MRA	
Road salt spreading equipment to be investigated.	AJT	
Seek views on whether and how to commemorate WW1 locally through an article in a future STaB.	MRA	
A letter to be sent to Wiltshire Council asking for more care to be taken with rubbish collection in the village.	MRA	
Letter to be submitted to the Community Area Transport Group about the need to put some sort of surfacing on the strip of land in front of the church	MRA	✓
Appeal should be included in STaB to those lighting bonfires to show some consideration to others	MRA	✓
Further letter to be written to Wiltshire Council re the car park at Whitlock Rise.	MRA	
New catch to be fitted to gate into Recreation Field	AJT	
Letter to be sent to riparian land owners about the need to clear ditches and river banks.	MRA	
Responsibility for mowing the grass at Stanley Close to be investigated.	AJT	
Estimates to be obtained for construction of basketball court.	GRB	