Bishopstoke Parish Council

Listening to you

Minutes of a Meeting of the Bishopstoke Parish Council held at Bishopstoke Methodist Church commencing at 7.15pm on 14th July 2026

Present:	Councillor Sue Toher (Chair) Councillor Geoff Harris (Vice-Chair) Councillor Andrew Daly Councillor Louise Hillier-Wheal Councillor Stewart MacLachlan Councillor Andy Moore (up to para 26.1)
In Attendance:	Mr David Wheal (Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council) Mrs Emma Earl (Admin Officer to Bishopstoke Parish Council)
Public Session	1 members of the public was present.

The Chair welcomed the member of the public to the meeting and asked whether they wished to raise anything with the Council. The member of the public had nothing they wanted to say at this point.

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23 Apologies for Absence

23.1 Apologies had been received and were noted from Cllrs Burcombe-Filer, Chaffey, Duggan, Kirby, Mignot, Thornton and Winstanley. Cllrs Brown and Dajani were absent.

23.2 Cllr Toher took the opportunity to thank the previous Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Louise Hillier-Wheal, for her years of service as Chair and for everything she had achieved during that time. Cllr Toher apologised for not having done so at the previous meeting.

24 To adopt as a true record, and sign, the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on 12th May 2026 and 26th May 2026

24.1 The minutes of the above meeting were included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

24.2 Proposed Cllr MacLachlan, Seconded Cllr Moore, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on 12th May 2026 and 26th May 2026 be adopted as a true record.

Action: Clerk and Chair – to sign and publish the minutes and document pack

25 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

25.1 Cllrs Harris and Hillier-Wheal declared an interest in agenda item 7. Cllr Harris is a member of the BCA charity who manage the building and Cllr Hillier-Wheal is a member of a group who hires a room at the BCA.

26 Reports from Committees, Working Groups, Officers and Councillors

26.1 A report from Cllr Harris on Carnival 2026 had been emailed to the Cllrs prior to the meeting and will be included in the minutes of this meeting. The Clerk said that the Carnival had been a big success and the Parish Council would like to thank the Carnival Group of volunteers for all of their hard work for this year's Carnival. Cllr Toher thanked Cllr Harris for producing the report. Cllr Harris wanted to bring some things to the attention of the Council. There had been some problems with Marshals going to the wrong post and 1 Marshal had received verbal abuse from a motorist. The Group will be considering hiring some professional Marshals for next year's event. The Group will also be looking at new legislations that may need to be included in next year's plans and risk assessments and temporary parking restrictions on Spring Lane.

Cllr Moore left the meeting.

Cllr Hillier-Wheal left the meeting

The Chair paused the meeting at 7.23pm

Cllr Hillier-Wheal rejoined the meeting

The Chair resumed the meeting at 7.29pm

26.2 The member of the public also thanked the Carnival Group for an amazing Carnival. They had attended as a member of a local group.

26.3 A report showing the Committee Resolutions and Recommendations had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting and was noted.

26.4 Proposed Cllr Harris, Seconded Cllr Toher **RESOLVED** unanimously to that the Council should not proceed with the Cemetery Boardwalk project.

26.5 The Clerks report had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting and was noted. The Clerk noted that the felling of the trees near the Wheels Park had delayed because of a pigeon nesting in one of the trees.

26.6 Cllr Hillier-Wheal asked if the Youth Services information would be sent to all Cllrs or just the Youth Champions? The Clerk confirmed that it would be sent to all Cllrs. Cllr Hillier-Wheal requested to be included in the Youth Services discussions.

26.7 The date for the extra Assets meeting to discuss potential sites for Greening Bishopstoke to have a community garden was confirmed as 25th August.

27 To discuss and decide on potential conditions for qualifying for Travel Tokens

27.1 A memo outlining the reasons for this discussion had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

27.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Harris **RESOLVED** to continue including residents of Bishopstoke Park as part of the Travel Token scheme and to review this as part of the budget discussions.

Action: Clerk – to include a review of the Travel Token eligibility in the budget discussions.

28 To consider supporting the Sight Loss Council #CutItBack campaign

28.1 The information about the Sight Loss Council #CutItBack campaign had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

28.2 Proposed Cllr MacLachlan, Seconded Cllr Daly **RESOLVED** unanimously to support the Sight Loss Council #CutItBack campaign

Action: Clerk/Admin Officer – to contact Open Sight and discuss how the Parish Council can help to support the Sight Loss Council #CutItBack campaign

29 To discuss the potential transfer of the Bishopstoke Community Centre

29.1 A memo outlining the details of the potential transfer of Bishopstoke Community Centre had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

29.1 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Hillier-Wheal, **RESOLVED** with 1 abstaining to delegate the due diligence on the potential transfer to the Glebe Meadow/Asset Transfer working group.

Action: Clerk – to include the discussion of the potential transfer of Bishopstoke Community Centre at the next meeting of the Glebe Meadow/Asset Transfer working group.

30 To approve the plans and funds for the planned Heritage Open Days

30.1 The plans and estimated cost for the Heritage Open Days had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

30.2 Proposed Cllr Hillier-Wheal, Seconded Cllr Harris **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the plans and funds for the planned Heritage Open Days

31 To receive a report on Carnival 2026 and appoint a Council liaison for Carnival 2027

31.1 The report on Carnival 2026 had been emailed to the Cllrs prior to the meeting and discussed in para 26.1

31.2 Proposed Cllr Harris, Seconded Cllr MacLachlan **RESOLVED** unanimously to nominate Cllr Thornton as the Council liaison for Carnival 2027

Action: Clerk – to contact Cllr Thornton and ask if he would like to accept the nomination as Council liaison for Carnival 2027

32 To approve the funding for an external power supply at Shears Mill

32.1 A memo including a quote for the external power supply at Shears Mill had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

32.2 Proposed Cllr Hillier-Wheal, Seconded Cllr Harris **RESOLVED** unanimously to utilise up to £500 from the Shears Mill building work budget to fund this installation.

Action: Assets Officer – to contact the contractor and agree a date for the installation of the external power supply at Shears Mill

33 To discuss and approve Council objectives

33.1 A memo with the Council objectives had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

33.2 Cllr Toher asked the Clerk if this discussion could be deferred to a future meeting because of the meeting room being hot due to the current heatwave. The Clerk agreed to defer the discussion to a future People Committee or Full Council meeting.

Action: Clerk – to include the discussion and approval of the Council objectives at a future People Committee or Full Council meeting.

34 To consider content for the next media release and email update

34.1 After a short discussion, it was agreed to include Carnival 2026, Sight Loss Council #CutItBack campaign, Bingo Social, Summer Messy Play, River Dipping and Heritage Open Days.

Action: Admin Officer – To draft the next press release and issue it to all the relevant Media

35 To agree the date, time and place

35.1 The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 8th September at 7.15pm in Bishopstoke Methodist Church. Any Cllr wishing to have an item on the agenda should provide the item and any supporting papers to the Clerk by 1st September 2026.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.58pm.

Chair's Signature: ____ Date: __________

Clerk's Signature: ____ Date: __________