

July 2026

Bishopstoke Carnival 2026 Celebrates a Fantastic Festival-Themed Day

Bishopstoke Carnival 2026 brought the community together for a vibrant and memorable celebration, as this year's "Festival" theme was enthusiastically embraced by participants and visitors alike. The day began with a lively parade featuring samba music, twirlers, vintage cars, local preschools, community groups and a lorry full of rugby players, creating a colourful procession through the village.

The parade arrived at Glebe Meadow at 12.00pm, marking the official start of the Fete. Deputy Mayor of Eastleigh, Cllr Michelle Marsh, presented trophies to the best parade entries, recognising the creativity, effort and community spirit shown by those taking part.

Entertainment continued throughout the afternoon, with performances from the Southampton Ukulele Band, a bubble artist, Chris the Juggler and local band Beard. The ever-popular Duck Races were very well supported, while the River Floats, judged by Eastleigh Mayor Cllr Richard Gomer, were very impressive this year.

Bishopstoke Parish Council would like to thank everyone who took part, attended, volunteered and helped make the day such a success.

Bishopstoke Parish Council Supports Sight Loss Council's #CutItBack Campaign

Bishopstoke Parish Council has agreed to support the Sight Loss Council's #CutItBack campaign following a request from Open Sight in Bishopstoke. The campaign encourages residents to cut back trees, shrubs and hedges that overhang pavements, helping to keep local streets clear, safe and accessible for everyone. Overgrown foliage can create serious obstacles for blind and partially sighted people, increasing the risk of injury and making it harder for individuals to travel independently.

The #CutItBack campaign also provides guidance on the best times to cut foliage and how to do so responsibly while protecting wildlife. Bishopstoke Parish Council hopes local residents will support the campaign and play their part in keeping pavements safe and accessible.

Bishopstoke Parish Council Announces a Busy Summer of Community Events

Bishopstoke Parish Council has announced a busy programme of community events for the summer, offering residents of all ages the chance to get involved, enjoy local activities and spend time together across the village.

The programme begins with the Council's first Bingo Social on Wednesday 29 July at Bishopstoke Community Centre. Starting at 2.00pm, the event invites residents to enjoy a game of bingo, stay for a chat and share a cup of tea with cake.

The Council's popular Messy Play sessions will also return during the summer holidays, with new themes including Construction, Dinosaurs, Magical Garden and Pirates. Four sessions will be held on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00pm, each taking place in a different play area in the village. Dates and further information are available at www.bishopstokepc.org/messy-play.

Residents are also invited to learn more about the River Itchen and its importance to local biodiversity through two River Dipping sessions run by Wessex Rivers Trust on Thursday 6 August. The first session will begin at 10.30am and the second at 1.00pm, with each session lasting 90 minutes. The sessions offer an opportunity to discover more about this rare and important environment and how it can be protected.

To close the summer events programme, Bishopstoke Parish Council will take part in the Heritage Open Days scheme for the first time, working with Bishopstoke History Society, the Parish of Bishopstoke and Hamble Valley Guides. Heritage Open Days give people the opportunity to visit local historic sites that may not usually be accessible. All events are free, with details available on the Heritage Open Days website. The Council is currently finalising its events and will share further information on its website and social media channels soon.

Bishopstoke Parish Council looks forward to welcoming residents to one or more of the summer events. For more information about these and other activities, please visit www.bishopstokepc.org.

Parish Council Address

Please address any post to:
Bishopstoke Parish Council
Sewall Drive
Bishopstoke
Eastleigh
SO50 6JE

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th September 2026 at the new time of 7.15pm and will take place in Bishopstoke Methodist Church. For information about Committee meeting dates, times and locations, and for further details or information about anything the Parish Council does, please visit our website.

*For further information, please contact the Admin and Events Officer, Emma Earl
by email: admin@bishopstokepc.org.
or visit the Parish website at: www.bishopstokepc.org*